RAILS
REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM

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RAILS BOARD EDI SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Submit the EDI subcommittee reports using this form. Email reports to the RAILS Administrative Assistant assigned to the subcommittee.

Subcommittee Name: Programs, Services, & Outreach

Meeting Date: July 13, 2021

Summarize the meeting discussion:

Brian Smith gave us an overview into the presenter directory built into the RAILS website - how it is currently set up and what options can be selected and used to sort through presenters. It was agreed that the two biggest categories that library staff would be looking for are Staff Training and Presenters (including more entertaining presenters). Biz gave great feedback and there was a discussion on how the data collected would be used and how best to word/list the options for self identifying.

There was discussion on how much responsibility the subcommittee would take to ensure that info submitted is accurate/corroborated by presenters listed. Ideally there would be a place for comments or ratings from library staff who have worked with/hired these presenters, but it's important to be careful that no one is being harmed by this feedback loop. Discussion then led to what the tool would be called. Several members suggested potential names with consideration to both the training side and entrainment side of this tool and the presenters listed.

Priorities determined:

Tighten up the tool based on Biz's and subcommittee members' feedback.
Settle on a name for the tool/database and start populating it. Name should encompass both the training side and entertainment side while definitely focusing on EDI and allowing presenters to be listed in both.

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Note any next steps, activities, or follow up as a result of the meeting discussion:

Haven't decided on a next meeting - tentatively October 12th at 1pm but this could be tricky for some members because of ILA.

Once the tool is more finalized:
Leora will begin adding annotations.
Cristina will begin populating with known presenters already shared through listservs.
Staff Training, Leadership, & Advocacy Subcommittee will also populate tool with info they have gathered.

Still ahead and parking lot topics:

Next meeting date: October 12, 1pm (Tentative)

Submitted by: Cristina Bueno