

Libraries for Children & Young Adults Section 2019-2023 candidates' profiles

Name	Title	Institution	Country	Brief summary
Maria Alekseeva	Head of the International Relations Department	Russian State Library for Young Adults	Russian Federation	<p>I have a university degree in cultural studies. For 10 years, I have been working in the Russian State Library for Young Adults (RSLYA) - the main library in Russia that works specifically for readers aged 16-30, an information centre for the Russian young adult library network as well as other libraries serving youth. I am in charge of international relations with the foreign libraries, library associations as well as various international projects intended for both our young patrons and library specialists working with youth. Among them, the Book Patchwork Project - a special foreign language collection of fiction for young adults; the Library Planet Project which shows librarians and readers alike the best practices and the best modern libraries from different countries; the Step by Step. 365 Days in the Library – the photo project about the everyday life of Russian and Swedish libraries, implemented within the IFLA Sister Libraries. I am a SC member of the International Relations Section of the Russian Library Association. I have been an observer of the SC meeting of the C&YA Section since 2014 and I would appreciate joining the section's active and fruitful work for the term August 2019 – August 2023.</p>

Maria Alexiusson	Library director	Gislaved Library	Sweden	<p>I have worked at my library for 19 years, first as a childrens librarian, then with programs and activities and since eight years as the director. Gislaved library where I work is since several years a sisterlibrary. We have communicated in different ways with our sisterlibrary which is located in Ohio, USA. Children and Young Adults are a priority at our library and we focus on doing many activities for them. We work with different projects together with for example, preschool, school and the section for sustainable development. I think its important that Children meet books and letters very early and we have for example childrensbooks booktalk, where Children up to two years are welcome with their parents. We have also started a Project together with preeschools in our Community. Its called "kapprumsbibliotek", cloakroom library. 40 different preschool sections have their own small library where parents and Children take books home. The staff come to the library and change books every 3 months. A new Project this year is "readinglux" focus on reading aloud, Child and parent read the same. Togehter they also meet authors at the library. Technics and our makerspace is in my focus too.</p>
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Naira Atshemyan	Chief librarian of the International Relationships Department	National Children's Library after Khnko Aper	Armenia	<p>Working at the National Children's Library of Armenia I am interested in widening the ties of contacts with the people from children and young adults' libraries of all over the world to exchange experience with them. This will give us a chance to gain new approaches, ideas and methods while organizing children and young adults' reading, activities and entertainment at our library.</p>
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Aura Lenuta Campan	Head of Children Department	"Octavian Goga" Cluj County Library	Romania	I work as a librarian since 2006, and in Children Department since 2010. In October 2016, I became the Head of Children and Young Adults Department. During the years, I developed cultural-educational programs for/with children, on themes like: health food, astronomy, travelling, ecology, games, holiday clubs. I also organised activities such as Storytelling Hours and Curious Club. In 2013 I took part in an intergenerational program - "I Want You to Read for Me", being trained by an educational expert to organise activities with 3 different generations of a family: children, parents, grandparents. After the implementation of this project, I (together with a colleague) disseminated the results and trained librarians from Transylvania Library Chisinau to do the same kind of activities in their library. Since 2016, I am involved in an Erasmus+ project named "Family Literacy Works!", my job within it being to develop and pilot a training program for family literacy facilitators. I am interested in Libraries for Children and Young Adults IFLA Section because I want to learn more and more in this field so that I can become an active part of the Romanian (and not only) libraries' development.
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Amber Creger	Youth Department Director	Schaumburg Township District Library	United States	<p>For the past 18 years, Youth Services librarianship has been my career passion and focus. From conducting lapsit storytimes to developing connected learning teen volunteer opportunities, I have run the gamut in developing services and programs for youth. Currently I'm the Youth Department Director of a suburban library outside of Chicago, where I oversee both the teen and kids departments. I am a champion of the children, always considering the latest research, trends and community needs affecting youth and advocating for their application in a library setting. As a library leader, I am constantly looking for ways to give back to the profession and to develop the next generation of youth librarians. Working with other statewide library organizations, I have initiated, developed and facilitated a myriad of professional development opportunities for local youth librarians. From creating the first ever Youth Services focused statewide conference to teaching a graduate level class called "Library Services and Programming for Youth and Young Adults", I have worked persistently to develop quality learning opportunities for both local librarians, and the communities they in turn serve. To continue this work with other library youth advocates on an international level would be tremendous and a tremendous opportunity.</p>
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Emiko Goeku	Librarian	Tokyo Children's Library	Japan	<p>I have been working in this Standing Committee for 4 years and am willing to keep on working with them for 4 more years. Having been working as a children's librarian for more than 10 years, and being a board member of children and young adults section of Japan Library Association, I think I have enough knowledge about library services for children, and can share what is going on in Japan with colleagues from around the world. I also would like to share the works and news of IFLA and the CYA section with my colleagues in Japan.</p>
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Salomon Hellman	Librarian	Stockholms stadsbibliotek	Sweden	I've been working at Stockholm Public Library since 2006, focusing on library services for children and young adults. I started off as a children's librarian in a suburban multicultural area with immigrants from all over the world. There I gave book presentations, held writing classes and led reading groups. Today I work with selection, acquisition and cataloging of children's literature for our 40 library branches. Besides working as a librarian I also write book tips for children's literature in publications from the Swedish Arts Council.
