This report highlights ALA’s 2017 fiscal year, which ended August 31, 2017. In order to provide an up-to-date picture of the association, it also includes information on major initiatives and, where available, updated data through spring 2018.

MISSION

The mission of the American Library Association is to provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.

MEMBERSHIP

ALA has 57,000 members, including librarians, library workers, library trustees, and other interested people from every state and many nations. The association serves public, state, school, and academic libraries, as well as special libraries for people working in government, commerce and industry, the arts, and the armed services or in hospitals, prisons, and other institutions.
Dear Friends,

The 120,000 libraries of all types across the U.S.—public, school, academic, government, special—are an essential component of the national information infrastructure, and library workers are critical leaders in their communities. We stand for individual rights, democracy, diversity, intellectual freedom, and social responsibility. We are trusted, helping to address community concerns and needs, and championing our core values. We are safe spaces. We are exciting places.

Libraries support literacy in all its elements. They bring access to basic and emerging technologies and the education for their effective use; provide a wide range of information resources, community knowledge, and expert information professionals; convene people around ideas and creative experiences; serve the homeless, veterans, immigrants, prisoners, and the many individuals seeking to improve their lives. And by doing all of this, 21st-century libraries transform communities, promote economic development, facilitate learning and personal growth, and bridge the digital divide in this country, remaining committed to equity of access.

Libraries are about education, employment, entrepreneurship, empowerment, and engagement. But we are also about the imperatives of individual rights and freedoms, and about helping and supporting the people in our communities.

Thank you for your leadership, innovation, advocacy, and collaboration. Because of you and your expertise, libraries are making a difference in our communities and our country. Our 2017 Annual Report demonstrates how libraries lead.

JIM NEAL  
ALA President  
2017–18

MARY W. GHIKAS  
ALA Executive Director
ADVOCACY

FUND LIBRARIES

ALA led the library community’s fight for federal funding. Thanks to the efforts of thousands of library advocates, Congress passed an FY2018 omnibus spending bill in March 2018 that included significant federal funding increases for our nation’s libraries.

In 2017, the White House proposed eliminating the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and slashed millions of dollars in federal funding for libraries. Twelve months and tireless advocacy efforts later, ALA advocates have helped libraries:

- win $9 million more for IMLS than it had in FY2017, including $5.7 million for the Library Services and Technology Act;
- restore $27 million for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program;
- provide $350 million for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program;
- Congress also appropriated an unexpected $700 million for Title IV education programs, which opens doors to new funding for school libraries.

But the fight for library funding continues. The FY2019 budget released by the White House proposed elimination of IMLS and IAL again. ALA President Neal urged library supporters to “keep reminding Congress that libraries bring leaders and experts together to solve difficult problems, and that we deliver opportunities, from academic success to work readiness.”

CORPORATE COMMITTEE FOR LIBRARY INVESTMENT

Established in 2017, the Corporate Committee for Library Investment (CCLI) is an organization of businesses of all kinds united by the common belief that America’s libraries are business-building, job-creating, workforce-preparing engines of the U.S. economy in every corner of the country. ALA thanks them for their support of America’s libraries.
“IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS HAVE A VOICE, NOT ONLY IN DEFENDING, BUT IN SHAPING NATIONAL POLICIES THAT IMPACT OUR PATRONS, OUR PROFESSION AND OUR NATION. THIS FIRST COHORT EXEMPLIFIES DIVERSITY FROM ACROSS LIBRARY TYPES AND GEOGRAPHY, AS WELL AS A BREADTH OF POLICY EXPERTISE AND PASSION THAT REPRESENTS OUR PROFESSION.”

ALA President Jim Neal, announcing the launch of the 12-member Policy Corps cohort
Now in its third year, the Libraries Transform campaign offers customizable tools for awareness and advocacy, including its signature “Because” statements, which package data-driven messages about the value of libraries into concise, high-impact slogans.

The Indiana Library Federation (ILF) used this Libraries Transform statement in newsletters, social media, and their 2017 Policy Priority Agenda. ILF’s efforts paid off: the Indiana General Assembly committed to providing an additional $1 million to libraries and an additional $2 million to schools to support internet connectivity.

During the year, the campaign featured “Libraries Lead,” and “Libraries Make Leaders” as part of ALA President Jim Neal’s initiatives.

The Indiana Library Federation (ILF) used this Libraries Transform statement in newsletters, social media, and their 2017 Policy Priority Agenda. ILF’s efforts paid off: the Indiana General Assembly committed to providing an additional $1 million to libraries and an additional $2 million to schools to support internet connectivity.

