Sunday, January 25

YALSA elections open soon, so before you vote, come to the YALSA Candidates’ Forum from 10:30 a.m. to noon. This is your opportunity to meet the candidates and ask questions before voting this spring.

Want to know what teens really think of books released this past year? Come hear local teens reflect on the nominees for the BBYA teen session, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

YALSA has several discussion and interest groups for members to participate in. Discussion groups are informal groups where members talk about common interests; interest groups are more formal and organized to discuss specific topics and may sponsor formal conference programs, institutes, and seminars, or prepare publications. Want to learn more about them? Then come to the YALSA Discussion and Interest Group Summit, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Monday, January 26

The most exciting part of any ALA Midwinter Meeting is definitely the ALA Youth Media Awards Press Conference! Come bright and early Monday morning to the ceremony (8 – 9:15 a.m.) and find out who won this year’s top prizes in young adult literature:

- The Alex Awards, honoring the best adult books with teen appeal, will be announced at 7:45 a.m. before the press conference begins.
- The Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature, as well as honor books.
- The Margaret A. Edwards Award, which honors an author for a specific work for lifetime contribution to writing for teens.
- The Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audio Production for Youth, plus the honor recordings (co-administered with the Association for Library Service to Children [ALSC]).
- The first William C. Morris YA Debut Award, for the best first book written for young adults by a previously unpublished author.

Can’t make it? Watch the event live via a webcast from the ALA homepage or subscribe to the text message alerts. Details on both will be available on the YALSA wiki in December.

Cap off your weekend in Denver with the Joint Youth Division Member Reception from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Join your colleagues from ALSC, the American Association of School Librarians, and YALSA for light refreshments plus beer and wine, courtesy reception sponsor Hyperion Books for Children.

To register and learn more about YALSA’s plans for the 2009 Midwinter Meeting, visit the YALSA wiki (http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa) and click on “Conferences and Events.”

Apply for More than $34,000 in Grants and Awards from YALSA

Deadline: Dec. 1

More than $34,000 worth of grants and awards are available to YALSA members. The deadline to apply for the following grants and awards is December 1, 2008. To learn more, visit www.ala.org/yalsa, and click on “Awards and Grants.”

- **Baker and Taylor/YALSA Conference Grants.** Funded by the Baker and Taylor Company, two grants of $1,000 each are awarded to librarians who work directly with young adults in a public or school library to enable them to attend ALA Annual Conference for the first time.

- **BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant.** This grant awards $1,000 for collection development to YALSA members who represent a public library and who work directly with young adults ages 12 to 18. It is funded by Book Wholesalers, Inc.

- **MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens.** Designed to honor a YALSA member who developed an outstanding reading or literature program for young adults, the award provides $500 to the winning librarian and $500 to their library. The award is made possible through an annual grant from the Margaret A. Edwards Trust.

- **Frances Henne/YALSA/VOYA Research Grant.** This grant of $1,000 provides seed money for small-scale projects that will encourage research that responds to the YALSA Research Agenda; funding is provided by Scarecrow Press.

- **Great Books Giveaway Competition.** Each year the YALSA office receives approximately 1,200 newly published children’s, young adult, and adult books, videos, CD’s, and audio cassettes for review. YALSA and the cooperating publishers offer one year’s worth of review materials as a contribution to a library in need. The estimated value of this collection is $30,000.

Press Play @ your library® for Teen Tech Week™

The third annual Teen Tech Week will be celebrated at thousands of public and school libraries across the country March 8 – 14, 2008. The general theme of Teen Tech Week is Get Connected @ your library. This year’s subtheme is Press Play @ your library. Want to share your plans and get development ideas? Visit the Teen Tech Week wiki at http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen_Tech_Week.

The Teen Tech Week website will launch November 1 at www.ala.org/teentechweek. After November 1, visit the Teen Tech Week website to register, find activity ideas and planning resources, and check out products for this year’s celebration.

Teen Tech Week is a national initiative aimed at teens, their parents, educators, and other concerned adults. The purpose of the initiative is to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of technologies, especially those that are offered through libraries. Teen Tech Week encourages teens to use libraries’ nonprint resources for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology.