

MEMO

To: ALSC, YALSA and REFORMA Boards

From: Pura Belpré Expansion Task Force

Re: Belpré Manual: defining of terms and expressions

The following list of notes concern the use, and defining, of certain terms this task force discussed and came to the conclusion that we would prefer REFORMA have the final say on these issues.

The first has to do with the use of the term Latino vs the currently acceptable term Latinx. It is our desire that the appropriate term, or terms, be discussed by the REFORMA Board and that the conclusion of this entity be the term that will be used throughout the Manual.

Another concern has to do with the phrase “cultural authenticity”. We felt this term, if it is the appropriate one to be used, be clearly defined by REFORMA. If they do not feel that this is the appropriate term, we request that a more accurate term be used, with it clearly and succinctly defined.

The use of the term Western Hemisphere as the defining region for Latino heritage needs to be carefully spelled out so that all eligible books be allowed. (i.e. the exact boundaries should be delineated in the Manual.) Our example of the Picasso title is one where this book was deemed ineligible when, in reality, it probably was eligible. While the chances of books reflecting eastern Spain may be minimal, it is important that everyone understand the exact area of the Western Hemisphere.

There are other items, as reflected in our notes, which need clarification, most specifically by REFORMA. In order for this Manual to be complete, we request that the REFORMA Board look at these items carefully and offer guidance to the task force to finalize the updating of the Manual as completely and thoroughly as possible.

With thanks,

The Pura Belpré Expansion Task Force:

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