

**Teen Programming: Banned Books Week**  
**Alyson Feldman-Piltch**  
**Z572: Youth Services**  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

## **About the program**

Celebrate Banned Books Week: A Special Event for Teens is an event that will occur at the end of Banned Books Week 2014, on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The first part of the program will be a book discussion, where teens will be asked to share their thoughts on what they read. At registration, Teens will select a title from the provided list of Banned Books that they wish to discuss. During the discussion teens will also be asked reading prompt questions, and read articles that talk about challenged books. Lunch will be provided during the discussion.

After the discussion, the teens will have the opportunity to decorate their t-shirt/canvas bag with stencils and stamps with either the title of their book, a Banned Books Week slogan, or some art that represents their book in some way. Teens will be able to leave their work at the library to dry, and those that feel comfortable with the idea, will be able to display their work for a week in the library.

This program will be capped at 15 kids.

## **Advertising the program**

Basic information about the program is as follows:

**Celebrate Banned Books Week: A Special Event for Teens**  
**Saturday, September 27, 11 am- 3pm**  
**Tompkins Public Library**  
**1243 S. Main Street, Downtown Tompkins**  
**Phone: (339) 273-8123**  
**@tompkins\_teens**  
**Registration Required. Visit our website for more information.**  
**[tpl.info](http://tpl.info)**

Ultimately it would be up to graphics and marketing as to how the information would look, but it would in at least four formats: website, programming pamphlet, flyers, and social media (more than one outlet). Programming pamphlets would include programs for the entire four-month period, and would be located for patrons at the library. Flyers advertising the program would be placed throughout the community in places such as: skate parks, coffee shops, the library (school & public), mall, and frozen yogurt places.

The website would share the following information:

- Banned Books Reading List
- Food will be provided
- Paint will be involved
- Bring a plain t-shirt or canvas bag to decorate
- Title of work teen plans on reading

The registration page would request the following information:

- Name
- Age day of program
- Dietary Restrictions

## **Resources**

Staff:

- 1 staff person running the program (me)
- 1 staff members at Teen desk (will already be scheduled )

Materials:

- 2 canvas bags: \$15.98
- 2 XXL White t-shirts: \$8.38
- 2 XXL Black t-shirts: \$8.38
- 2 packs of Sharpie Fashion Stained Markers: \$39.98
- Assorted value packs of Fabric Paint: \$80
- Assorted foam fabric stamps: \$19.90
- Bucket of foam shapes: \$8.00
- Letter Stencils: \$14.00
- 2 Sheet Pizzas: \$40.00
- Foam roll: \$8.99
- Paper plates
- Plastic cups
- Plastic bowls
- Paper towels
- Soda: \$8
- Paintbrushes
- Newspaper
- Duct tape
- 8 large tables
- 15 chairs
- 15 copies of Banned Books List
- 15 copies of article packets]
- 1 laptop & laptop cart
- Portable speakers
- Assorted bookmarks
- Name Tags
- Markers: washable and wipe board
- Paper Clips
- Post -It Notes

**Total Cost: \$251.58**

## **Room Specifications & Considerations**

- The event will take place in Meeting Room C, because of its close access to the restrooms, water fountains, and kitchen. The room is in the opposite direction of the collections, thus making it more quiet and secluded, allowing students to be more focused on the program than their noise level. There is a wipe board along one wall, and 8 rectangular tables, as well as assorted chairs in the room. Standard fluorescent lights are in the room, as is a trash barrel.
- Tables will be placed in a “U” shape and covered with newspaper to prevent mess, and make clean up easy. Students will sit around the “U” with the teen librarian sitting in front of it. Banned Books will be displayed on the ledge of the wipe board. Food and craft supplies will be placed along the three tables on the side.
- Once the discussion is over and the craft activity has begun, the teen librarian can play music from Pandora. During the craft, water will be placed in both plastic cups and bowls so that brushes and stamps can be rinsed off. These will be placed between every other person.
- Please see the attached diagram for physical layout for day of program.
- The Library is ADA compliant and accessible. We want to include everyone in programming.

## **Evaluation**

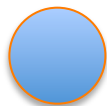
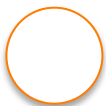
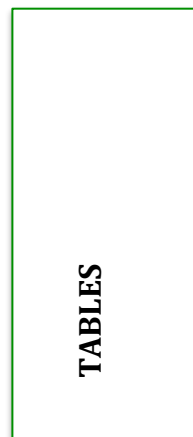
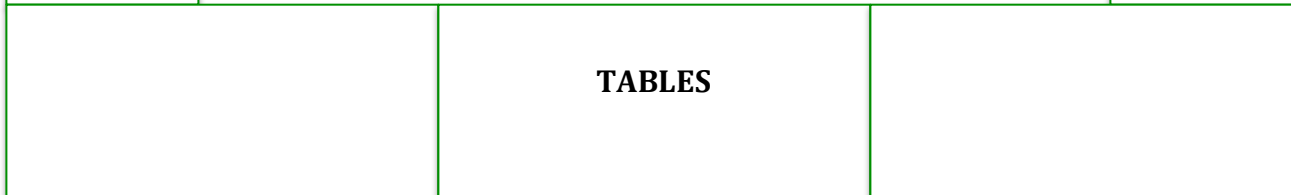
There is a suggestion/comment box available at the teen desk, as well as a texting service where teens can text their thoughts to the teen department. Additionally, Teens are invited to give their feedback at the monthly Teen Advisory Group meeting.

