

keeping the library's doors open and providing basic services. After reading how one library tackled strategic planning, other libraries may find it more manageable to do the same.

Overall, the book is extremely insightful. There are certainly moments of commiseration that do not offer clear solutions for being innovative with limited staff and money, but those moments were usually capped with the workaround that a single institution found beneficial. Although not useful for every situation, these stories at least provide some hope. Many of the chapters would prove useful to a librarian who may have a difficult time convincing colleagues of the value of incorporating a new practice at a small institution. Some of the general advice felt pat or trite, but the real-world approaches to problems such as assessment, information literacy instruction, and managing library systems technology in small libraries was quite valuable, and made the book well worth the read.—*Jennifer Tatum, MLIS*

Winning Grants, 2nd ed. By Stephanie K. Gerding and Pamela H. MacKellar. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2016. 248 p. Paper \$108 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1473-1).

The words “grant writing” are enough to strike fear into the heart of even the most seasoned librarian. The paperwork, the complex requirements, and even the bureaucracy of government funds are enough to dissuade many professionals from even considering applying for a grant. That's where *Winning Grants*, authored by Stephanie K. Gerding and Pamela H. MacKellar, steps in to assuage readers' fears.

From page one, it is clear that this is nothing like the typical how-to book that leaves the reader with more questions than answers. Gerding and MacKellar's expertise really shines in this manual. Each chapter is full of information, suggestions, and resources, and quickly builds even the greenest librarian's confidence in their ability to find needed funding.

The book is divided into three parts. Part 1 is a chapter-by-chapter walk-through of the steps needed to get a grant. This section will ensure that the reader is fully prepared to complete the grant application process confidently. Although there is certainly a good flow of information from chapter to chapter (and most readers would likely benefit from reading it cover to cover), one could easily pick and choose chapters to get the information that is most relevant to one's needs. Of particular note in part 1 are the additional resources provided (including many links to resources outside of the manual) and the copious amounts of blank space on each page, perfect for taking notes.

Part 2 includes several examples of grant funding success stories with photos and contact information. These examples

would be a fantastic tool for convincing uncertain staff or board members. In addition, for those who feel overwhelmed at the lengthy process ahead, these stories are certain to reinvigorate. The final section, part 3, contains worksheets and other resources. These alone are likely worth the cost of the book, even for the seasoned grant writers among us. They offer easy-to-follow guidelines to put everything into practice.

Overall, this is an excellent resource for librarians and library staff at every level. The content will prepare readers for success, whether they are writing their first or their fiftieth grant application.—*Katie Goldbach, Lead Librarian, The Village Library, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism, 3rd ed. By Michael Cart. Chicago: ALA, 2017. 328 p. Paper \$68 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1462-5).

This is a timely, updated treatment of the subject of young adult (YA) literature. Cart has a wealth of experience and knowledge in YA literature, having founded and chaired the Printz Committee and authored or edited twenty-three books. He deftly organizes that knowledge into a highly accessible volume for librarians.

Cart has broken the information into two main parts: “That Was Then,” a historical look at how YA literature has become its own genre; and “This Is Now,” a look at today's YA literature landscape. Cart takes the time to analyze the information and lay it out for readers. This material will not be useful to someone who merely wants quick lists of the best teen books to purchase. Instead, Cart takes a more in-depth look at topics such as how YA literature works in retail, focusing attention on the effects of “chick lit,” Harry Potter, *Twilight*, and the dystopian genre (such as the *Hunger Games* series). He also discusses the current age range confusion in YA literature: Should we use “young adult” as a catch-all category, or divide the genre into subgroups such as “middle school,” “teen,” and “new adult” literature? One chapter concentrates on diversity in YA literature and identifies the steps that authors and publishers are taking to increase it. The book also addresses the timely topic of LGBTQ characters in young adult literature, including intersex characters. In addition, Cart discusses other genres and other formats, such as graphic novels and manga.

This book features a clear and useful preface and a twenty-page reference section that includes all the books and articles he references throughout the text. *Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism* is a solid resource that will be helpful to librarians, students, and teachers.—*Leanne Cheek, MLIS, Selector/Teen Coordinator, Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma*