

For Immediate Release
July 1, 2012

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MEDIA ADVISORY

SUMMERTEEN ONLINE EVENT CELEBRATES THE LATEST TITLES AND EMERGING TRENDS IN YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

WHAT: *SummerTeen: A Celebration of Young Adult Books* brings together a blockbuster keynote, presentations on topics on the hottest Young Adult (YA) genres and formats, panel discussions, freebies and give aways, networking opportunities and resource exhibitions...all from the comfort of your own computer/mobile device.

This online event -- all of the benefits of attending a national conference without the hassle of travel -- gives attendees the early word on titles and emerging trends in young adult literature and a preview of what YA readers will soon be buzzing about.

WHEN: **Thursday, August 9**
10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. EST

WHO: **The 2012 SummerTeen keynote is Caroline B. Cooney.** Cooney's books have received several honors, including an IRA—CBC Children's Choice and an ALA Best Book for Young Adults nod. One of her most popular books is *The Face on the Milk Carton*—the gripping story of a young girl who discovers that the picture of a missing child on a milk carton is actually a picture of herself.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS:

Who Will Mend This Broken Heart?

Romance and relationship novels are always popular with teens. They can provide the perfect escape for the recently crushed and currently hopeful, and provide perspective to those in any phase of young love. Panelists are Katie Kacvinsky, Miranda Kenneally, Lurlene McDaniel and Earl Sewell. Moderator Terri Clark is the author of the Prism Award-winning young adult novel *Sleepless* (HarperTeen) and *Hollyweird* (FLUX).

Alternate Formats: New Approaches to Teen Fiction

A rush of books are being produced in hybrid or nontraditional highly visual storytelling formats. Panelists are Andrea J. Buchanan, Cecil Castellucci, Michael Grant and Barry Lyga. Moderator Brigid Alverson started [MangaBlog](#) to keep track of her daughters' reading habits and now covers comics and graphic novels for *Comic Book Resources*, *School Library Journal*, *Publishers Weekly Comics World*, *Graphic Novel Reporter*, *MTV Geek*, and *Robot 6*. She also edits the [Good Comics for Kids](#) blog at *School Library Journal*.

The Science in Science Fiction

Good science fiction can ignite a spark in young readers that allows them to imagine a world beyond

their own. Panelists are Johan Harstad, Pete Hautman and Garth Nix. Moderator Sophie Brookover is a Program Coordinator and the Social Media Manager for LibraryLinkNJ, The New Jersey Library Cooperative. Sophie has also been a YA and high school librarian, served on the 2012 Michael L. Printz Award Committee, and blogs for *School Library Journal* at [Someday My Printz Will Come](#).

Classic Twists

*Imagine getting handed *The Odyssey*, annotated and unabridged, on the first day of high school. Can't you just hear the collective groan? A little sugar, along with some companion titles, can help the medicine go down.* Panelists are Gareth Hinds, Marissa Meyer and Sean Michael Wilson. Moderator Leslie Bermel came to Junior Library Guild 11 years ago and has since become one of the faces of the best books as she travels throughout the country talking with thousands of librarians each year.

Rockin' Women of YA

Hear from the hottest female authors in the teen lit stratosphere about their newest titles, and what's up next for them. Panelists are A.S. King, Nina LaCour, Jackie Morse Kessler and Maggie Stiefvater. Moderator Betsy Bird is the Youth Materials Specialist for the New York Public Library system. She currently blogs about children's books on the site [A Fuse #8 Production](#), hosted by *School Library Journal*. She reviews for *Kirkus* and *The New York Times* on occasion.

Aftermath Lit

Whether the challenges and disasters are natural or manmade, teens love rooting for the underdogs and the displaced, putting themselves into the same situations they find their most loved (and hated) characters in. Panelists are Karen Healey, Julie Kagawa, Marie Lu and Karen Thompson Walker. Moderator Angela Carstensen is Head Librarian at Convent of the Sacred Heart, a K-12 independent school for girls in New York City. Currently, Angela is editor of the *School Library Journal* [Adult Books 4 Teens](#) blog, and editor of *Outstanding Books for the College Bound: Titles and Programs for a New Generation* (ALA Editions, 2011).

RSVP: School and youth services librarians, collection development librarians, library directors and administrators and anyone who loves YA/teen lit will be in attendance. Registration required; for media access, please contact Beth Allee at ballee@mediasourceinc.com

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SummerTeen: A Celebration of Young Adult Books is a *School Library Journal* online event. For more information, please visit <http://www.thedigitalshift.com/events/summerteen/>

ABOUT SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

School Library Journal (SLJ) is the most influential publication serving libraries—the largest market for new children's and young adult books—and is the only full-service publication serving the youth and school library market. It reaches more than 35,000 elementary, middle/junior, and senior high school librarians and youth service librarians in public libraries. *SLJ* educates its readers to become leaders in technology, reading, and information literacy. Visit www.schoollibraryjournal.com.

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