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Huey Bin Heng	Head (Children & Teens)	National Library Board, Singapore	Singapore	I lead the strategic planning, development and implementation of Children and Teens Content and Services across all Singapore public libraries, including service roadmaps for Children, Tweens, Teens, Children from the Lower-Income Families, and Read@School, a whole-school reading programme for primary and secondary schools. My recent projects included Children's Reading Fiesta – a spy-themed carnival, Teens Grad Party and Reapers' Trail to draw teens back to the libraries and Book Bugs – a collectible game card reading promotion. I have shared my innovative initiatives at conferences such as 2nd International Conference on Children Librarianship (Philippines, 2015), 2015 Asian Festival of Children Content (Singapore), 8th International Symposium on Library Services for Children and Young Adults (South Korea, 2014) and IFLA 2008 Satellite meeting (Canada). Topics include designing creative programmes, and new strategies to engage children and teens in reading and learning. Based on my expertise working in the field of library services for children and young adults, and a keen interest in discovering what's trending and identifying collaborative opportunities to promote reading and learning both locally and internationally, I believe that I will be able to give a huge and innovative contribution to this section.
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Asiye Kakirman Yildiz	Academic (Assoc. Prof.)	Marmara University	Turkey	<p>After becoming an associate professor in 2014, she has been studying about family as a role model on developing a reading habit for preschool children, the role of books in pre-school children's development and the necessity of pre- school libraries , analysis of public libraries' ability to represent preschool children in terms of their missions and responsibilities. In the 3rd National Culture Council held in 2016, she became the only librarian to represent the field of librarianship. She had been the coordinator which is the first ever held in Turkey "Children's Library Workshop" in 2017. Next year, she made efforts to celebrate the week of the library with the theme of "a new generation of children, new generation libraries". And in 2018, she has been organized and co-chair which will be held for the first time in Turkey "First International Symposium on Children's Library". At present, she has been studying how children libraries can transform a child's life. At present, she is studying how children's libraries can transform the life of a child.She gives lectures on Research Methods, Library Management, Change Management in Information Centers, Information Literacy, School Libraries and Children's Libraries.She is the mother of KEREM.</p>
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Alica Kolarić	The head of library services	Rijeka City Library	Croatia	<p>In 18 years of library work, my professional interest has been focused on providing services for children and young adults. My main expertise is in reading promotion: among the youth of all ages, and among parents to encourage their reading to children from an early age. My specialty lies in organizing programs for children and young adults, such as debate clubs and book clubs, and in collaborative creation of content with the youth and colleagues librarians using digital tools. Wishing to contribute to the body of knowledge on information provision for adolescents, I enrolled in PhD program and I am working on the thesis entitled Understanding Adolescent Information Behavior from the Perspective of Informed Decision Making. I contribute to my professional community by publishing professional and scholarly papers and serving as the chair of the Children and Young Adults Library Services Committee of the Croatian Library Association. My experience and expertise in the area have been growing from daily provision of library services to children and young adults to scholarly interest directed to improving information provision to adolescents. I believe that, at this point, I have much to offer to the international community of librarians in IFLA's section.</p>
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Antonella Lamberti	Assistent Librarian for Children and Young Adults	Biblioteca Tiziano Terzani di Campi Bisenzio (Firenze)	Italy	I'm a documentalist of Italian Children Literature since 1987, working for the Italian specialised quarterly review Liber. Since the 2002 I'm also a librarian for children and young adults at the Italian public Library Tiziano Terzani (former Villa Montalvo) in Campi Bisenzio (Florence). In August 2014 I was in Lyon, as a volunteer at the 80th Conference of Ifla, and I also participated to some meetings of the Section. There I became the Italian coordinator for the second edition of The world through picture books, a publication by Ifla Children and Young Adults Section. After this experience I became member of the IFLA SC Libraries for children and also a member of the Italian Library Association National Committe Libraries for children. In the last four years I could play an important role, beeing the link between the international and the national library committees for children libraries. I could empower this link during the past month of April when I had the IFLA Standing Committee LCYA in Florence for the mid year meeting, that I organised and where I invited many Italian children librarians who worked together with the IFLA colleagues.
