

OLA Child and Youth Expo Committee

2021! – This year was not normal.

2021 was a phenomenal year for the committee; we gained a new member and did not lose any members, which is always a real treat! As we were virtual, again for the 2021 conference we decided to do a two-day event, which was approved with the new budget. The focus was day one was on workshops and professional development and the second day was readers advisory. Kate Cayley and Joel A. Sutherland were our keynotes for the 2-day event and they were both just delightful, charming, witty, insightful – exactly the kind of kick off you want for an event such as this. There was a large focus on different voices and representation matters. We had a panel discussion on authentic representation (Ben Phillipe, Kyle Lukeoff, and Adam Garnet Jones), we had how to teen program, we had Sara Grimes presenting on how children are learning to read in different ways than before. As one of the chairs I had a great time putting this event together and I really feel appreciated, it after it is over as the positive feedback is overwhelming.