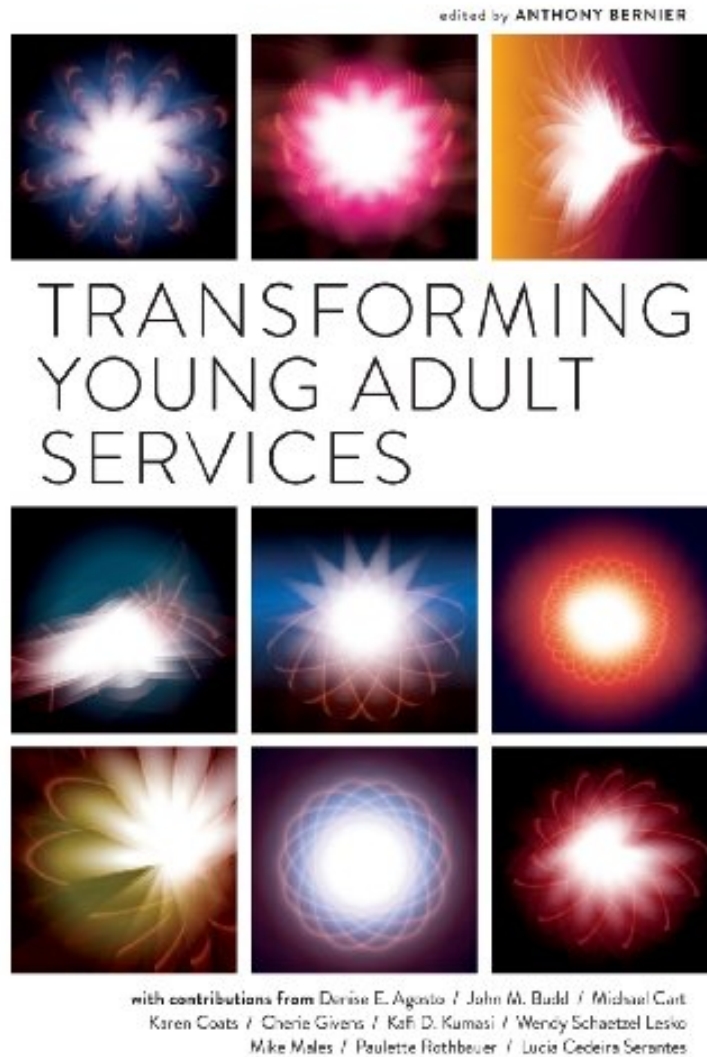


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Transforming Young Adult Services

Anthony Bernier

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Anthony Bernier : Transforming Young Adult Services before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Transforming Young Adult Services:

In this provocative call to action that encourages LIS students, researchers, and practitioners to question some of the underlying assumptions of their discipline, Bernier initiates an open discussion about how YA professionals perceive

young adults. Exploring the question of what an LIS-specific vision of young adults should be, this book offers a wide array of provocative positions with implications for libraries in literacy initiatives, YA space, intergenerational interactions, and civic life. Research-based articles and essays from leading scholars and practitioners examine young adults in historical and conceptual contexts, such as the ways in which social theory is rapidly changing the essence of YA librarianship. The variety of perspectives and analyses offered will launch a vigorous new debate on how libraries and those in the field think of and serve young adults.

From BooklistThe underlying perspective of this professional resource is that YA service should move from a model where youth are seen as underrealized adults (who need to be corrected or developed) to one where youth are valued as individuals and where library service embraces teens-in-the-moment. Chapters are arranged in three sections: describing the librarians perspective of young adults and young adult literature; uncovering the marginalization of youth and moving teens into partnership with LIS activities; and exploring YA rights and intellectual freedom. The book is scholarly in tone and focus, and the picture it presents of youth and youth services is heavily biased by the imperfect lens of theory. Editor Bernier is a professor at San Jose State University, and the bulk of the authors are also library-school professors. Although it may be difficult for researchers to envision teens as individuals, working librarians certainly know they will engage with a variety of personalities each day. Descriptions of practice and trends sometimes seem outdated, such as the author who predicts the next big home for book reviews will be social media sites such as Myspace. Nevertheless, the theories are engaging, and LIS students and YA researchers should find it of interest. --Emily WeakAbout the AuthorAnthony Bernier is associate professor at California's San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science, USA. As a critical youth studies scholar his primary field of research explores the administration of library services with young people. He served as a professional librarian for nearly 15 years as a Young Adult Specialist Librarian and administrator, during which time he designed nationally recognised youth outreach and programming models, including the first purpose-built library space for teenaged youth: the Los Angeles Public Library acclaimed TeenS'cape. In 2010 he received a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to advance research on public library spaces designed for young people. He is former chair of several national professional and academic associations and currently serves on two editorial boards. In 2011 he was appointed to a four-year term on the American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation. His doctoral dissertation at the University of California, USA, examined changing notions of public space in twentieth-century America.