
Sources

Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

<i>Academic Archives</i>	253
<i>Answering Teens' Tough Questions: a YALSA Guide</i>	253
<i>A Book Sale How-to Guide: More Money, Less Stress</i>	254
<i>The Changing Academic Library: Operations, Culture, Environments</i>	254
<i>Diversity Programming and Outreach for Academic Libraries</i>	255
<i>Evaluating Teen Services and Programs: A YALSA Guide</i>	255
<i>Facilitating Access to the Web of Data: A Guide for Librarians</i>	255
<i>A Guide to Teaching Information Literacy: 101 Practical Tips Joint Libraries: Models That Work</i>	256
<i>Picture Books for Children: Fiction, Folktales and Poetry</i>	257
<i>Small Public Library Management</i>	257

RUSQ considers for review reference books and professional materials of interest to reference and user services librarians. Serials and subscription titles normally are not reviewed unless a major change in purpose, scope, format, or audience has occurred. Reviews usually are three hundred to five hundred words in length. Views expressed are those of the reviewers and do not necessarily represent those of ALA. Please refer to standard directories for publishers' addresses.

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Academic Archives. Aaron D. Purcell. Chicago: Neal-Schuman, 2012. 315 p. Paper \$95 (ISBN: 9781555707699).

Changing roles for academic libraries means changing roles for academic archives. Academic archives no longer exist in isolation from their institutions, but play a central and dynamic role in academic libraries and in institutions of higher education as a whole. Purcell focuses on the expanding responsibilities of college and university archivists and the work they have done to keep academic archives relevant. The book discusses many timely issues, including digitization efforts, the expanding role of records management in academic archives, and the increased importance of public and outreach services for academic archives and special collections libraries. Overall, the book is very well organized and accessible; relevant information about the history of the archival profession in the United States is used to illustrate how the profession has evolved and how interdependent relationships between academic archives and academic libraries continue to develop. In addition to his discussion of the central role that academic archives play in colleges and universities, the author thoroughly covers core archival concepts, including collection development, processing, and collection management. Purcell, who is the Director of Special Collections at Virginia Tech, also offers useful advice to those considering a career in archives. He paints a realistic picture of today's job market for archivists and emphasizes the importance of choosing a well-reputed graduate program. Although this book's focus is on academic archives, its readability and coverage of contemporary issues, core concepts, and the archival profession as a whole make it an excellent resource for most introductory archives courses and for individuals considering a career in any type of archive or special collections library. Academic librarians who wish to understand the role of academic archives and special collections departments in today's academic libraries will also find this book to be highly informative.—Allison Embry, *Access Services and Distance Learning Librarian*, Rogers State University, Claremore, Oklahoma

Answering Teens' Tough Questions: A YALSA Guide. Teens at the Library Series. By M. K. Eagle. Chicago: Neal-Schuman, 2012. 123 p. Paper \$9.95 (ISBN: 9781555707941).

Young adults aged 12–18 can be a tricky group to understand, and our society too often doesn't know how to deal with them or what to do with them. This book delivers on its promise of advising librarians about how to answer teens' tough questions, but provides even more than this. "Working with teens is a roller-coaster ride," according to author M. K. Eagle (ix). Many would agree with this statement, but what is needed is a systematic approach to surviving that ride and maintaining our own professional goals. It is widely acknowledged that professional training for youth services librarians is sparse, and this book demonstrates and documents the huge need for training and preparation.

The book is structured in such a way that it could be used for professional development and would make an effective tool