OVER 9,400 LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY ADVOCATES
MORE THAN 4,000,000 REACHED ON FACEBOOK
209,000,000+ MEDIA REACH
#LIBRARIESTRANSFORM USED 30,970 TIMES ON TWITTER
20,435+ TOOLKIT DOWNLOADS
The I Love My Librarian Award gives library users the opportunity to recognize the contributions of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians, honoring them for their work improving lives and transforming communities.

Congratulations to the 10 winners of the 2017 I Love My Librarian Award! More than 1,100 nominators from across the country shared detailed stories regarding how their librarian had made a powerful impact in their community.

Thanks to the generous support of the philanthropic foundation Carnegie Corporation of New York, each winner receives a $5,000 cash award, a plaque, and a travel stipend to attend the awards ceremony and reception in New York City. The New York Public Library and The New York Times serve as co-sponsors of the award.

**JULIE BILL**  
Musicians Institute College of Contemporary Music  
Los Angeles, California

**SHEIKLA BLOUNT**  
Columbiana Middle School  
Columbiana, Alabama

**ANNE CIPOLLA**  
Los Angeles Public Library  
Los Angeles, California

**ROSEMARY COOPER**  
Albert Wisner Public Library  
Warwick, New York

**LAURIE DOAN**  
Tredyffrin Public Library  
Stratford, Pennsylvania

**MARY JO FAYOYIN**  
Savannah State University  
Savannah, Georgia

**NATALIA FERNÁNDEZ**  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon

**MARCIA KOCHEL**  
Druid Hills Middle School  
Decatur, Georgia

**RITA PLATT**  
St. Croix Falls Elementary  
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

**TIMOTHY RYAN**  
Rochester Public Library  
Rochester, New York

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2017 I LOVE MY LIBRARIAN AWARD RECIPIENTS, VISIT ILOVEELIBRARIES.ORG/ILOVEMYLIBRARIAN**
"EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ARE CORE VALUES OF OUR ASSOCIATIONS, AS WE BELIEVE THAT AS A PROFESSION WE MUST CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A MORE EQUITABLE, DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY."

From a joint statement issued in August by ALA, Asian Pacific American Librarians Association, Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Chinese American Librarians Association, the National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking (REFORMA) and the Joint Council of Librarians of Color

2016 Spectrum Scholars participating at the Spectrum Leadership Institute. The 20th anniversary of the Spectrum Scholarship Program was celebrated at the 2017 Annual Conference in Chicago. The Spectrum Scholarship Program is ALA’s national diversity and recruitment effort designed to address the specific issue of under-representation of critically needed ethnic librarians within the profession.
Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden closed the ACRL 2017 conference with stories that inspired and celebrated the value of librarians of all types. More than 5,200 attendees and exhibitors met in Baltimore for the March 22–25 conference.

Audience members react at the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) Award Presentation Program during the ALA Annual Conference. More than 22,700 attendees and exhibitors met in Chicago for the June 22–27 Conference. Bookmarked by two strong female leaders, the conference officially opened with Girls Who Code founder Reshma Saujani, while the closing keynote was presented by former First Lady and Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham Clinton.
## Financial Highlights

### Fiscal Year 2017

#### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,182,336</td>
<td>$530,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term investments</td>
<td>$8,177,379</td>
<td>$14,154,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>$3,683,835</td>
<td>$3,777,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>less allowance for doubtful accounts and returns of $361,730 and $318,091 in 2017 and 2016 respectively</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>$1,718,186</td>
<td>$1,783,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>less reserves of $233,051 and $212,136 in 2017 and 2016 respectively</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants receivable</td>
<td>$237,809</td>
<td>$571,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
<td>$1,069,519</td>
<td>$474,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment less Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>$10,855,967</td>
<td>$11,187,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodwill</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$1,826,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intangible Assets - Less Amortization</td>
<td>$1,045,450</td>
<td>$1,405,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Investments</td>
<td>$43,542,959</td>
<td>$40,015,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$72,513,440</strong></td>
<td><strong>$75,727,502</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$3,191,359</td>
<td>$3,089,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Liabilities</td>
<td>$919,802</td>
<td>$1,061,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>$13,414,337</td>
<td>$13,420,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line of Credit</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Portion of Lease Obligation</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$29,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current portion of Long-Term Debt</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
<td>$1,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Debt Net of Current Portion</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$3,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Current Portion of Accrued Post Retirement Benefits</td>
<td>$11,896,615</td>
<td>$22,243,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,622,113</strong></td>
<td><strong>$45,343,837</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$34,994,051</td>
<td>$25,048,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>$4,382,576</td>
<td>$4,820,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>$514,700</td>
<td>$514,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39,891,327</strong></td>
<td><strong>$30,383,665</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Financial Statement of Operations By Program Activity

