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A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered  
Round Table of the American Library Association  
<http://www.ala.org/glbtrt>

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*Hello, everyone!*

Things are rolling right along with our 2nd newsletter published by the Haworth Press. Much thanks to Haworth for their generosity!

No other news on the newsletter front, other than always needing more submissions for upcoming issues, so if you have any ideas, please contact me!

The deadline for all submissions for the next issue is **November 16th, 2005**, so please have all your book reviews, officer reports, and general interest articles sent to me before that time!

Thanks for all of your continued support, and please let me know if there are any questions or comments about the newsletter!

**Ken Wells**, GLBTRT Newsletter Editor  
[kenwells@ufl.edu](mailto:kenwells@ufl.edu)



Now begins my two year term as the Male co-chair of the GLBTRT. I have been involved with GLBTRT and SRRT GLBTF activates since I joined ALA in 1995 focusing on programming and money related areas. Over the next two years I will continue the work that was begun when we became a roundtable in 2000 and I have some special projects in mind that will improve our professional and community visibility.

As we move forward and continue to grow as an organization we will need the knowledge and skills of all of the members. It is easy to participate on a committee since much of the work is done electronically via email. To volunteer for a committee contact Lewis Day the membership chair. If you have ideas for a program contact Gary Wasdin. If you want to donate money, contact Jim Simionis or Dustin Lamore. Contact information is posted on our website.

The GLBTRT list can be a major source of information on many GLBT library issues. Do you have a question? Post it to the list and somebody is bound to have an answer or knows who has the answer. Both Anne Moore and I are here to make sure that things get done, and that the organization grows and fulfills the needs of our membership. If you have any questions, concerns or comments regarding RT activities or procedures, please feel free to email me. My contact information is below.

I look forward to working with everybody and getting to know as many people as possible. If you are ever coming to visit New York City let me know in advance so we can arrange some time to come visit my library here in Brooklyn.

Yours in service,

**Norman Eriksen**

*Assistant Division Manager Language and Literature  
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As reported in the last issue of the newsletter, the committee





**YGA (Young Gay America)**

\$5.95 per issue. Bi-monthly. \$25.00 US annually

This new magazine for gay and lesbian youth aims to provide an alternative to other youth-oriented magazines such as Seventeen or YM. Produced for Canadian and US audiences, its cover art and contents are meant to be presentable on the mainstream newsstand. In the editor's words, YGA is "something that affirms your sexuality, rather than exploits it", a nod in the direction of the overtly sexual XY magazine.

XY Magazine, also produced for North America, sports about 100 large glossy pages per issue, with plenty of underwear ads and handsome models, mostly white and bare. This may sell on newstands, but not serve the school population, where healthy kids want and need real-world diversity and appearance. It's fair to say that most high school and college students will see themselves represented in the pages of YGA, where photo essays, interviews, stories and columns feature gay and lesbian themes, and serve the interests of black, Latino, and white youth. Concerns of transgendered kids, interracial couples, punk and goth as well as button-down types are also presented. YGA's summer issue, for instance, looks at what gay/straight alliances mean outside of school, the etiquette of skinny-dipping, and the art of graffiti writers. Smaller and lighter than XY, YGA is under 70 pages. Each issue has a major topic such as sports, romance and friendship, parents, sex, even religion.

Including all this has its price: the type-face is often small, articles are tightly fit on the page. But those who grew up on the Dorling-Kindersley format won't mind. Editor Mike Glatze crams book, film, and music reviews, horoscopes, a biography on a gay/lesbian pioneer, and letters from readers into each issue. A native of the US, Glatze says he based YGA in Halifax, Nova Scotia to hold costs down. YGA is two dollars less per issue than XY (\$7.95 an issue or \$55 for a subscription). By contrast the Advocate, written for adults, is bi-weekly, and only costs \$39 per year.

Like XY, YGA has a website, <http://www.ygamag.com>, which tells the story of the magazine – it grew out of a nation-wide support movement— and provides subscribers with YGA magazine articles online. The magazine itself provides lots of safe web addresses to suit a wide variety of interests, in accord with the all-encompassing "queer" identity. Honesty and safety are hard to find in the world of young adults online, but the YGA website allows personals, and gives answers to sexual questions. Readers are encouraged to submit articles and ideas. Based on the print and online publication, this brave newcomer to the world of magazines for youth deserves a place in high school and college libraries.



