TIG Updates
- **TIG Google Site** has been updated! There are now new recommendations and places to contribute your ideas through embedded padlets.
- TIG Discord: if you are on the Discord, please react in the poll channel.
- TIG is currently partnering with Children’s Services Division on teen track for Kids are Customers 2022 currently planned for March.
- TIG is exploring partnering with Library Advocacy Interest Group, Readers Advisory Interest Group and LGBTQ+ Interest Group.

MLA Updates
- Theme for MLA Conference: Come As You Are
  - Currently planned for in person at the Hyatt in Cambridge
- TIG is sponsoring a workshop on Anime and co-sponsoring workshops on Comic-Con, BookTok and Discord
  - Hopefully also creating a anime themed basket for the silent auction

Discussion Questions
*Discussion supplemental resources: [Volunteer Spreadsheet](#) and [Volunteer Bingo](#)*
- General thoughts about volunteers:
  - Can be a valuable experience for teens, but ultimately gives more work to staff
  - The only avenue for volunteering for some is Summer Reading
  - Opportunities primarily benefit teens that are mobile, already engaged with the library, with parents that are active
  - Libraries can end up with teens that are only doing it because they’re required to or because their parents are forcing them to
  - Teen volunteer opportunities might be limited to specific ages
  - Teens in libraries are important to get teen input on library services
  - Building staff connections with volunteers is vital: we need to make sure these opportunities are intentional.
  - This helps teens see the library as a place that’s fun to work and also help teens see the many, many paths they can take into the library.
- What sort of responsibilities could Summer volunteers have?
  - Job shadowing (try dead stock, standing at circ desk, etc)
    - Expand this to setup for career readiness
  - Handing out completion prizes
  - Helping with kids craft programs
- Watching Summer table
- Assisting with lunch programs - tallying participants and wiping down tables
- Lunch program tally sheet & wiping down table
- Creating displays / activity recommendations that can be posted

Do you have teen volunteers or service learning hour opportunities other than SRC?
- Teen Advisory Boards
- ‘Teens Give Back’ - teens drop in to participate in community service projects which are connected to community partners
- Reading Buddies: Older teens listen to younger kids practice reading
- Work-Based Learning (maybe no hours involved in this): Partnering with programs for teens / young adults with disabilities to assist in job experience such as cleaning or setup

Is there anything you want to try?
- Older teens teaching younger teens things
- Teens leading programs that teach adults things
  - YELL is a model for this
- Community Service Club: Something where teens partner with outside organizations to complete service projects, but the challenge has been finding projects that might be done independently / virtually.
  - Some shared projects include transcribing documents from Library of Congress; motherbearproject.org; peacethroughaction.org; Green Teen Garden Project; teens meet a mental health care professional and learn how to create mental health care kits for others.

What is the application process like?
- Some have virtual applications (example though it is not active yet)
  - This can be a challenge because parents often fill out the application for teens rather than teens answering questions themselves.
- Another system still uses paper applications
  - This system can be outdated and might give teens the wrong impression about how to apply for jobs since most jobs have virtual applications now.
- The interview process can help ensure you’re allowing teens to speak / advocate for themselves and allow them to get experience even if their parent was heavily involved in the application.

What challenges do you have for service in the library?
- Tracking teen progress: in a way it’s another form of supervision which requires a lot of communication and tracking.
- A lot of plans were created pre-COVID but had not been adapted to virtual or COVID-restriction environments.
- Some staff have less control over decision-making regarding volunteer opportunities.
- Some systems have limitations on what volunteers can do (i.e., some volunteers cannot do work that staff are paid to do).
Some coordinators have been the only point people for volunteers which means teens have no relationship with other staff - it becomes hard to get everyone invested that way.

- Find ways to connect staff with teens based on interests. If a staff member likes to knit, ask them to sit in on the knitting program for teens!

Figuring out the number of volunteers is a challenge: if you have too many volunteers, there might not be enough work to spread around. This also relates to what hours are offered: things late at night might make for a slow, less engaging opportunity!

Advertising volunteer opportunities is another challenging!

- Some systems use social media, but that can be limited based on what control staff have over posting / creating content. Some social media has different engagement with teens (i.e., Facebook might catch parents but won’t catch teens.)
- Word of mouth is the best venue for getting information out.

Your teens will be honest. Never take what they say seriously if it’s a dig against you.

Media share:
- How Do We Relationship
- Horimiya
- Blue Giant
  - Huda F Are You
- Truly Devious
- Sadie
- Emily in Paris
- One True Loves
- Sex Ed 120%
- The Montague Twins
- Star Wars From a Certain Point of View
- Wake
- There There
- Me Too and You
- Roxy

Agenda Building

- Next Meetings:
  - TIGTalks: March 8th, 2-3pm
    - TIGTalks will focus on staff: how to keep energy, how to keep going.
  - Official TIG Meeting: April 12th, 2-4pm

Action Items
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<th>What</th>
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<tr>
<td>Want manga/anime review once a month for the website, starting in February</td>
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<td>Want a video game review once a month for the website, starting in February</td>
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<td>Want someone to assist Discord engagement</td>
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<td>Creating content for the Readers' Advisory Instagram</td>
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