December 2021 - News from the Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table!
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GNCRT Member Newsletter, December 2021

Welcome!

Welcome again to the more-or-less monthly newsletter for members of ALA's Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table, featuring updates on various round table projects, highlights from board meetings, and much more. Find previous editions online in our newsletter archive.

Want to contribute? Just answer a few questions, and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

2021 - 2022 Upcoming Events

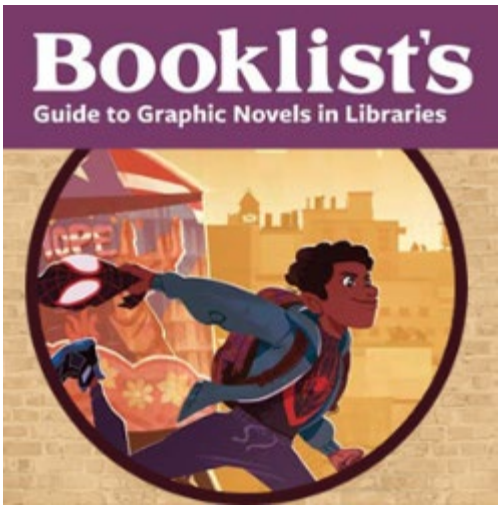
Our ongoing series with the New York City School Librarians Association - Manga in Libraries continues! Check out the latest session Manga in Libraries: Social-Emotional Learning on the GNCRT Panels and Programming page and keep an eye on our social media for future episodes.

The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table is always busy - this provides a lot of opportunities for you to get involved! The energy and involvement of GNCRT members is what keeps our projects running and if you have time we'd love your help. While our initial call for volunteers period has now passed, we are always looking for new volunteers! Find out all about our current committee structure and get involved!

New Committee Volunteer openings!

You can now volunteer for our newly announced, short-term commitment committee - GNCRT Preparing For and Addressing Challenges to Comics in the Library Committee. This committee will create a guide on preparing for and addressing challenges to comics in library collections. This committee will be comprised of 1 chair, 4 to 6 GNCRT members, and board liaisons and will operate from late January 2022 until June 2022, with the goal of publishing a guide in time for ALA Annual 2022. Applications are due by January 10, 2022.

VOLUNTEER FOR NEW ADDRESSING CHALLENGES COMMITTEE TODAY



Call for Submissions for Booklist's fourth annual Guide to Graphic Novels in Libraries

Last year, Booklist published their third Guide to Graphic Novels in Libraries which included articles about collecting and cataloging superhero comics, decolonizing your graphic novel collection, zine fests, sharing resources, and more. They are planning for this year's Guide and are asking GNCRT members to help! Booklist is looking for article ideas from public, school, or academic library workers working with comics and graphic novels, in a variety of capacities, to either contribute original articles or be interviewed by a Booklist editor about your work in the field. **See the submission form for more information.**

Proposals will be due Feb 4th, so get your ideas in soon!

SUBMISSIONS FOR BOOKLIST'S GUIDE TO GRAPHIC NOVELS IN LIBRARIES

Current Round Table Projects

Here's what else your GNCRT colleagues are up to these days.

Have a project to propose or share? Just answer a few questions, and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

LibComix Accepting Proposals

Whether you want to talk to a favorite creator, present your research, talk about a program you're running at your library, or something in between, now is a great time to…

The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table is looking for fresh, innovative, and inclusive programming that focuses on graphic novels in libraries! Do you have a virtual program that will educate and inspire library staff and educators? Please provide us with a title, a clear and concise program description and why your program needs to be seen by library staff and educators. Past panels have featured topics such as comics as lens for social justice, manga and anime programming in libraries, graphic medicine, and more.

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL FOR ONLINE PROGRAMMING

Check out the GNCRT Panels and Programming page for more information and links to recordings of past panels.

Best Graphic Novels Lists for Adults and Children - 2021 edition

Nominations are now closed for these annual lists and the committees are finalizing their slates! We'll see their choices in the new year (Can't wait! Can you?)

Website Committee Making Progress

The Website Committee has been hard at work revamping our site. Stop by and take a look at the new landing page and toolbar when you get a chance!

Black Lives Matter Black Literature Matters: BCALA & GNCRT Collaboration

The initial core list for adults, teens, and kids created through this collaboration is now available in a printable PDF. Download yours and help spread the news! Look for an update of the core list and more in the new year.

Find this list and more online and read more about the collaboration with BCALA.

Upcoming Webinar Hosted by BCALA & GNCRT Collaboration

The Collaboration is hosting a webinar with Eve L. Ewing on Monday, January 27, 2022 at 6pm Central - **A Hero's Heart: Girl Power as Imagined by Eve L. Ewing**

Eve L. Ewing is the award-winning author of the poetry collections Electric Arches and 1919, the nonfiction work Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side, and the novel for young readers Maya and the Robot as well as several projects for Marvel Comics, most notably the Ironheart series. She is the co-author (with Nate Marshall) of the play No Blue Memories: The Life of Gwendolyn Brooks.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!

More Opportunities and Events of Interest to GNCRT Members

- 2022 Graphic Medicine Annual Conference Call for Papers

December Board Meeting Highlights

- At the December Quarterly GNCRT Board Meeting, the board, acknowledging the alarming rise in challenges to comics in libraries over the last year, voted to create a short-term committee dedicated to providing guidance on this issue. This committee, dubbed the Preparing For and Addressing Challenges to Comics in the Library Committee (or Addressing Challenges committee for short), is tasked with delivering a web-publishable guide on preparing for and addressing challenges to comics in the library by ALA Annual 2022. This committee will be composed of one chair,four to six GNCRT members, and Board liaisons and will operate from late January 2022 until June 2022. Find details on volunteering for the committee on our Get Involved page or go directly to the

volunteer submission form. The deadline to submit your volunteer application for this committee is January 10, 2022. We hope you'll lend your expertise to the comics librarian community!

- Keep an eye out on our Connect space and social media pages for when the recording of December 13's Quarterly Meeting becomes available to members. See below for January's scheduled meeting information.

GNCRT Officers, July 2021 - June 2022

Matthew Noe, President
Moni Barrette, President-Elect
Eva Volin, Treasurer
Jason Dupree, Secretary
Martha Bokensbaum, Member-at-Large
Elizabeth Brown, Member-at-Large
Shanna Hollich, Member-at-Large
Soline Holmes, Member-at-Large
Wendy Stephens, GNCRT Councilor

Tina Coleman, ALA Staff Liaison

Board Meeting Schedule

The next monthly GNCRT Board is Friday, January 14, 2022, 9:00 a.m - 10:30 a.m. CT. Board meetings are open to all GNCRT members. A Zoom link to the meeting will be posted in ALA Connect space prior to the meeting date.

Add these Quarterly Meetings of GNCRT's Board to your calendar now:

- March Quarterly Meeting - Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 3 - 4 PM, Central Time
- June Quarterly Meeting - Tuesday, June 7, 2022, 2 - 3 PM, Central Time

About GNCRT

The Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table is a collaborative organization dedicated to supporting library staff in all aspects of engaging with graphic novels and comics, including collection development, programming, and advocacy. GNCRT offers support to all types of libraries serving all types of users, whether the library is just beginning to build a collection, growing it, or finding new ways to promote the collection's use and improve its visibility.

Want your very own GNCRT t-shirt?

Support the Round Table and look great doing it with our lovely GNCRT t-shirts and "I Read Banned Comics" tech tattoos! Have a gander and get yours today!

The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table is a round table of the American Library Association. Find out more about ALA including how to join at ala.org/membership.

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