



Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of NCTE

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly newsletter from ALAN, where we immerse ourselves in the vibrant world of young adult literature and teaching. This month we have proposal calls for the ALAN 2024 Anti-racist session, Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award Committee applications, workshop grant applications, information from *The ALAN Review*, and more.

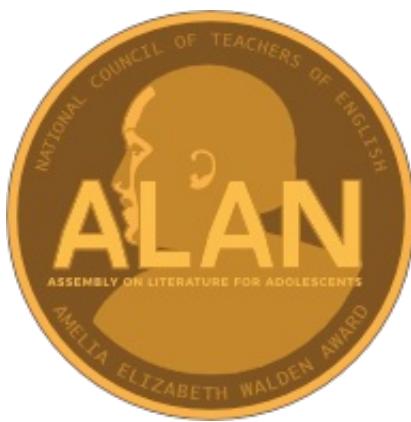
June 2024 At a Glance

- **Other Upcoming Dates**

- **July 1:** Submission deadline: *The ALAN Review*
- **September 1:** Smith-Carlsen Grant application due
- **September 1:** Cart-Campbell Grant application due
- **October 1:** ALAN Foundation Grant application due



Starting today, May 27, watch our social media for announcements about ALAN 2024!



2024 Walden Award Finalists & Winner

The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents (ALAN) of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) is pleased and proud to announce the 2024 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Book Award for Young Adult Fiction finalists and winner will be announced tomorrow, Tuesday, May 18. Watch your email and/or the ALAN social media accounts for more information.

Tik Tok and We Don't Stop: YAL and the Interpolation of New Media

Submit a manuscript for the Winter Issue of *The ALAN Review*, **Tik Tok and We Don't Stop: YAL**



and the Interpolation of New Media, on or before July 1, 2024.

For more information about the theme and/or submission, please click the link below and click on Calls for Manuscripts.

[Submit to *The ALAN Review*](#)

Interpolation is defined as the insertion of something of a different nature into something else (Oxford dictionary). Young people today are inundated within a visual world. From movies, games, music, social media, etc., digital and new media are transforming how they show up in the world. Platforms such as TikTok (BookTok), Youtube (Booktube) and Instagram (Bookstagram) are revolutionizing the ways that young people discuss and interact with texts. From Book talks, unboxing videos, TBR lists, and more. These digital platforms allow for information exchange and instantaneous access to authors, events, book news and reviews.

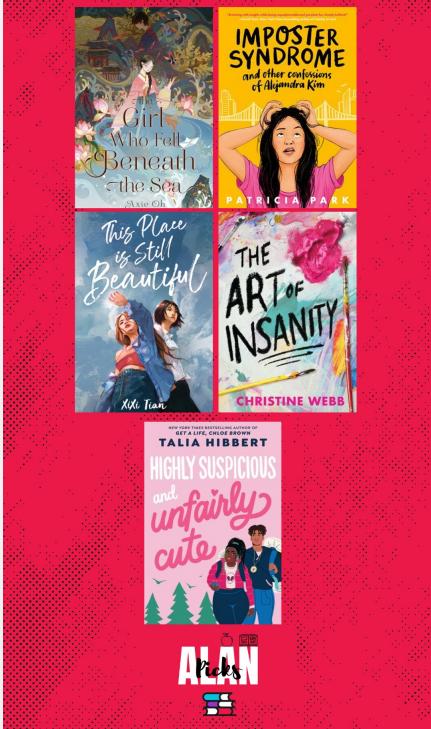
New Media provides youth opportunities to read/consume multiple media, but also to produce media across various platforms. They become content creators shaping the media to represent them and interrogate the world around them. For this themed issue we are interested in hearing from you about how Young Adult Literature is interpolated or inserted and transformed across new media spaces. Here's a list of suggested range of interests and topics to prompt your thinking on the call.

Some questions we are interested in:

- What are ways that YAL has engaged with or depicted young people interacting with Social Media within the texts. Consider books such as *Girl Gone Viral* by Arvin Ahmadi, *Don't Read the Comments* by Eric Smith, *Tweet Cute* by Emma Lord or *The Rumor Game* by Dhonielle Clayton and Sona Charaipotra.
- How are you engaging with digital, new media, and YAL in your classrooms or in your research? How are you approaching it culturally, historically, and content specific?
- What ideas on instructional practices have you incorporated or adapted using new media and multimodal texts?
- Books like *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline, *Warcross* by Marie Lu or *Slay* by Brittany Morris highlight portrayals of young people in gaming culture. How is gaming introducing new entryways to examine the adolescent experience in YAL? Check out these lists of [YA books for Gamers](#) and [A Definitive List](#).
- How has YAL been influenced by music and vice versa? Consider books such as: Playlists that are included in YAL, Playlists that appear on Spotify, Apple music, etc., to be used alongside texts. Check out: [41 YA Books About Music](#)

