

## September 29th

**Present:** Emily Dowie, Elizabeth Portillo, Joanna Goldfarb, Jen Park, Jessica Gordon, Nicola McDonald, Cheryl Baker, Terri, Sara Johnson, Donna, Beth Balogh, Lisa Allen, Joan Rosen, Liz Marcus, Peyton Powell

- Future updates like this will only go out on the listserv. If you are NOT on the Coalition Listserv: Email Martha Sullivan [msullivan@rcls.org](mailto:msullivan@rcls.org).
- Bylaws are forthcoming. Elizabeth will be leading the eBoard in the creation of the Bylaws.
- Tracy Dunstan created a website that will have a link on the RCLS site: <https://coalitionlwc.weebly.com/> If you would like something on the website, contact Elizabeth, Emily, and Tracy.
- Mission Statement: The Coalition for Library Workers of Color is a Ramapo Catskill Library System group committed to eliciting change and growth in support of people of color within the library community. In accordance with ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, our mission is to create all-inclusive spaces in libraries to serve and represent the entire community and decentralize power and privilege using a framework with three pillars Diversity, Cultural Competency, and Social Justice.
- This Coalition is a space for Library workers of all colors, their allies, and members of fellow marginalized groups (such as the Jewish and the LGBTQ+ communities).
- Here are our current e-Board appointed by Emily Dowie, who founded this group.

President - Emily Dowie

Vice President - Elizabeth Portillo

Secretary - Peyton Powell

Liaisons to RCLS - Joanna Goldfarb & Jennifer Park

Webmaster- Tracy Dunstan

- E- Board meeting: Tuesday, October 6 at 1 PM.

## Advocacy & Outreach Updates:

- The Advocacy Committee sent a letter to Gov. Cuomo in support of making Juneteeth a state-holiday: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NR\\_izpb6pGREYV-2oRSihVEXmrjsGhuHaROXi0Qg-0w/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NR_izpb6pGREYV-2oRSihVEXmrjsGhuHaROXi0Qg-0w/edit?usp=sharing)
- Morgan Strand & Tracy Dunstan are the new Advocacy & Outreach Co-Chairs.
- The Advocacy committee is still working towards getting the Anti-Racism Training Bill that we discussed out before the election. If you are interested in getting involved and help sending an actual bill out (in conjunction with RCLS & NYLA), please come to a meeting and sign up for a task!
  - a) Friday 10/2 at 3:30 - Assigning Tasks
  - b) Friday 10/9 at 12 - Proofing Bill
  - c) 10/15- Bill complete , 10/21- Grace proofs & signs, 10/25- send to NYLA for signing

## Programming Committee Updates

- Lisa Allen & Nicola McDonald are the new Co-Chairs: First committee meeting is October 8th--time is TBA
- **Upcoming Program: Understanding Your Constituent Groups: Jewish Communities Monday, October 05, 2020 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM** Join Rabbi Pernick from Beth Am Temple, Pearl River, for a moderated discussion to learn the basics about different Jewish communities. Attendees will gain an understanding of these communities in order to tailor events and programs, as well as services, towards these groups.
- **Upcoming Program: Coalition Author Discussion: Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah Tuesday, October 20, 2020 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM** Join the RCLS Coalition of Library Workers of Color for a discussion of *Friday Black* with the author, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah. In addition to discussing the book, learn about Adjei-Brenyah's writing process, how this short story collection relates to larger racial issues, and more. Copies of the book are available on Overdrive. Registrants will receive a link to join the discussion the morning of the event. Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah is the author of the story collection *Friday Black* (Mariner Books, 2018), which the New York Times called "an unbelievable debut, one that announces a new and necessary American voice." He won 2019's PEN/Jean Stein Book Award and was under consideration for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in fiction.
- Coalition members are welcome and encouraged to attend these events
- If you have a program idea, notify program chairs and CC Emily

## 4. Discussion of current events: how do we feel & what can we do?

- Discussion surrounding Breonna Taylor
- Social media page creations--anyone interested? FB & IG: Cheryl Baker. Jen will be in contact regarding the social media policy of RCLS.

## Questions/Ideas/Discussion

- Place voting information within the signatures.

<https://www.ny.gov/services/register-vote>

- Absentee voting:  
<https://www.ny.gov/early-voting-and-absentee-voting-mail-or-dropbox>
- Early voting:  
<https://www.ny.gov/early-voting-and-absentee-voting-mail-or-dropbox>

Census: <https://2020census.gov/>

- "Uncomfortable Conversation" series will fall under the Programming Committee within the Coalition. It was discussed to reframe this as a healing space and remind us as what we have in common rather than focus on differences.

Haverstraw has a table with this information.

**Next meeting: Friday, October 23rd @ 1:30pm.**