

# Carmel Clay Public Library

## Teen Library Council Information Sheet

### 2017

CARMEL CLAY PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Teen Library Council (TLC) is a dedicated group of teens in grades 7-12 who meet monthly with Hope Baugh, Manager of the Young Adult Services Department, and other YA staff.

The Teen Library Council (TLC) is different from the library's Teen Volunteer Corps (TVC) in that it requires more from teens in terms of the commitment and the application process.

### The Commitment

- **Attendance** – The TLC usually meets from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings of every month from September through May. **Each member must attend ONE of these meetings each month, and must attend at least seven months per school year.**
- **Reading and Speaking: TLC Choice Picks** – Every book in the TLC Choice Picks collection at the top of the stairs in the library has been read and highly recommended by three or more TLC members. **Each member must be in the habit of reading recreationally enough so that he or she can nominate at least one book per year.** “Nominate” means ask for The Rat (our version of a speaking stick) in a TLC meeting so that you can explain to the group why you recommend this book. “Nominate” also means writing the title in the Nominations section of the Choice Picks notebook so that other members can second and third it if they read and loved it, too.
- **Reading and Writing: Teens’ Top Ten YA Galley Group** – For 2017 and 2018, CCPL’s Teen Library Council is one of only twenty groups nationwide to be selected to serve as consultants for publishers via the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) of the American Library Association. This means publishers are sending us Advanced Reader Copies (ARCs) and book galleys, and asking our opinion of them. TLC members write short, honest reviews that get sent to the publishers. TLC members also have the responsibility and privilege of voting for the books that will become the following year’s Teens Top Ten nominees. The Teens Top Ten is a nationwide “teen choice” list. **Each TLC member must write at least two TTT reviews per year, and ideally more than that.** There may be overlap between the books TLC members nominate for Choice Picks and the books they review for Teens Top Ten.
- **Events** – The TLC sponsors several library events. Last year’s events included a Trivia Cafe, a Yule Ball and a Pop Fest. **Each member must help with the work of at least one of these events - i.e., through helping to plan, prepare, set up, clean up, etc.** This usually requires time outside of the monthly meetings.
- **Library Advocacy** – This TLC requirement is harder to measure but no less important than any of the others. Part of every meeting is devoted to TLC members keeping informed about what’s going on at the Carmel Clay Public Library (not just the Teen Library Council) so that they can step up and raise awareness in casual conversations. For example:
  - o When a classmate says, “I wish I could afford a tutor” you can say, “The library has a live online tutoring service called Tutor.com that you can use for free if you go through the library’s website with your library card. It’s daily, 3:00 - 11:00 p.m.”
  - o When a neighbor says, “I figured out how to use the library’s Overdrive collection of downloadable eBooks and audiobooks, and I love it, but I wish it had more graphic novels” you can say, “Have you tried the library’s hoopla digital collection? That collection has things not offered by Overdrive.”
- **End-of-Year Reflection Meeting:** At the end of the school year, **every TLC member must make an appointment with Hope for approximately 15 minutes to go over how they met the membership requirements this year and to give Hope their “plus/delta” (keep/change) thoughts about the year.**

If attendance is good (no more than two missed meetings per year) and all other requirements are met, membership is renewable for the duration of a student's middle school and high school years. Nearly all members remain on the Council until graduation. This provides consistency and continuity and allows the Council to develop as a team. As members graduate, spaces open up for new members, providing a fresh perspective each year.

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## **The Application Process**

New TLC members are accepted each year in August based on the results of a written application (**due May 31**) and an interview conducted by Hope during the summer. Criteria for selection include:

- A desire to promote reading
- A desire to support the library
- The ability to work cooperatively with people of various ages and backgrounds
- The ability to fulfill the requirements

Mostly we are looking for passion. We also want a diverse group of members with a good variety of personalities, skills and interests.

**Questions?** Please contact Hope Baugh, Young Adult Services Manager, at 317-814-3979 or [hbaugh@carmel.lib.in.us](mailto:hbaugh@carmel.lib.in.us)

***If you would like to apply to be on the Teen Library Council, please complete the attached written application (or print it out from the Teen section of the library's website at [www.carmel.lib.in.us/teens/tlc.cfm](http://www.carmel.lib.in.us/teens/tlc.cfm)) and return it to the YA desk by May 31.*** After May 31, Hope will email you to set up an interview for approximately 20 minutes sometime during the summer. Hope will send you a letter in early August to notify you about the results of your application.