

# REACHING TEENS AND YOUTH THROUGH GRAPHIC NOVELS

Preconference—Wednesday

October 14th from 1:00-5:00

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

Presenter: Kat Kan

Register at: [nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/?page=NebLib2015](http://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com/?page=NebLib2015)

Graphic novels and manga have provided a fun way for busy teens to read. The format has evolved over the past few decades and has become much more than the superhero-centric form most people think of as comics. Nowadays, many graphic novels and manga appeal to children - thanks mostly to Raina Telgemeier, Kazu Kibuishi, and Jennifer and Matthew Holm and the Eisner Awards expanded their youth categories to three age levels. Kat Kan will talk about the many genres, diversity in comics, resources for building and augmenting collections, programming, and classroom use. Whether you work in a public or school library, you can find help, ideas, and inspiration for using graphic novels with your teens and youth



Katharine "Kat" Kan has been reading comics for 50 years. She earned her B.A. (1977) and M.L.S. (1981) at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. She has worked as a children's and then young adult librarian for public libraries in Hawaii and Indiana, and she is now a part-time school librarian in the Florida Panhandle. Kat edited *Graphic Novels and Comic Books* published by H.W. Wilson and has been writing about graphic novels in libraries since 1994, mostly for *Voice of Youth Advocates* (VOYA)

According to Kat, "graphic novels belong in libraries because they should always be part of the whole reading mix, just like any other kind of book. "I grew up reading comics, classics, history, biography, the encyclopedia, all kinds of genre fiction. When you read a graphic novel, you need to read the art as well as the text, so your brain gets a total workout!"

Sponsored by Nebraska Regional Library Systems