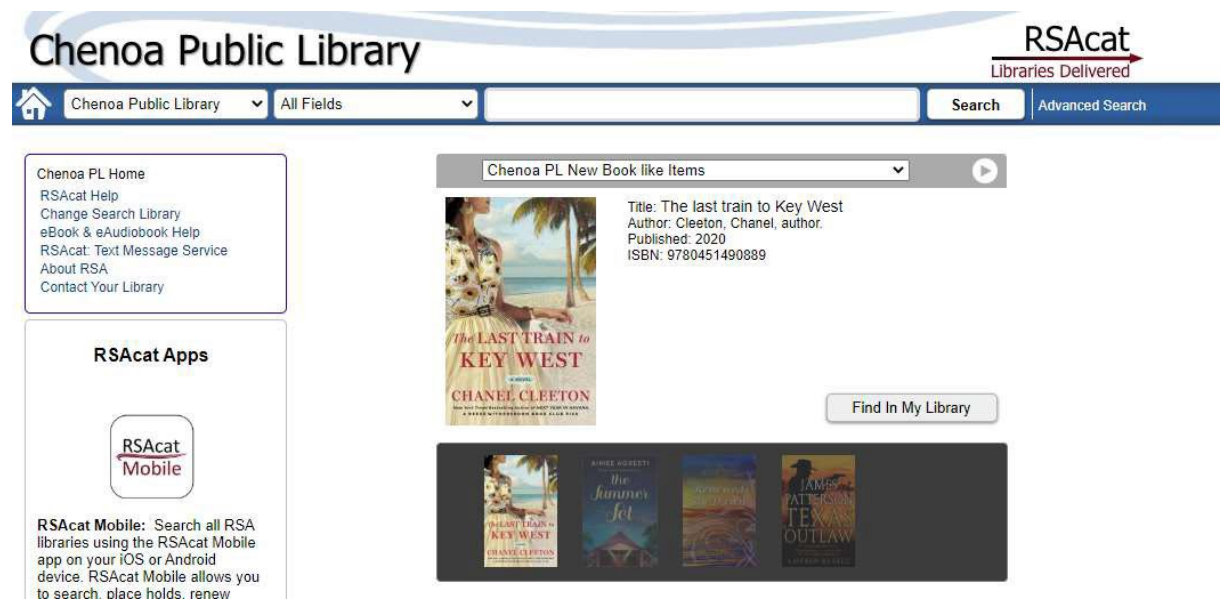## How the RSAcat New Book Carousels Work Cheat Sheet

Last updated: April 11, 2024

New book Carousels appear at the top of your library's RSAcat page and can help to spotlight New Books, New Movies, or New Music.

The contents of the carousel lists are populated by individual WorkFlows reports that run on Sunday mornings, for the most part. Most libraries have these reports set up to identify New Books and New Movies; some libraries also have a list for New Music. These lists have historically been populated based on Item Type, but RSA staff will soon begin the process of converting these reports to use the broader Item Category 3 instead. Using Item Categories instead of Item Type will allow newly added item types to appear on the correct list.

These lists can be based on either the creation date of the Bibliographic Record that the item has been added to OR at the Item Created date. The two options generate distinctly different lists. Most public libraries look at bib records added within the past 60 days that the library has attached a copy to. Most schools look at items created in the last 180 to 365 days.

Method 1: Populate by item created date only. Results in every copy added to your collection showing up on the list.

When these reports were set up, the default was to populate these lists based on the Item Created Date, but this resulted in the inclusion of items that were perhaps duplicate copies or replacements, rather than truly "new" copies. When set to populate based on Item Creation date, each new copy added to the system should appear on these lists. Most libraries found that objectionable and wanted their list changed.

Method 2: Populate by Bibliographic Record created date and a local copy added. Results in more focused lists that can miss new items added to slightly older Bib Records.

Most public libraries now have their list set up to look first at the Bibliographic Record created date (usually 60 and 90 days old or newer) that the library has attached an item to. The effect is that older titles that libraries add new copies to do not appear on the list after the initial 60 to 90 days after the Bib Record was created.

Your Options:

The lists can be customized by each library. Libraries can designate one of the methods for items to be considered "new" for the purpose of populating these lists. Our first suggestion would be to increase the length of time a Bib Record is considered as 'new' for the purposes of this report if you want to show more items or do not immediately purchase copies of new materials. School libraries may wish to show all newly added copies for 6 months to a year.

RSA is happy to review your settings with you and make any required changes. Please contact the RSA Helpdesk at help@rsanfp.org or call us at 1-866-940-4083.