



Leading On Their Own: The Importance of Teen Advisory Boards @ Your Library

Sarah Herford and BPL's Teen Advisory Board



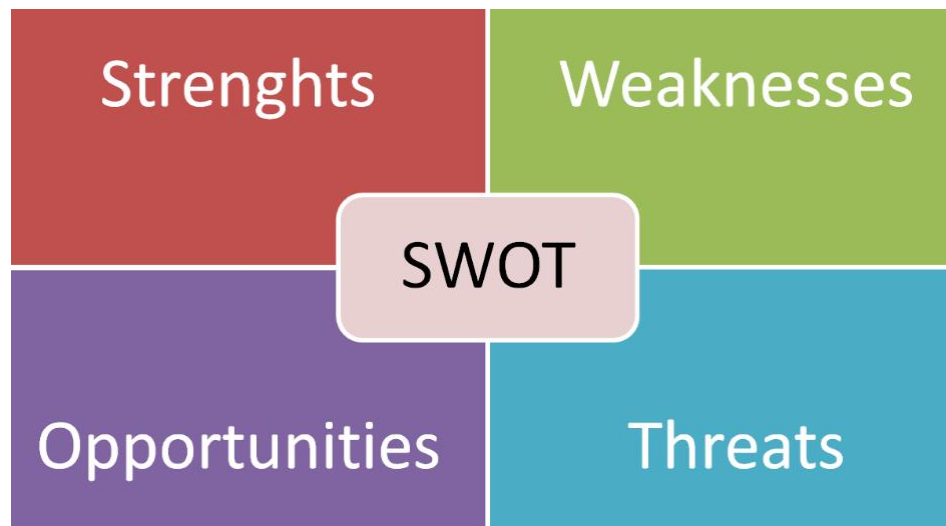


<https://youtu.be/Jd6-WPOOxXM>



Why BPL Created a Teen Advisory Board

- 2010 strategic plan determined that 'library services to teens' was a SWOT **Weakness**
- Solution: BPL needs regular teen input to stay current on teen needs
 - No Teen Librarian, added 2013





Selective Board vs Open to Every Teen

- Based on Rogers High School 'Bank Board'
- BPL wanted a committed & active board
- All local teens can contribute to library, but this would be a population sampling – similar to elected officials!
- All entering Juniors / Seniors may apply → only 10 will serve on board





The Application Process

Selecting the Right Board

Requirements to Apply for Teen Advisory Board



- Be a junior or senior in high school (applications open during the month of May)
- Have parental permission
- Have a library card in good standing
- Attend and participate in monthly advisory board meetings and a professional leadership training workshop

BPL's "TAB" is Selected on an Annual Basis

- May: applications must be submitted by May 31
- June: panel interview process
- July: board is announced at annual teen volunteer party
- August: 1st board meeting / leadership course offered



2010-2011 TAB



Our mission is to engage our community, to encourage discovery and promote literacy by offering lifelong learning opportunities.

Applicants **MUST SUBMIT** the "2018-2019 Teen Advisory Board application" by **Thursday, May 31 by 8:00 pm** to **Teen Services Librarian, Sarah Herford**. Submit your application via email at sherford@bentonvillear.com or in-person at Bentonville Public Library.

Name:

School:

Grade Entering in the Fall:

Email:

Phone:

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability:

1. Are you a current or past teen volunteer at Bentonville Public Library? If yes, how many hours have you served?

2. Why do you want to serve on the Teen Advisory Board?

3. How can you as an effective teen leader, make Bentonville Public Library relevant to your peers in the community?

405 S Main Street | Bentonville, AR 72712 | 479.271.3192
www.bentonvillelibrary.org | library@bentonvillear.com



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4. What positive qualities do you have that would make you an effective Teen Advisory Board member?

5. What are your hobbies and interests?

6. Teen Advisory Board meetings do not have regularly scheduled meeting times. They are decided based on the monthly schedules of current board members. Would you be able to commit to attend monthly board meetings?

7. My parent/guardian knows that I am applying for a position on the Bentonville Public Library's Teen Advisory Board.

Thank you for applying for the 2018-2019 Teen Advisory Board!

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BPL's Teen Advisory Board Mission

“The Teen Advisory Board’s mission at Bentonville Public Library is to suggest services, materials and programs that are needed by Benton County teens and to work with library staff to provide these services.”