Dear Friends,

Under One Roof has announced the formation of "**The Above and Beyond Fund**," a special fund to assist HIV/AIDS service organizations in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The goal in establishing the fund is to assist AIDS service organizations devastated by Hurricane Katrina in reopening their doors as soon as possible so that they may continue to provide critical services to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. We thought that this would make a great story idea on how the LGBT community is responding to the devastation. If you would like to know more about the fund or interview me, Mike Marshall, the executive director of Under One Roof, please contact me with the information below.

In addition to the development of the fund, Under One Roof has recruited a diverse advisory panel of local HIV/AIDS service providers who will advise the Board of Directors of Under One Roof on how the funds raised should be distributed. The panel consists of the following individuals:

- 1) Kevin Burns, Executive Director, Shanti
- 2) Brett Andrews, Executive Director, The Positive Resource Center
- 3) Gloria Nieto, Executive Director, Lyon Martin Women's Health Services
- 4) Mike Smith, Executive Director, San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund
- 5) Perry Lang, Executive Director, Black Coalition on AIDS

Please contact me if you have any questions and as an FYI - Donations can be made online (<http://www.UnderOneRoof.org>) or mailed to:

**The Above and Beyond Fund**

c/o Under One Roof

549 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

Sincerely,

**Mike Marshall**, Executive Director

Under One Roof

[Mike@underoneroof.org](mailto:Mike@underoneroof.org)

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For those interested in more general Hurricane Relief efforts, the Red Cross has a very helpful website, with easy online donation forms, as well as lots of up-to-date information on current relief efforts.



<http://www.redcross.org/>





**Encyclopedia of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history in America**, edited by Marc Stein (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons/Thomson/Gale, 2004, 3 v. (approx. 1200 pages) ISBN 0684312611 \$400.00. [306.76/6/097303]

The first major modern encyclopedia dealing with lesbian and gay life and culture was the ill-fated *\*Encyclopedia of homosexuality\** edited by Wayne R. Dynes, Warren Johansson, William A. Percy, and Stephen Donaldson (New York: Garland, 1990, 2 v.). It was withdrawn by the publisher when it was discovered that some of the ostensibly female writers were really males masquerading under false female names. Garland replaced this 1990 encyclopedia with a new set of two encyclopedias in 2000, with one volume focusing on gay male topics and one volume on lesbian topics: *\*Gay histories and cultures: an encyclopedia\**, edited by George E. Haggerty with John Beynon and Douglas Eisner (New York: Garland, 2000, xviii, 986 p.) and *\*Lesbian histories and cultures: an encyclopedia\**, edited by Bonnie Zimmerman (New York: Garland, 2000, 862 p.). The list price for these two volumes together is \$315.

The major difference between the 2000 Garland encyclopedia and the 2004 Scribner/Thompson/Gale work is the definite U.S. focus of the new work. Whereas the 2000 encyclopedia covers the world, with separate articles on all major countries and regions, this new work specifies in its introduction that "America" in its title definitely means only the U.S.

This new encyclopedia contains some 550 articles ranging in length from one page (many of the biographies) to 7 or 8 pages (e.g., AIDS and people with AIDS, 7 pages; Literature 1890-1969, 8-1/2 pages). Biography headings include birth and death dates plus primary field of endeavor. Articles use subheadings for sections and conclude with bibliographies of source material and see-also references to related articles. Each article is signed by its author. There are approximately 300 contributors. Unfortunately, in the list of contributors, only their institutional affiliation is listed, along with the titles of their articles. Most affiliations are universities, but a few contributors are "independent scholars" or "independent journalists." Without position titles, there is no way to know if contributors are students (graduate or undergraduate), professors, librarians, or other staff members. (In contrast, the 2000 encyclopedia includes short professional bios for contributors, listing positions, major publications, and similar credentials.)

Many articles include illustrations, mostly photos. Overall there are some 230 illustrations.

The title of this encyclopedia includes the word "history," but it could have used the word "culture" just as well. This work definitely covers LGBT culture, broadly defined, although literature, entertainment and the arts receive much more attention than religion or spirituality. The work opens with a 400-year chronology of major events in U.S. LGBT history.

At the end of the work is a classified listing of articles in 13 categories, which serve to indicate the broad scope of the work: 1. People, subarranged by discipline or field (some 200 of the 550 articles are biographies of individual persons, both living and dead); 2. Politics, subarranged by movements; 3. Culture and the arts; 4. Academic disciplines and fields of inquiry; 5. Identities, communities, and culture; 6. Geographies (i.e. specific states and cities in the United States and a few types of environments); 7. Law and public policy; 8. Economics and labor; 9. Sex, sexuality, intimacy, and relationships; 10. Religion and spirituality; 11. Language, symbols, signs, and concepts; 12. Social life, issues, and institutions; and 13. Social, cultural, and political processes.

