<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Team</strong></th>
<th>Teen Interest Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
<td>October 12, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Facilitators</strong></td>
<td>Jake Ciarapica &amp; Kevin Jayce, Co-Chairs</td>
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<td><strong>Recorder</strong></td>
<td>Kevin Jayce</td>
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**MLA Updates**
- Jake & Kevin will join the Conference Committee for a site visit in November for the conference in May 2022.
- The Conference Committee still accepting proposals until the 15th. Have an idea that could work for TIG? Let us know.

**Discussion**

*Recap of first Brown Bag Social*
- The first meeting went well - but we are looking for a new name! If you have any ideas feel free to send them to Jake & Kevin or throw it on the Discord Server.
- These meetings will occur on Discord so if you are unfamiliar with the platform, this might be a good chance to learn about it a little more.

*Quick Discord Overview for New Users (Virtual Spaces)*
- We did an overview of what servers looked like, how to use channels and what is happening in the MLA-TIG server.
- The link to join the MLA-TIG server is on our MLA page.

*Teen Spaces in Branch*

**Supplementary Materials:** YALSA Teen Space Guidelines, KC Library Tour; Monroe County Public Library Tour
- We are jealous! We love the open spaces, that teens are involved in the process of creating them and that the videos market them well.
- Tween spaces need some more focus - tweens have different needs than elementary-aged and teen customers, so we may need to start factoring that into the conversation.
- **Maintaining Teen Spaces:**
  - Maintaining age groups: We need to be a little more flexible with ages in teen spaces. Some teens have younger siblings they are watching or have adult supports. We want to make it clear that it is still a teen space for social connection. We could offer some teen-services elsewhere in the library if it becomes an issue. Adults are the biggest issue in teen spaces because they might be addressing behaviors unnecessarily. We also don’t want young children or adults in teen spaces without a teen.
  - Hours: A teen space could only be a dedicated teen space during certain times of the day, primarily after school hours.
○ Guidelines: Everyone is in favor of some more flexible guidelines for teen spaces. Guidelines are often less about “rules to make a stricter space” and more about “guidelines of things staff should be more lenient with to encourage teens to stay.” It’s good to get teens involved in this process of setting up the guidelines - basic rules would be “be nice to each other” or “respect the space, respect each other, respect yourself.” Restrictive rules are often counterproductive because teens might sneak around to do what they want. We also want guidelines to be current so you might need to revisit them each year as new cohorts of teens use the library.

○ Addressing behavior: Teenhood is an awkward time. You want to approach things genuinely to who you are - if it’s awkward, you can be honest and say “this might be awkward, but…”

○ Functions and benefits of a teen space: These spaces allow for privacy, ownership, extra freedom for noise. They often have fun things may not have access to at home like video games or emerging technology.
  ■ These fun things also illustrate an issue if adults want to use them - adults have less restrictions out in the community than teens do, but they still might have the same resources to access some of the cool stuff we put in teen spaces.

○ Addressing customers that don’t appreciate teens in the branch: Simply asking “where else do you want them to go is a powerful question because there are fewer spots where teens can hang out in the community.

○ Staffing in teen space: This depends on what is going on and who the teens are. Many teen spaces don’t have staff space, but we do rove and have sightlines to make sure things are safe.

○ Video games (and equipment) in teen space: We discussed conflict with multiple teens wanting to use the devices and talked about various systems to mitigate that such as sign in sheets, rolling dice for participation and taking turns. Checking out devices or having to leave personal belongings to use branch items feels restrictive. The flipside is that many libraries don’t have a budget to automatically replace lost or stolen devices or equipment. Staff might just need to be a little more present and set the expectations early.

○ Wishlist for our dream teen space: Digital drawing tables; more seating; current technology; LED lights; happy teens; screen printing equipment; supplies for crafts; comfort closet with hygiene supplies; homework cart; Little Free Library of tough topic books; walls; information on vital resources.

Resource Sharing
Have you read or watched anything spooky & teen related for the season?
  ● A Lesson in Vengeance by Victoria Lee
  ● Aristotle and Dante Dive into the Waters of the World by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
  ● The Falling Girls by Hayley Krischer
  ● The Master Cat is Depressed Again Day
  ● Never Have I Ever (Netflix)
- A Deadly Education by Naomi Novik
- There’s Someone Inside Your House (Netflix)
- Midnight Mass - (Netflix)
- The Fire Keepers Daughter by Angeline Boulley
- #murdertrending by Gretchen McNeil
- Honor Among Thieves by Rachel Caine
- Squid Games (Netflix)
- Half Life by Lillian Clark

- Reach out to Jessica Woods (jwoods@bcpl.net) for information about Capitol Choices or the Black Eyed Susan Committee title nomination processes.

**Agenda Building**

- Next Meetings:
  - Brown Bag: December 14th, 2-3pm
  - Official TIG Meeting: January 11th, 2-4pm