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Denise Lyons	Deputy Director	South Carolina State Library	United States	<p>I have been working with youth in non-profits and libraries for more than 20 years. I was the Youth Services consultant for SC coordinating statewide continuing education for youth/YA staff/librarians, a summer reading program and statewide kickoff, and was on the Board of the national collaborative (CSLP). Prior to that, in Dallas, I ran the parent literacy and arts program Every Child Ready To Read @ Dallas. In 2010, I created an award-winning perpetual family literacy activity calendar to promote kindergarten readiness and family literacy and it's available online and in Spanish: www.daybydaysc.org. For YALSA, I co-authored "Transforming Library Services for and with Teens Through Continuing Education" and co-wrote a book on GrandFamily services "Serving Grandfamilies In Libraries: A Practical Handbook and Programming Guide". I presented on early literacy at ILFA, Poland and at ALA Midwinter 2018. Recently, I wrote and implemented the awards for the ALA/ALSC Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Award and May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture awards. Personally, I received a Library Journal Mover and Shaker award and the 2016 Annual Literacy Leaders Award by USC Center for Children's Books & Literacy. I serve on the ALSC School Age Programs and Services, Summer/Out-of-School-Time Learning Task Force, and PLA Leadership Development committees.</p>
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Olga Mezentseva	Assistant Director	Russian State	Russian	Olga Mezentseva, Assistant Director of Russian State Children's Library. In 1982 she graduated from the Moscow State Institute of Culture, in 1988 successfully defended thesis for the degree of PhD in Pedagogy. She began her career in 1986 and worked as a teacher, senior teacher and associate professor at the Department of Library Science at the MSIC. Since 2001, she was the dean of The Library and Information Faculty of MSUCA. Today she successfully combines professional and teaching activities. From 2006 to 2012 worked in the Central Universal Science Library of Nekrasov. Since July 2012 she has been working in RSCL as Deputy Director for Science and Publishing. She manages the All-Russian Center for the Study of Reading and Literature for Children, actively participates in the formation of the legislative base of library and information services for children in Russia, for example, "Model Standard for a Public Library", approved by the Ministry of Culture of Russian Federation in 2014; "Concept for Children's Library Services in Russia for 2014–2020" adopted by the Russian Library Association Conference in 2014. By the initiative of Olga Mezentseva established an Educational Center in RSCL in order to conduct educational activities for Russian library specialists.
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Søren Dahl Mortensen	Librarian and project manager	Odense Central Library	Denmark	I have been working as a Librarian in the section for C&YA for many years, and I have a master`s degree in "Children and Youth Culture. As part of my job i have been participating in international conferences "Child in the City" and International Play Association", and also been active in the planning of a international conference in my home town. I have been working within the IFLA section for C&YA for the last 4 years. I have participated in the work with new guidelines for the section, and I have participated in all the mid year meetings working with planning of the main conferences. I have made presentations at 2 of the mid year meetings and at a main conference. At the moment I am preparing my participation in the mid year meeting in Japan, where I am in the planning group and also making a talk about the Danish Library work with C&YA
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SooHyun Park	Librarian	National Library for Children and Young Adults	Republic of Korea	Reading promotion for Children and Young Adults
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Maria Ponomarenko	head bibliographer	M.I. Rudomino	Russian	I am the head bibliographer of the Children's Literature Department
		All-Russia State	Federation	in one of the biggest Russian libraries. Library for Foreign Literature
		Library for		maintains rich collection of foreign books in 140 languages. Our
		Foreign		children's books collection is about 100.000 items, both classic and
		Literature		modern literature. Our department appreciates long lasting
				cooperation with Russian and international professional
				communities, we have been participating in IFLA activities for many
				years. I have worked for 15 years in the children's center of the State
				Historical museum and for 6 years in the Library. Our Department
				functions as an information center on the best library practice and
				reading promotion projects from all around the world. Our global
				mission is to inspire interest in various cultures by children. I hope to
				get new ideas from the Section and am willing to present this
				information to my colleagues in Russia. In the Children's Books
				center I'm responsible for the professional network and cooperation
				with other libraries, schools, charity organizations, museums and
				theatres all around Russia. I'm looking forward to establishing new
				contacts with colleagues to exchange information and experiences, I
				believe that will contribute to prolific cooperation and inspire new
				interesting and useful projects.

Claire Stuckey	Children's librarian retired	Central Coast Council - Gosford	Australia	Over 15 years experience in a large public library system specializing in children's services. Apart from normal duties I developed and presented successful early literacy programs. As the Australian coordinator for the World through picture books project I also hosted the same exhibition bringing International books to our community. I am the initial organizer of the travelling pants programs Jean Genies started in NSW the program expanded across the globe. As a member of the national executive of IBBy I coordinate an emerging author award and have presented at 2 congresses. I currently review for an online site and work in a book shop a few hours a week.
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Annie Tam	Head Librarian (Secondary)	The Independent Schools Foundation Academy	Hong Kong	Having been a secondary school teacher-librarian for over ten years in 2 IB World Schools, I have been proactively promoting to my students a love of reading which matches with the major purpose of the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section. I can share my experience and cultural perspective as Asian/Chinese if I join the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section as a standing committee member.
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