ALAN Picks: Navigating Racism, Society, and Mental Health

This month's ALAN Picks features books that honor Asian American and Pacific Islander Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. For fantasy fans, ***The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea*** by Axi Oh is based on a Korean folktale where the main character embarks on an underwater adventure. Diversity plays a big role in ***Imposter Syndrome and Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim*** by Patricia Park as the main character navigates



[Click here to read
ALAN Picks](#)

community, microaggressions and grief. Set in a Midwestern small town, two Chinese-American sisters must deal with racism in ***This Place Is Still Beautiful*** by Xixi Tian. With a new diagnosis for having Bipolar Disorder, a teen figures out what her new identity will be through art in ***The Art of Insanity*** by Christine Webb. Set up as an enemies to lovers trope, humor abounds in ***Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute*** by Talia Hibbert, where the main characters have anxiety and OCD, respectively, but are in a competition where they have to work together.

Looking For Teen Reviewers

If you know students who are interested in writing book reviews of recently published young adult and middle grade books, let them know they can write for ALAN Picks too!

ALAN Picks Book Selections

ALAN Picks accepts reviews of books published from spring 2020 to present-day, including soon-to-be-released books. This gives ALAN members who are interested in reviewing books more great titles to choose from, as well as accommodate some great books released during the beginning of the pandemic that still deserve highlighting. If you have some books in mind that you would like to review, please reach out to me!

Let Us Know How You Use ALAN Picks!

If you read an ALAN Picks review and end up using the book with your students, let us know! We want to hear all of your great stories and engaging ways you are using young adult and middle grades literature in your classrooms. Remember, ALAN Picks are *book reviews by educators for educators!* Click on the archives to see previous editions.

Submit a Review

Would you like to submit a review? Check out [ALAN Picks](#) for submission guidelines and email ALAN Picks Editor, Richetta Tooley at richetta.tooley@gmail.com with the book title you are interested in reviewing. **Rolling deadline.**

**Workshop Grants for New
Attendees**



Smith-Carlsen Grant

The Smith-Carlsen Grant supports the attendance of a graduate student working in English Education, Literacy Education and/or Young Adult Literature to attend the ALAN Workshop.

Application due September 1, 2024

Cart-Campbell Grant

The Cart-Campbell Grant offers funding and complimentary registration for practicing librarians toward attendance at the annual two-day ALAN Workshop.

Application due September 1, 2024

Research Grant

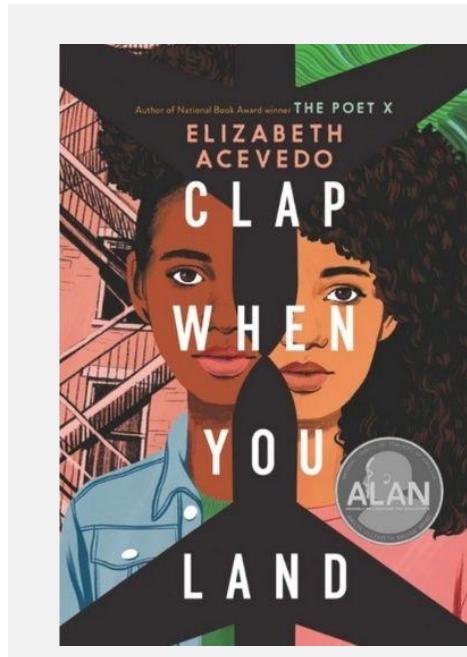
ALAN Foundation Grant

Members of ALAN may apply to the ALAN Foundation for funding (up to \$1,500) for research in young adult literature.

Application due October 1, 2024

For more information about all three grants, visit the [Grants & Awards page on alan-ya.org](#).

The #ALANReads Book Club



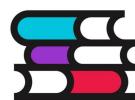
Join us in discussing *Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo. The virtual discussion will be held on **July 14th @5PM EST**.

Please note that the book order has changed slightly.

2024 #ALANReads Book Club Books and Dates

- September 8: *The Many Half-Lived Lives of Sam Sylvester* by Maya MacGregor
- November 24 (LIVE!): *We Can Be Heroes* by Kyrie McCauley

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