The third volume concludes with a list of LGBT archives in the U.S. and Canada and a very professional subject index. Most of the index entries are for individual persons, but they also cover categories of persons (e.g., Actors and actresses, with subheadings such as bisexual, closeted, coming out and outing of, etc.), individual literary and artistic works, companies and advertisements, artistic movements, musical instruments, periodicals, diseases, plus many other topics such as abortion. No entry has too many page references. Broader topics have subheadings to provide specificity. See references lead from alternative forms of entries, such as acronyms.

This work comes in three relatively slender large-format volumes (approximately 9 x 12 inches). It is also available in electronic (ebook) format as part of the *\*Gale Virtual Reference Library\**. Every library serving students from middle or high school through university and the general public needs this encyclopedia, especially if they do not have the 2000 Garland encyclopedia. This new encyclopedia has been featured on "best reference books" lists (e.g., New York Public Library, ALA's *\*Booklist\** and its Reference and User Services Association, *\*Library Journal\**). So far, more than 600 libraries in the OCLC network have purchased it.

*Reviewed by James D. Anderson*

**The LGBT Youth DVD/Video List**

Courtesy of Wolfe Video ([www.wolfevideo.com](http://www.wolfevideo.com))

Contact: Jenni Olston - [butch@butch.org](mailto:butch@butch.org)

*Seeing ourselves represented on the silver screen can be one of the most affirming, empowering and revolutionary experiences we have as lesbian, gay, bi and transgender (LGBT) people coming of age. Below is our select list of LGBT Youth Videos and DVDs for you to round out your collection; or print out and bring along on your next trip to the video store. Enjoy!*

**Gay:**

*Beautiful Thing* (1996) One of the best-loved gay movies of all time, *Beautiful Thing* tells the story of two British gay teens in love. Clever, poignant, refreshing, not-to-miss.

*Camp* (2003) This unusual portrait of life behind-the-scenes at a summer musical theater camp features a cast of mostly gay students and has been frequently compared to that other  
2Leisha H iley eye haed pink-hairst-punker,(Caay)03 T8-0.0anompd oadorablwsWilsonrCruzmisses. *Camp*



**Luna** by Julie Anne Peters: Little, Brown and Company, 2004. \$16.95 hardback. ISBN 0316733695. [F]

**Choir Boy** by Charlie Anders: Soft Skull Press, 2005. \$16.95 hardback. ISBN 1932360816. [F]

Within the last year two titles have appeared that provide two very different approaches to discussion of the issue of transgender teenagers. *Luna* by Julie Anne Peters appeared in 2004 and was one of the Round Table's Stonewall Award honor books in literature this past year. *Luna* is the brother of story narrator, Regan. The main problem Regan faces is that she has been her sibling's only support, giving a great deal of herself to her brother Liam, who really wants to be her sister *Luna*. Regan's days and





**The Gay Detective Novel: Lesbian and Gay Main Characters and Themes in Mystery Fiction** by Judith A. Markowitz. McFarland & Co, 2004. 302pp. \$35 paperback. (ISBN 0786419571)[813.087]



Mystery aficionados of any stripe or orientation will find much to savor in this thorough, wide-ranging compendium of themes, characters, author information, and more. Markowitz offers a wealth of analysis and background on a broad spectrum of GLBT suspense writers past and present. She categorizes their fictional sleuths by primary occupation (detective, lawyer, journalist, "amateur"), relationships with their individual partners in crime (spouses, best friends, business associates), and frequently occurring major and secondary "social issue"-type themes, among other topics. Writers are listed alphabetically within each broad category, with biographical data and copious quotes from the authors themselves regarding his/her writing motivations and techniques. Markowitz's breadth is remarkable, and even self-presumed mystery experts will likely find hitherto unknown names within her pages. Unfortunately, a large number of the writers featured in this book are no longer penning mysteries. Thus, many of the titles Markowitz cites are ten or more years old and likely out of print, making easy availability problematic. That caveat aside, however, this unique title will have genuine appeal for both general browsers and cover-to-cover readers, be they person-on-the-street fans of the genre or GLBT literary scholars.

