Supporting Teen Street Lit Readers

Megan Honig ([www.meganhonig.com](http://www.meganhonig.com)) for LibraryLinkNJ  
Webinar Chat Transcript

11/10/11

Sophie Brookover:Good afternoon, friends! Thanks for joining us. Our speaker, Megan Honig, is here in the room now, and we'll be starting the webinar at 3 pm.

Sophie Brookover:Please feel free to introduce yourselves -- let us know where you're coming from, and what you're most looking forward to learning about/discussing today.

Jennifer:yes

Joanne Roukens:Good afternoon everyone! This is Joanne Roukens. I am providing tech support this afternoon. If you have any problems with your audio/video during the program, we find that exiting and re-entering the meeting room fixes most things. If your problem persists or you are having another tech issue, please call me at 732-752-7720

Kathy Mulholland:Hi. Kathy from Freehold PL here. Hoping to learn how to better represent "street lit" to have a more balanced collection.

Kathy Mulholland:not represent...evaluate and select.

Sharon Rawlins:Hi Everyone. Sharon Rawlins from the State Library here.

Sophie Brookover:Hi, Sharon!

Sharon Rawlins:Hi Joanne!

Gina Cacace:Hello! This is Gina Cacace, I'm the Youth Services Librarian from Monroe Township Library in South Jersey. Looking forward to the webinar.

Sharon Rawlins:Hi Sophie!

Sophie Brookover:Hello, everyone!

Lori Del Rossi:Hi everyone - I'm Lori. I am the librarian at Paulsboro High School.

Joanne Roukens:For anyone who plans to tweet this session, please use the following hashtag: #LLNJ\_streetlit.

Lori Del Rossi:My son is here. He does these all the time, so he's sort of holding my hand.

Lori Del Rossi:No - he wasn't aware of the term street lit at all. He's just here for me - I won't let him leave!

Sophie Brookover:Welcome, everyone! We're going to get going at 3 PM. In the meantime, please say hello here in the chatbox -- introduce yourselves, chit-chat, pose a question or two!

Sharon Rawlins:It's good to see so many familiar names. Do all of your libraries have street lit books that are popular with teens?

Lori Del Rossi:At my school the girls kept asking for "drama" books. I had to learn what that meant. I have titles by NiNi Simone, Jacqueline Thomas, McKayan and a few others.

Gina Cacace:I just started here and from what I can tell our street lit consists mostly of Kimani Tru books.

Kathy Mulholland:@Sharon, not yet, but expect it'd increase if we had more to offer. Most street-lit readers here are adults.

Sharon Rawlins:When I was working in a public library, the teens asked for very adult street lit like Zane. We didn't have much in our teen collection that was appropriate for them.

Sophie Brookover:Having seen Megan's slides, I think you'll find quite a bit to help you in that regard, Kathy.

Sophie Brookover:Sharon, I think street lit has really come into its own in the last few years -- there's so much variety in terms of publisher output!

Kathy Mulholland:Yeah, I was previewing some titles acquired ILL and though, "I sure am glad I have this webinar to look forward to" for help....

Sharon Rawlins:That's good. There does seem to be a lot more now. I'm glad.

Kathy Mulholland:[I can spell but can't type!]

Sheila Kirven:I work in an academic library, and am in charge of the education collection. Several of our students are interested in these materials from a children's lit or literacy ed viewpoint. We have Kimani Tru, Imani, Bluford School and another series by Velasquez similar to the Bluford school. I have also met our students who read these in high school and loved them.

Patricia Gordon:Pat Gordon from Eastside High School in Paterson. I certainly need help in this area.

Sophie Brookover:Hi, Pat!

Sophie Brookover:I'm glad you received my (very late) e-mail!

Patricia Gordon:The students are often not good at articulating what they really want.

Patricia Gordon:I had called earlier to be sure.

