Teen Summit 2026
Friday, November 13, 2026
A New England Collaborative

10:00 am-11:15 am	**Welcome & Keynote** Cynthia Leitich Smith **The Journey to the Legendary Frybread Drive-In**: a decade ago, Cynthia Leitich Smith was the only Native woman publishing YA books for a major national trade publisher, and those were Gothic fantasies with marginal Indigenous content. How did we get from there to today's constellation of rising voices from tribal nations across Turtle Island and the Hawaiian islands? What are characteristics of Native YA writing, best practices for connecting Indigenous literature to young readers, and intersectional interests that can attract teens to the books?	
	Sessions Track 1	**Sessions Track 2**
11:30 am-12:30 pm	**Interns at Work: Creating a Teen Internship Program** (Sara Rottger, Wilmington Public Library, MA and Quincy Knapp, Sherborn Library, MA)	**Building and Maintaining D&D for Tweens and Teens** (Ben Green, Westerly Library and Wilcox Park, RI)
12:30 pm-1:30pm	Lunch	Lunch
1:30pm-2:30pm	**High School Book Lovers Club** (Jill Elkins Surprenant, Nantucket High School, MA)	**Let Them Lead: Engaging Teens Through Youth-Led Programming** (Keri Lancelot, East Hampton Public Library, CT)
2:30 pm-2:45 pm	Break	Break
2:45 pm-3:45 pm	**When Representation Becomes Misrecognition: Rethinking Collection Development in the Age of Book Banning** (Peter Langella, Champlain Valley Union High School, VT)	**Empowering Teen Makers at Your Library** (Alex DeNoto, Burlington Public Library, CT)