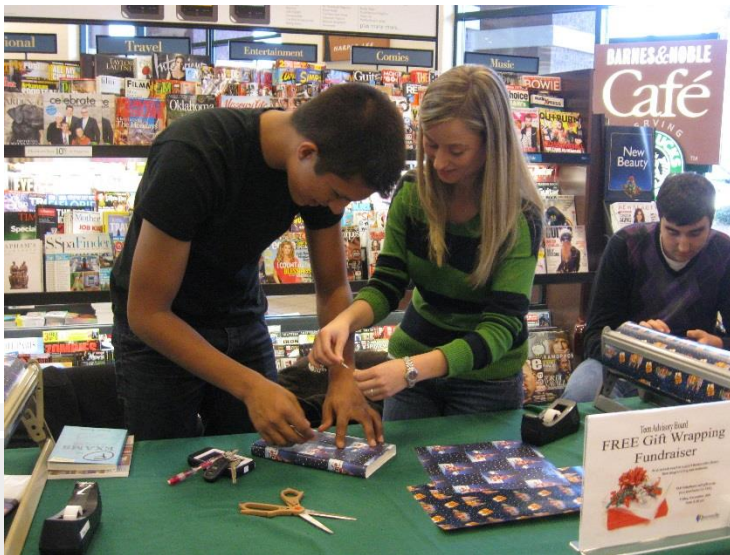
Benefits of Serving on TAB

- Influence library decisions
- Benefits resumes and college applications
- Professional leadership training
- Learn new life skills
- Receive volunteer service hours





What They Actually Do!



Attend Meetings!

- TAB members are expected to attend every monthly meeting, running from August to May.
- Uphold the TAB bylaws
- Follow Robert's Rules of Order
- Plan programs and services
- Offer feedback to the Teen Services Librarian (me)





Be a Leader & Mentor for Children & Teens

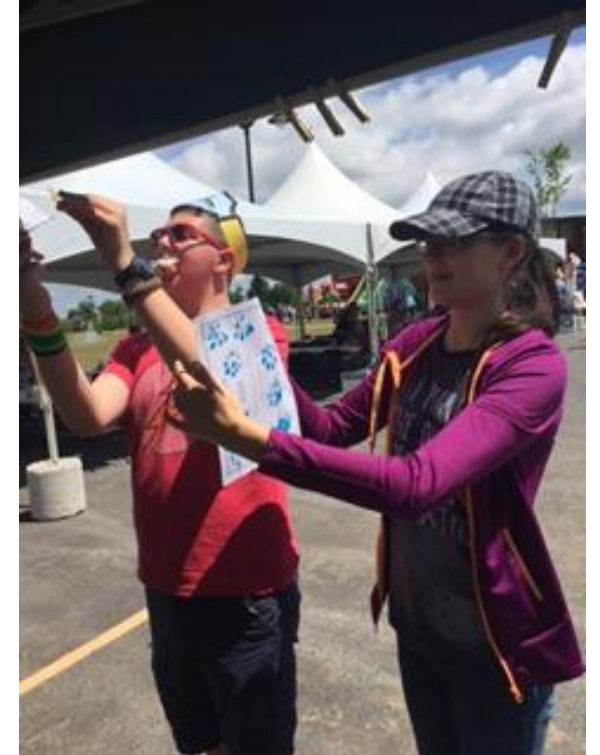


- Participate in Library Activities
- Lead BPL Programs and Workshops
- Represent TAB with Stakeholders



Attend Library Outreaches

- Reading to preschoolers
- Bentonville Police Department's 100th Anniversary
- Sidewalk Sundays
- Barnes & Noble 'Wrap & Read'



1,000 Books for 1,000 Children

- Initiated in 2014
- TAB works w/ local schools to receive donated books to distribute to local non-profits that serve children/teens in need.





National Programs & Exhibits



<https://youtu.be/EyhQQMOQapI>





Thinking MONEY

A Financial Expedition

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dmIpVrapFA>





Let's Hear from Them!

Chris Enslin, Colin Doege, Xanat Niessenson, Pranav Vasan, Autumn Roberts, Nithya Sundar



Questions?

Contact:

Sarah Gowdy Herford
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Bentonville Public Library
sherford@bentonvillear.com
479-273-7755