Wipe Board



Laptop Cart

DOOR



# Teen Programming Schedule

## Schedule

7 Days before:

- Purchase art materials
- Begin to place items on supply cart
- Collect Newspaper

6 Days before:

- Prepare notes on Banned Books Week
- Prepare notes on OIF
- Prepare notes on why each book selected was banned

5 Days before:

- Begin tracing images relevant to books on foam & cut out for stencils
  - I.e. A house for *Fun Home*, fire for *Fahrenheit 451*, etc.
- Place sheet pizza order

3 Days Before:

- Pull articles about books: form into packets
- Write prompt questions for discussion
- Pull funny banned books facts

Day before:

- Confirm pizza order- schedule delivery
- Put Soda in refrigerator
- Sign out laptop, speakers, and laptop cart
- Set up room as illustrated in diagram
- Cover tables in newspaper- tape down with duct tape

One hour before:

- Fill & place water cups/bowls for crafts on table
- Set up craft supplies on one table
- Set up paper plates, napkins, cups, on another table
- Set up books on ledge of wipe board
- Place nametag and marker at each sheet

15 minutes before:

- Retrieve pizza delivery
- Remove soda from refrigerator
- Place soda and pizza on third table

5 minutes before:

- Open door to teens

# Teen Programming Script

## 11: 00 am: **Welcome**

- Teens make name tags
- Grab food
- Everyone goes around and states (including teen librarian):
  - Name & School
  - What book they read
  - Why they think that book was banned

## 11:15 am: **Banned Books: What they are and the History of the Week**

- Ask if anyone can say what a banned book is: write adjectives on board
- Talk about what ALA OIF does for libraries to support them when book is challenged
- Explain the history of Banned Books Week, share some funny facts

## 11:40 am: **Share articles about recent banned books and challenges**

- Hand out articles
- Ask teens if any specific words/reasons jump out at them: write on board

## 12:15 pm: **Teens Get Talking**

- Open discussion by asking one of your TAG members why they thought their book was banned , whether or not they agree or disagree with banning books
- Ask others to share their opinion
- If the conversation is going no where, use questions from prompt sheet

## 1:15 pm: **Get Creative**

- Have everyone throw out trash
- Explain craft
- Highlight the stencils, stamps, paint brushes, and different paints
- If anyone appears to have forgotten their shirt/bag offer them one

## 2:30 pm: **Remind that there is 30 minutes left**

- Clean up will begin in 15 minutes

## 2:45 pm: **Clean up**

- Begin cleaning up
  - Send 2 people to clean brushes and sponges
  - Drape shirts/bags on back of chairs to dry
- Remind Teens they can leave their things at the library to dry
  - Those that say yes, can paperclip name to object
  - Also say that anyone interested can pick up their item next week if they want to leave it for display in the library

## 3:00 pm: **Goodbyes**

- Thank everyone for coming, promote next event
- Offer them list of Banned Books, encourage them to read them and speak up

## **CELEBRATE BANNED BOOKS WEEK**

### **Titles To Chose From**

*Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

*Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou

*13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher

*Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Looking for Alaska* by John Green

TTYL (Internet girls series) by Lauren Myracle

*The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

### **Funny Banned Books Facts**

Did you know....*Brown Bear, Brown Bear* was banned because the author was confused with a famous communist of the same name?

Did you know....Shel Silverstein's *A Light in the Attic* as challenged because it encouraged kids to break dishes?

Maurice Sendak's *In the Night Kitchen* was banned because the little boy is naked in one picture!

*Where's Waldo* (yes, the famous Waldo!) was banned because some of illustrations depicting gay lovers, and topless sunbathers.

*Facts taken from the Strand Bookstore's Banned Book Display in New York City.  
More facts can be found online on [Buzzfeed.com](http://Buzzfeed.com), search: "banned books"*



## **Celebrate Banned Books Week: Discussion Prompts**

1. Why do you think your book was banned?
2. Do you think it is sometimes okay to ban books?
3. What would you do if someone tried to ban a book in our community?
4. Do you think that books should be rated, like movies are?
5. Has anyone ever tried to restrict your access to a book, or disapproved of you reading a book because of the themes?
6. Why do you think it's important to make people aware of banned books?
7. Are some topics more important to censor, than others?
8. Can you think of an instance when you would ever want to have a book banned?

# Bibliography

## Books

*Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

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## Articles & Discussion Points

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<<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/bannedbooksweek>>.

Dicker, Ron. "Sherman Alexie's 'Absolutely True Diary Of A Part-Time Indian' Pulled From School Reading List..." *The Huffington Post*. TheHuffingtonPost.com, 02 Aug. 2013. Web. 08 Mar. 2014.

<[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/02/sherman-alexie-part-time-indian-masturbation\\_n\\_3696555.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/02/sherman-alexie-part-time-indian-masturbation_n_3696555.html)>.

"Office for Intellectual Freedom." *American Library Association*. ALA, n.d. Web. 07 Mar. 2014. <<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif>>.

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## Craft Idea

"Stencil A T-Shirt Library Program for Teens." *Pinterest*. N.p., n.d. Web. 08 Mar. 2014.

<<http://www.pinterest.com/pin/528328600008317591/>>.