Emily Chornomaz:Hello all, Emily Chornomaz here! Currently in Camden city. Previously Brooklyn PL and West Orange PL

Keisha Miller:Hello all, my name is Keisha Miller, currently a library school student and sr. library asst at South Orange Public Library

Joanne Roukens:Good afternoon everyone! This is Joanne Roukens. I am providing tech support this afternoon. If you have any problems with your audio/video during the program, we find that exiting and re-entering the meeting room fixes most things. If your problem persists or you are having another tech issue, please call me at 732-752-7720

Joanne Roukens:For anyone who plans to tweet this session, please use the following hashtag: #LLNJ\_streetlit.

Joanne Roukens:yes

anne walsh:yes

Darby DeCicco:yep!

Sophie Brookover:Yes!

Emily:yes

Gina Cacace:yes =)

Lori Del Rossi:yes

Sophie Brookover:Hooray!

Sandra Eckert:Loud and clear. :)

Keisha Miller:yes!

Christie Peterson:yep!

Sharon Rawlins:Yes, loud and clear!

Megan Pehanick:yes

Patricia Gordon:yes

Keisha Miller:this will help me tremendously as I'm interning as a correctional services librarian. Currently I'm working on restructuring a library for incarcerated girls in grades 7-12. A LOT of them read street lit. Suggestions welcome!

Sophie Brookover:Keisha, excellent! Do you know Julie Tozer (also in attendance today)? She does correctional services outreach for Ocean County Library.

Sophie Brookover:I definitely recommend networking w/her!

Keisha Miller:@ Sophie, no I don't, but thanks!

Sophie Brookover:You bet. :-)

Sharon Rawlins:I may not have voted. I'm in the "other" category. I guess.

Keisha Miller:p.s. South Orange is primarily suburban, but the surrounding communities we serve are urban

Sophie Brookover:There are so many communities that fall into that category in NJ. The line between urban/suburban is very porous in many cases.

Gina Cacace:Vanessa is wonderful! I took many courses with her. She has a new book out too about Street lit.

Gina Cacace:Here is the link to her new book: <http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=3302>

Sophie Brookover:Thanks, Gina!

Gina Cacace:You're welcome =)

Sharon Rawlins:Sounds really good. Thanks Gina.

Waunita Scott:Hi Colleagues...I joined late...Waunita Scott, Weequahic HS - Newark

Sophie Brookover:Hi, Waunita!

Gina Cacace:what a great picture!

Waunita Scott:Hi Sophie!

Sophie Brookover:I love that the "shocking" book is upside-down!

Waunita Scott:They can relate to the stories

Sharon Rawlins:It makes their lives seem better.

Emily:It is written they way they talk

Keisha Miller:Its how teens relate...its their outlet in some cases

Emily Chornomaz:books will become popular in the neighborhood, and a lot of people they know are reading them

Sheila Kirven:easy to read, and reflects their lives

Kathy Mulholland:They can provoke reactions from others (friends, parents, teachers, librarians) by reading/discussing.

anne walsh:They want to learn

jess:STruggling to find their own identities with these issues and what their own opinions are.

Waunita Scott:I thinks its imperative to provide books that are urban not over the top adult and inappropriate

Patricia Gordon:They want a change from what school makes them read.

Julie Tozer:"Real life" - that's a phrase teens say all the time.

Waunita Scott:as an exscape

Sandra Eckert:They can relate to the characters

Sharon Rawlins:We're teen librarians!

Waunita Scott:escape

Julie Tozer:They want "real stories."

Joanne Roukens:We encourage a chatty chat box!

Waunita Scott:therapeutic

Sheila Kirven:cover art pictures teens they can identifywith

Patricia Gordon:many are quicker to read

Sophie Brookover:Oh, YES.

Emily Chornomaz:yup

Rebecca Magnan:Sherman Alexie's response was outstanding.

Kathy Mulholland:Great quote.

Waunita Scott:I make a special effort to display books/series w cover art that they can identify with

Sharon Rawlins:Alexie says it so well.

Megan Leuthner:people don't want to admit that these kids are really living this

Waunita Scott:absolutely megan

Sophie Brookover:For those who want to read more about/by Alexie & Morris, I'm going to push out links to their work. It'll pop up in your browser window, but don't panic!

