

Thaddeus Andracki

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Library Experience

University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, Chicago, IL

Middle School Librarian

August 2014–present

- Provide reference, research, and readers' advisory assistance to sixth- through eighth-grade students at a pre-K-12, Deweyan independent school founded under the auspices of the University of Chicago.
- Oversee administration of a collection of 15,000 items that circulates to a student body of over 350, including circulation, ordering, classification, and cataloging of materials, in conjunction with a colleague.
- Teach regularly scheduled rotation classes in Information Literacy and Story (an elective focused on free reading and storytelling).
- Conduct library instruction sessions on research and information literacy skills integrated into core subject area units.
- Assist in the supervision of one part-time and one full-time library clerical assistants.
- Administer the Zena Sutherland Award for Children's Literature, one of the oldest student-run and student-chosen awards for picture book authorship and illustration in the country.
- Maintain library's web presence using Silverlight and LibGuides software.
- Participate in the life of the school by attending faculty meetings, serving on school-wide committees, and attending school-sponsored events.

The Center for Children's Books, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

Outreach and Communications Coordinator

August 2012–August 2014

- Developed outreach partnerships between research unit in youth literature and culture and community organizations, schools, and libraries.
- Planned and promoted both in-house and multi-unit events related to youth literature, library service, and youth advocacy, both independently and in team settings.
- Maintained all Center communication with the public, including editing the website via Dreamweaver, managing social media accounts, and writing and editing monthly newsletter.

Undergraduate Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

Graduate Assistant

August 2012–August 2014

- Provided reference services, including in-person, roving, SMS, email and IM chat services.
- Taught library instruction sessions for primarily first-year students about information literacy and the use of library resources.
- Supervised a team of student assistants at circulation and service desk as most senior staff member on nights and weekends.
- Completed other special projects, including: cataloging a graphic novel collection; preserving and digitally archiving a vintage video game collection; writing readers' advisory blog posts; collection development and weeding; and creating online library guides.

Douglass Branch, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL

Practicum Student

January 2014–May 2014

- Completed a 100-hour children's and youth services practicum, including day-to-day operations of a branch library, developing and presenting toddler storytimes, and a final project implementing a Battle of the Books program in conjunction with local schools to celebrate Black History Month.

Undergraduate Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL**Student Assistant****January 2009–August 2012**

- Provided support in library operating functions, including staffing circulation desks, shelving and shelf-reading collection, collection development, curating exhibits, and training new student assistants.

Related Experience**Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books, Champaign, IL****Reviewer****March 2013–August 2014**

- Read and reviewed approximately 10 books a month for authoritative, analytic review journal of children’s literature, focusing primarily on picture books and middle-grade novels.

Department of Residential Life, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL**Resident Advisor****January 2011–May 2012**

- Planned and implemented one social and one educational program for Global Crossroads Living-Learning community monthly.
- Co-advised Salongo (a Black Student Union) and USSGA (the Urbana South Sexuality and Gender Alliance).
- Taught EOL 199, a for-credit staff-training course on identity development, social justice, and community planning.

Education**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign****M.S. in Library and Information Science****May 2014**

Youth Services Certificate

Graduate Minor in Gender and Women’s Studies

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**B.S. in Atmospheric Sciences****May 2012**

Minor in Global Studies (Focuses on Chinese Studies & Environment, Sustainability, and Social Responsibility)

Publications

Various reviews of trade books for children and young adults. *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books* 66.10 (June 2013)-68.1 (September 2014).

Sample: <<http://bccb.lis.illinois.edu/2013/December2013/1213big.html>>

Forthcoming

Andracki, Thaddeus. “‘You made the journey, the Long Journey’: Performances of Race, Nation, and Toyhood in *Paddle-to-the-Sea*.” Chapter accepted for publication in *Toy Stories: The Toy as Hero*, edited by Tanya Pell Jones, forthcoming from McFarland Publishing.

Presentations**“A Queer Library Alliance for Young People: Using Books with LGBTQ Content”**

Co-presentation with Rae-Anne Montague at 17th Biennial Conference on Literature and Hawaii’s Children, Honolulu, HI, 5-7 June 2014

“Picturing Pages in Black and White: Race in Postwar Caldecott Medal-Winning Picture Books, 1945-1960”

Guest lecture for LIS 681: Books and Media for Children, Library and Information Science Program, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa, instructor Rae-Anne Montague, 4 February 2014

“Queer Library Alliance Goes to School”

Co-presentation with Rae-Anne Montague at American Association of School Librarians 16th National Conference, Hartford, CT, 14-17 November 2013

“Playing with Everything: Childhood, Animacy, and Biopower in *The Brave Little Toaster*”

40th Annual Children’s Literature Association Conference: Play and Risk in Children’s and Young Adult Literature and Culture, Biloxi, MS, 13-15 June 2013.

“‘Here’s to Overcoming Our Parents’ Dreams for Us’: Gendered Racializations and ‘Deviance’ in Two Young Adult LGBT Novels”

Stranger in a Strange Land: Exploring Texts & Cultures Across Cultures & Continents, Vancouver, BC, 28 April 2012.

Service Activities

- Committee Member, 2018 Newbery Award Committee, ALSC, American Library Association
- Information Coordinator, LGBTQ Users Special Interest Group, International Federation of Library Associations, 2015-2016
- Committee Chair, Rainbow List Project, GLBT Round Table, American Library Association, 2015-2016
- Committee Member, Rainbow List Project, GLBT Round Table, American Library Association, 2014-2015
- Manuscript Reviewer, Digital Frontiers Digital Humanities Conference, University of North Texas, 2014
- Co-founder, Queer Book Club, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UIUC, Spring 2013-Summer 2014
- Co-facilitator, Inclusions and Exclusion in Community Informatics (formerly Reading Around Race), reading group for the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UIUC, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Professional Membership

American Library Association

American Association of School Librarians

Association for Library Service to Children

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table

Social Responsibilities Round Table

Young Adult Library Services Association

American Indian Library Association

Children’s Literature Association

International Federation of Library Associations

Indigenous Matters Section

LGBTQ Users Special Interest Group

Languages

English (native)

American Sign Language (professional)

Spanish (moderate)

Polish (limited)

Mandarin (limited)