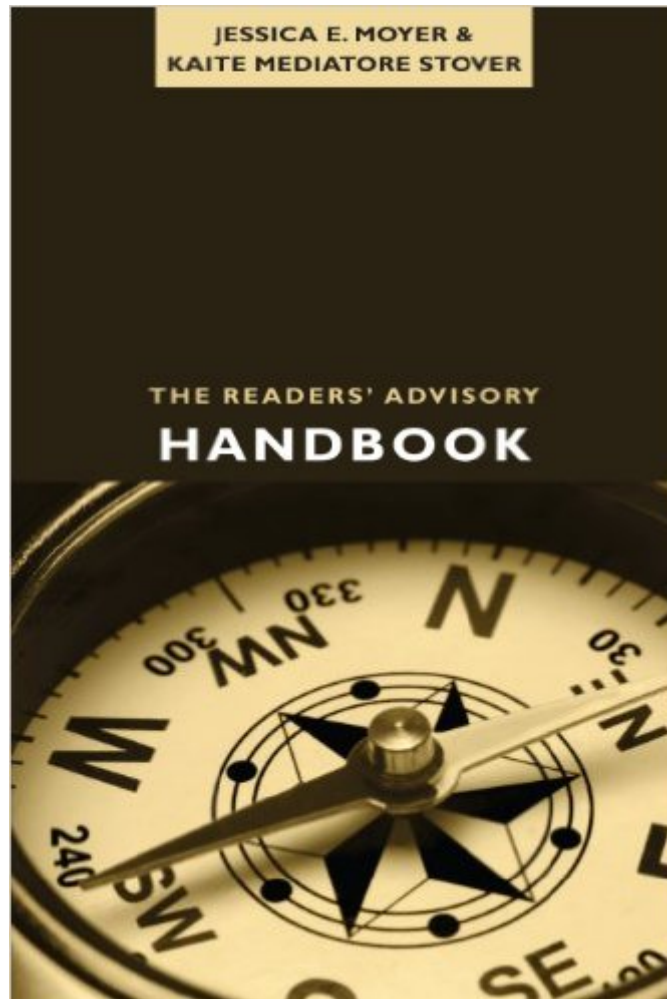


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The Readers' Advisory Handbook (ALA Readers' Advisory)



Synopsis

Readers' advisory has long ago sprinted past merely suggesting books to patrons; it now encompasses many different formats and means of communication--working with patrons of all types and ages, in and outside the actual library. To help harried librarians handle increased demand, experts Jessica Moyer and Kaite Stover assemble a group of specialists who have created a one-stop resource for all kinds of readers' advisory issues. Here you will find a trove of solid guidance, including How to advise patrons on all kinds of media, from fiction and nonfiction to audiobooks, graphic novels and even reference materials How to provide services to senior citizens, teens and even readers who are incarcerated How to handle author visits and book groups How to enhance storytelling, even for adults Covering everything from getting to know a library's materials to marketing and promoting RA, this practical handbook will help you expand services immediately without adding costs or training time.

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Customer Reviews

Must have for professional collections for librarians. This book is set up to be read thoroughly (which I highly recommend) or to flip through for chapters that relate to your area. I was fortunate enough to take three RA related workshops taught by one of the authors, Kaite Stover, a couple years ago. I kept every handout she gave. They are all in a binder that I keep at work with me. This book is now beside that binder. Section 2 of the book on reviewing and evaluating materials will come in handy if you ever find yourself asked to review something out of your normal reading tastes like an audio book or graphic novel. While some libraries are fortunate enough to have a designed desk for readers advisory services other doesn't so chapter 10 is really helpful on making bookmarks, booklists and displays. This is also a helpful service when you don't have the time for one on one contact with each patron. I will sometimes place bookmarks or booklists in books that patrons have on hold that I think will benefit from the bookmark or booklist. My favorite part of the programming section is David Wright's chapter on doing story time for adults. It sounds like his adult story time is a must-attend event. Sadly I don't think I'd be anywhere near as entertaining. I'd clear a room instead of packing a room. I work at a library that has a considerably older population so I appreciated Alicia Ahlvers advice on readers advisory for older adults. It is sometimes hard to find books to suggest to older patrons. I like her author suggestions. I have previously suggested some of them but she suggests some that I never would have thought of. I especially like the final two chapters of the book that deal with YA reading adult books and vice versa.

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