Darby DeCicco:Thanks Sophie!

Keisha Miller:because teens and young adults relate to these books so much, the books are checked out...but then they go missing! :-/

Waunita Scott:I experience the same problem @Keisha

Sophie Brookover:Replacements are a pain in the neck, but just think of the happy home you've given the copies you've lost! You know you've bought the right books when they go missing.

Christie Peterson:Will all this "pushed" info be included in the post-webinar info??!! Please say yes! : )

Waunita Scott:Good point sophie

Waunita Scott:Sophie

Sophie Brookover:Hi, Christie -- yes! :-)

Kathy Mulholland:I figure lost/stolen just affirm my collection-development skills....

Keisha Miller:good pt Sophie...perspectives!! :-)

Christie Peterson:Hi!! \*waves\* Oh thanks!

Sophie Brookover:@Christie, happy to help.

Keisha Miller:i didn't write it down in the beginning...what is the hashtag we're using for this discussion on twitter?

Sophie Brookover:Hi, Keisha - it's #LLNJ\_streetlit

Sophie Brookover:Thanks!

Sophie Brookover:What's your handle -- I'll follow you!

Keisha Miller:thanks Sophie!

Sophie Brookover:We are @librarylinknj

Lori Del Rossi:I'm lost I can't get back to the right page of the power point since the other links?

Sharon Rawlins:I closed the other links and got back.

Lori Del Rossi:got it!

Sharon Rawlins:Great!

Waunita Scott:GREAT book! I read it!

Sharon Rawlins:Loved this one. Teens were always recommending it to me.

Sophie Brookover:This was one of THE most popular books at my HS.

Keisha Miller:Coldest Winter Ever!! Awesome read! Now I want to reread it!

Sophie Brookover:There's a sequel, too, but my students all said the first was the best.

Julie Tozer:Sometimes guys will go for the sequel - Midnight - because Coldest Winter looks girly to them.

Julie Tozer:Will there ever be a Dutch III? Is there any new info out there? : )

Julie Tozer:Thanks!

taya m. petino:julie...just checked you have a copy in your branch

Julie Tozer:Oh wow, so it was officially published - there was a big controversy for a while about a "fake" Dutch III written by someone else. Thanks Taya!

Sophie Brookover:here they come!

Kathy Mulholland:magci

Kathy Mulholland:magic!

Sophie Brookover:It \*is\* kind of magical -- one of my favorite aspects of this software.

Waunita Scott:EXACTLY!

Sharon Rawlins:Yes!

Waunita Scott:That's why libraries have some problems that they have because many librarians are rigid!

Waunita Scott:I believe that is subtly censoring

Sharon Rawlins:If these are the books that teens want to read, and will read, libraries should be providing them for them. Adult books have always been ordered because of their popularity.

Waunita Scott:Librarians have stop believing that info is only valid if it comes from certain people.

Sharon Rawlins:Waunita, I agree!

Waunita Scott::-)

Waunita Scott::-)

Emily Chornomaz:Give 'em what they want

Sharon Rawlins:Budget's always an issue too.

Kathy Mulholland:That's my deal in a nut-shell...and space.

Waunita Scott:I keep the KimaniTru series together

Waunita Scott:Everything is shelved alpha in fiction

Sharon Rawlins:It's popular if it's ripped off!

Waunita Scott:GREAT point!

Waunita Scott::-) @ Sharon

Patricia Gordon:I'm busy identifying what was so popular that it was all taken so I can replace it.

Waunita Scott:Do the suburbs listen to rap?

Emily Chornomaz:we don't refuse to buy books about farmers :-P

Kathy Mulholland:@Emily...lol

Waunita Scott:@Emily LOL!!!

Waunita Scott:For SLMS, posters are a great tool

Kathy Mulholland:here it comes!

Waunita Scott:I'm in a HS & I'm cautious about adult street lit

anne walsh:I am with you Wautita.