*Reviewed by Cathy Ritchie, Theatre Librarian, Dallas Public Library.*



**The Real Trial of Oscar Wilde: The First Uncensored Transcript of the Trial of Oscar Wilde vs. John Douglas (Marquess of Queensberry). 1895.** Fourth Estate. 2003. Merlin Holland. Foreword by John Mortimer. 340 p. hardback. (ISBN 0-00-715664-2)

This trial transcript makes for an exciting read. Attached to this MS is a reproduction of the Magistrates' Court proceedings against the Marquess of Queensberry, and two appendices containing largely legal papers. Illustrations occur throughout the book. There are extensive, and very informative, footnotes. The footnotes, almost as much as the text, and as Oscar might have said, one might contemplate the writing of book made up



**So Hard to Say.** By Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster Childrens, 2004. 230 pp. \$14.94 hardcover ISBN: 0689865643. [F]



"Ever since the night Xio held my hand at the movies, I kept thinking: *Does that mean she likes me as girlfriend and boyfriend? I guess so. But do I like her that way?* I wasn't sure." Frederick, one of the protagonists began struggling with the issue of homosexuality when he started the eighth grade in his new middle school. Going to a new middle school is hard enough, but moving from Wisconsin to diverse Southern California? Now that's tough. Xio, the female protagonist, met Frederick on his first

day in class. Due largely to his new relationship with Xio, Frederick begins having conflicting emotions about his sexuality. Sanchez's novel is broken up into chapters being told alternately by Xio and Frederick. This dual perspective helps illuminate the complexities of middle school and will provide clarity to those dealing with such drama themselves. Recommended for ages 11-15, it may be too young for some teens already in high school. A must-have for any middle school or public library.

Reviewed by **Joey Nicholson**. Assistant Librarian, Touro University Library.

**Specimen Days** by Michael Cunningham. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. x, 308 p. \$25.00 ISBN-13: 978-0-374-29962-0 ISBN-10: 0-374-29962-5 [F]

Michael Cunningham is a gay writer, but *Specimen Days* is not a gay novel, unless several of his strange characters constantly quoting Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* makes it gay. There are no gay characters, no gay relationships, no gay situations. Like his award-winning novel *The Hours*, there are three novellas, this time set mostly in New York City at different times — first in the 19th century at the time of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire, next a few years after 9-11, and finally several centuries in the future. What holds them together is *Leaves of Grass* and characters who keep reappearing, but in quite different forms. I kept wondering why Cunningham called his new novel

*Does that*

The GLBT Round Table needs your time, talent, and energy if our success in contributing toward libraries and library professionalism is to continue. Filling out and sending this form is one way to let the Round Table know about your interest in serving on committees or in a leadership role. We are eager to learn about how you want to work as a part of the Round Table team.

If you have questions, please contact **Lewis Day**, Membership Committee Chair: [lewis\\_day@harvard.edu](mailto:lewis_day@harvard.edu)

Name:  
Library/Organization:  
Address:  
City:  
State:  
Zip Code:  
Phone Number:  
Fax Number:  
E-Mail address:

On which of these committees would you be willing to serve?

# **Programming:** plans and conducts programs, the annual book award breakfast, and social activities; coordinates logistics and local arrangements for the Annual and Midwinter meetings.

# **Fundraising:** develops goals, prepares budgets, and seeks external funding.

# **Library Information Clearinghouse:** identifies, obtains, and distributes materials related to collecting or cataloging gay, lesbian, or bi-oriented materials for libraries; maintains website.

# **Newsletter:** compiles, produces, and distributes newsletter, including GLBT related book reviews.

# **Book Awards:** reviews materials, selects winner(s), determines appropriate awards.

# **External Relations:** coordinates publicity; disseminates Round Table information to interested parties outside ALA; coordinates Round Table correspondence for communications within ALA; develops membership information.

If you've checked multiple, please indicate order of preference:

On which committees have you served in the past, and in what capacity?

Are you willing to serve in a leadership position with one of the committees? # Yes # No

If yes, please indicate committee preference?

Are you willing to serve as an elected officer? # Yes # No

Would you be willing to help with any of the following?

Read Aloud Coordinator | Book Review Editor | Book Reviewer  
Socials Room Set-up | Pride Parade Coordinator | Mailings |  
Grant Writing | Staff Registration Desks | Special Projects |  
Liaison to Diversity Council or other ALA units

Other - Please specify:

What special skills/talents do you have that you would be willing to share with the Round Table?

Additional comments:

Please mail this form to: **Lewis Brian Day, Harvard University Archives, Pusey Library, Cambridge, MA 02138**