#### Operating Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publishing</td>
<td>$16,160,694</td>
<td>$16,923,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Awards</td>
<td>$6,319,708</td>
<td>$6,329,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$8,115,536</td>
<td>$8,432,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products and Promotions</td>
<td>$697,649</td>
<td>$883,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings &amp; Conferences</td>
<td>$14,382,047</td>
<td>$14,974,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Investments</td>
<td>$261,807</td>
<td>$288,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Dividends</td>
<td>$1,659,859</td>
<td>$1,872,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$1,403,736</td>
<td>$1,344,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$49,001,036</strong></td>
<td><strong>$51,049,236</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publishing</td>
<td>$14,848,457</td>
<td>$15,477,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings &amp; Conferences</td>
<td>$13,198,004</td>
<td>$12,993,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products and Promotions</td>
<td>$767,301</td>
<td>$995,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Awards</td>
<td>$6,245,229</td>
<td>$6,361,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Activities</td>
<td>$5,018,284</td>
<td>$5,207,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Activities</td>
<td>$5,926,591</td>
<td>$6,391,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Investments</td>
<td>$1,255,977</td>
<td>$1,255,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$4,362,434</td>
<td>$3,210,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Retirement (Credits)</td>
<td>$(10,237,912)</td>
<td>$1,524,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$41,384,365</strong></td>
<td><strong>$53,317,179</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Operating Revenue (Expenses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publishing</td>
<td>$16,160,694</td>
<td>$16,923,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings &amp; Conferences</td>
<td>$13,198,004</td>
<td>$12,993,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products and Promotions</td>
<td>$767,301</td>
<td>$995,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Awards</td>
<td>$6,245,229</td>
<td>$6,361,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Activities</td>
<td>$5,018,284</td>
<td>$5,207,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Activities</td>
<td>$5,926,591</td>
<td>$6,391,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Investments</td>
<td>$1,255,977</td>
<td>$1,255,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$4,362,434</td>
<td>$3,210,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Retirement (Credits)</td>
<td>$(10,237,912)</td>
<td>$1,524,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Operating Revenue (Expenses)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,616,671</strong></td>
<td><strong>$(2,267,943)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the American Library Association in fiscal year 2016. Our government, corporate, foundation, and individual donors are vital partners as we all work together to ensure that libraries serve as leaders in transforming communities. Your gift to an ALA division, office, or round table enables us to advance our strategic plan goals. Every library is a hub of community engagement, innovation and continual learning, and you are a part of that. Thank you for your many valued contributions to ALA.

**LIBRARY ADVOCATES | 2016–2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$100,000 and above</th>
<th>$10,000 to $49,999</th>
<th>$5,000 to $9,999</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
<td>Baker &amp; Taylor Inc.</td>
<td>Antiquarian Booksellers Assoc. of America, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollar General Literacy Foundation</td>
<td>Biblioboard</td>
<td>Arlington Public Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investor Education Foundation</td>
<td>Demco Incorporated</td>
<td>Candlewick Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gale, a Cengage Company</td>
<td>Elsevier Inc.</td>
<td>Clarivate Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Museum and Library Services</td>
<td>Emerald Group Publishing</td>
<td>Credo Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities</td>
<td>Folger Shakespeare Library</td>
<td>Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithsonian Institution</td>
<td>Greater Washington Educational, Telecommunications Association, Inc.</td>
<td>Harlequin Enterprises Limited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**$50,000 to $99,999**
- Democracy Fund Inc.
- EBSCO Information Services
- Follett School Solutions
- Google, Inc.
- National Institutes of Health Library
- ProQuest
- Rakuten OverDrive

**$5,000 to $9,999**
- Antiquarian Booksellers Assoc. of America, Inc.
- Arizona State University, F.I.R.S.T.
- Arlington Public Library
- Atlas Systems, Inc.
- Candlewick Press
- Clarivate Analytics
- Credo Reference
- Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation
- Harlequin Enterprises Limited
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- InfoGroup Inc.
- Ingram Content Group
- Jonathan A. Hill, Bookseller, Inc.
- Jonathan S. and Patricia G. England Foundation
- Morningstar Inc.
- Nora Roberts Foundation
- Ohio University Libraries
- Preservation Technologies, L.P.
- Robert Bosch Tool Corporation
- Rosen Publishing Group
- Rowman & Littlefield
- Scholastic Inc.
- Simon & Schuster
- The Singer Group, Inc.
- Sisters in Crime Inc.
- Tech Logic Corporation
- Texas A&M University, Sterling C. Evans Library
- Texas Library Association
ALA considers supporters of the Libraries Transform campaign—our Library Champions—among our greatest advocates for the future and sustainability of libraries across the country. When an individual, company, or foundation supports the Libraries Transform campaign, they are supporting ALA’s strategic directions: advocacy, information policy, professional and leadership development, and equity, diversity, and inclusion. The Libraries Transform campaign and Library Champions also support annual initiatives such as Library Card Sign-up Month and National Library Week.