Kathy Mulholland:schools=parents

Sophie Brookover:I had a \*few\* streetlit titles at my HS. I bought titles w/reviews, extra copies of titles where there were film adaptations forthcoming, and did lots of ILL requests.

Sharon Rawlins:Perhaps have books discussions with parents and kids using these books? Even if they are books that are from the public library and not a school library?

Keisha Miller:@ Waunita, yes rap is in rotation in the suburbs!

anne walsh:I am very lucky that I can send them to Julie:)

Lori Del Rossi:Megan - are there non-adult street lit titles - Kimani Tru is.

Waunita Scott:I purchase titles that are clearly YA or adult for YA...I'm cautious about straight adult title

Waunita Scott:Triple Crown has titles

Keisha Miller:@ Waunita, currently taking a tween media class and we analyze artists like Lil Wayne and Nicki Manaj - kids love them!!

Julie Tozer:Hi Anne! I thought that must be you! Yes, we love when you send us your students!

Keisha Miller:\*tweens/teens love them

anne walsh:Hi Julie--Do you think I would have any luck?

Waunita Scott:@Keisha~I'm sure they do but if I purchased music, there's wouldn't be included

Julie Tozer:Hmmm....we could talk about a couple titles that \*might\* work...

Sheila Kirven:What about "mainstream authors" like Myers, Flake, Grimes, Flake, Woodson?

Waunita Scott:I purchase realistic teen fic as well

Waunita Scott:I buy Grimes, Johnson, Draper

Julie Tozer:I think Drama High comes the closest to street lit that I've ever read, in terms of tone and pacing.

Waunita Scott:Myers, Woodson

Julie Tozer:Bad things happen to bad people!

Waunita Scott:Deneen Miller

Kathy Mulholland:non-fic: true crime & bio, depending on collection resources at hand

Waunita Scott:Jackie Hardrick - Imani in Never Say Goodbye & Young Love & Deception

Emily Chornomaz:yeah def true crime!

Sharon Rawlins:Right on Julie - ahead of Megan's comments!

Waunita Scott:Monster-Sanyika Shakiur

Waunita Scott:\*Shakur

Kathy Mulholland:"all romance is paranormal"

Waunita Scott:Hardrick is from NJ

Sharon Rawlins:Jackie Hardwick has a good website too.

Julie Tozer:Lockdown trilogy by Alexander Gordon Smith is super popular horror/action right now.

Darby DeCicco:Just want to say thanks for the presentation Megan! Unfortunately I have to go cover our children's desk...but I will definitely be utilizing all of your great suggestsions! Thanks!

Sophie Brookover:Grace After Midnight was a Teen Choice/Garden State Book Award Nominee a couple of years ago!

Sophie Brookover:Thanks for joining us, Darby!

Waunita Scott:Chef Jeff Henerson, Sebastian Telfair, Judge Mathis - realistic fic

Emily:This was great. I have to go. THank you Megan.

Waunita Scott:Grace After Midnight was very well received in my lib

Sophie Brookover:Waunita, have you read it? It's so good.

Waunita Scott:I haven't but will NOW!

Waunita Scott:I loved reading the books in grad school

Kathy Mulholland:Suggested titles for high Latino area?

Waunita Scott:EXACTLY @Megan! I just want to see my students reading

Sharon Rawlins:I love that phrase Megan, thanks, about workinginf from your mission. So true.

Julie Tozer:@Kathy - maybe try Luis Rodriguez's memoirs (Always Running, and there's a new one), Jimmy Baca's memoir

Megan Leuthner:This was awesome and so very informative!! Thanks so much, time for me to go cover the desk though.

Sophie Brookover:Thanks for joining us, Megan L.!

Kathy Mulholland:Latino in fiction; we don't have YA non-fic.

Waunita Scott:Go on the ALA website. There's an award and there should be lists of previous winners

Gina Cacace:I apologize if this question was addressed, I had to step away to help with a Tech issue. I've found that some of the titles you mentioned are in the adult collection. Should I get duplicate copies for the teens?

Julie Tozer:@Kathy - Those are all ready adult, but teens have loved them.

Sophie Brookover:Waunita, are you referring to the Pura Belpre awards? Or a different one.

Kathleen Breitenbach:Thanks for giving this webinar. I have to leave a bit early.

Sophie Brookover:Folks, please make sure to click the link at the top of this slide to complete our quick evaluation of this webinar!

Jennifer:do you have sugggestions for handling a board of trustees that would not embrace these titles

Gina Cacace:Thanks!

Jeannie Collacott:Excellent presentation. Thank you Megan!

Waunita Scott:@Sophie - the Printz

anne walsh:Thank you Megan!

Sharon Rawlins:Self-promotion but the State Library is planning a hip hop symposium and I think the issues of street lit and purchasing more hip hop materials are similar. True?

Keisha Miller:I have to leave now. Thanks everyone, great dialogue and lots of info! Megan, great webinar!

Sophie Brookover:@Waunita, I'm confused -- were you recommending them for areas w/high Latino populations?

Sophie Brookover:By them, I mean the Printz award winners/honor titles.

Emily Chornomaz:yeah that's a good idea. anonymously mail them all a copy of what alexie wrote

Christie Peterson:Are we notified by mail when all the post-webinar info is available? I want to absorb all of this again!

Sophie Brookover:@Christie, yes!

Julie Tozer:Is street lit available in ebook formats as much as other genres?

Sophie Brookover:I'll e-mail everyone when it's all posted (probably Monday)

Christie Peterson:good answer! : )

Christie Peterson:thanks so much---for everything to you and megan!

Lori Del Rossi:Thank you Megan - I can use this for support when I buy them and adults on the school board are horrified!

Sheila Kirven:Are there recomended materials for school libraries, especially middle school, early high school- We have Bluford, and Rossevelt High.

Sandra Eckert:@Julie- great question!

Theresa Foster:Thank you Megan, great job! I have to go.

Waunita Scott:@Sophie~I was thinking of where she could get info for titles with a Latino emphasis. I said Printz because I vaguely remember reading a book iin grad school

Patricia Gordon:thanks.

Sophie Brookover:@Waunita, there may be one or two Latino-authored or -themed titles among the Printz winners, but it's an overall literary award, not Latino-specific.

Emily Chornomaz:would you shelve urban christian books with street lit?

Sophie Brookover:I like Sharon Flake for MS, especially.

Waunita Scott:I read a book that was latino & a Printz award winner. I hadn't looked in a while & thought there might be more titles. Excuse me

Sophie Brookover:Oh, it's ok! I have Printz on the brain lately.

Emily Chornomaz:thanks for a great presentation!

Kelly F.:Thank you for a great presentation.

Gina Cacace:Great presentation!

Kathy Mulholland:Thanks; very helpful!

Rebecca Magnan:Thank you, Megan! :)

Sophie Brookover:I also like Simone Elkeles' books Perfect Chemistry and it's sequel. It's a romance b/w an upper-class white girl and a Latino hustler w/a heart of gold.

taya m. petino:you are fabulous. great webinar!

Christie Peterson:thanks megan for your time and insight!

Sophie Brookover:They're delightful.

Waunita Scott:GREAT presentation! I look forward to receiving the info

Lori Del Rossi:Thank you, Megan - very very helpful.

Sharon Rawlins:Sammie & Julianna Go to Hollywood might be the Printz one - or it was a Best Book for Young Adults.

Julie Tozer:Yes, this was great! Thank you!

Sharon Rawlins:Thanks Megan. Lots of great ideas from you and everyone.

Megan Pehanick:Thank you very Informative!

Sandra Eckert:EXCELLENT presentation- LOTS of useful information. Thank you for presenting!

Lori Del Rossi:sorry fon't see link to evaluate

Emily Chornomaz::)

Sharon Rawlins:Thank you! Thanks to Sophie and Joanne too.

Joanne Roukens:You are all welcome!

Sophie Brookover:https://librarylinknj.wufoo.com/forms/supporting-teen-street-lit-readers/