Through their generous support, Library Champions help make transformation possible for the approximately 120,000 libraries across the country. ALA would like to thank the following Library Champions for their contributions to the Libraries Transform campaign.
ALA LEGACY SOCIETY
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS
As of April 2018

Anonymous (4)
William G. Asp**
Susan D. and Roger Ballard**
Robert E. Banks**
Peggy Barber*
Anne K. Beaubien**
John W. and Alice M. Berry**
Katharina Blackstead
Irene L. Briggs**
Francis J. Buckley, Jr.
Michele V. Cloonan & Sidney E. Berger**
Trevor A. Dawes**
Carol Pitts Diedrichs**
Lenore England
Ellen Fader**
Janice Feye-Stukas**
Carole & Stan Fiore*
Shirley Fitzgibbons
Barbara J. Ford*
Charles Garris
Julia Gelfand & David Lang**
Carolyn Giambrone**
Lori Goetsch & Martin Courtois
Ruth I. Gordon* William R. Gordon*
Ellin Greene* Dr. Ken Haycock**
Nan Blaine Hilyard*
Pam Spencer Holley
Suellen Hoy
Alexia Hudson-Ward**
Richard L. Huffine** Dr. Em Claire Knowles**
Nancy Kranich
Charles E. Kratz, Jr. & William Varady, Jr.
John A. Lehner
Sarah Ann Long**
Shirley Loo*
Geri Hansen Mann**
Mike Marlin
Carole McDaniel*
Regina Minnudi
John N. Mitchell*
Virginia B. Moore**
David Mowery**
Jim & Fran Neal**
Robert Newlen
Sylvia K. Norton
Joyce L. Ogburn & Steven E. Schuman
Kimberly Patton**
Mary Jane Petrowski**
Larry Romans & Mike Morgan**
Molly & Ted Raphael**
Jim & Monica Rettig
Frances R. Roscello
Robert F. Rose
April Roy
Patricia Glass Schuman
Helen H. Spalding & Karl F. Johnson**
David & Cindy Steinhoff
Robert & George Stevens**
Peggy Sullivan*
Tori Switzer
Ann & John Symons*
Ruth & Jay Toor*
Betty Tuork*
William L. Turner, Jr.**
Beatriz Pascual Wallace**
Patricia A. Wand**
Marina Welmers**
J. Linda Williams**

In grateful memory: friends whose bequests have been realized since the 1990s
Leo Albert
Marcia Brown
Arthur Curley
Emily Cloyd
Mary Ruth Y. Duncan
Ruth Frame
Eleanore Futas
Florence Gambino
Reiza Gaunt
Joan Giesecke
Helga Herz
Gerald Hodges*
Sara Elizabeth Mitchell
William C. Morris
Jeraline N. Nenney
Margaret “Peg” Oettinger*
Mildred Othmer
Peterson
Lee Wheeler

*CHARTER MEMBER
**American Library Association LEGACY MEMBER/1876 CLUB FOUNDING MEMBERS

Anonymous (1)
Peter D. Coyl
Ann Dutton Ewbank
Maryanne Flynn
John “Mack” Freeman
Edward Andrew Garcia
Loida Garcia-Febo
Peter Hepburn
Andrew Medlar
Sheila O’Donnell
Andrew K. Pace
Gina Persichini
Courtney L. Young
BECAUSE OF YOU

INDIVIDUALS

OFFICERS

James (Jim) Neal  
President  
University Librarian Emeritus  
Columbia University  
New York, NY

Loida A. Garcia-Febo  
President-Elect  
President  
Information New Wave  
New York, NY

Dr. Julie B. Todaro  
Immediate Past President  
Dean, Library Services  
Austin Community College  
Austin, TX

Susan H. Hildreth  
Treasurer  
Professor of Practice  
University of Washington Information School  
Seattle, WA

Mary W. Ghikas  
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Diane R. Chen  
Stratford STEM Magnet School  
Nashville, TN

Trevor A. Dawes  
Vice Provost for Libraries and Museums and May Morris University Librarian  
University of Delaware Library  
Newark, DE

Karen Downing  
Education Librarian  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI

Julius C. Jefferson, Jr.  
Congressional Research Service Library of Congress

Mike L. Marlin  
Director, Braille and Talking Book Library  
California State Library  
Sacramento, CA

Andrew K. Pace  
Executive Director, Community Development  
OCLC  
Dublin, OH

Lessa Kanani’opua Pelayo-Lozada  
Young Readers Librarian  
Palos Verdes Library District  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA

Patricia (Patty) M. Wong  
Director of Library Services  
Santa Monica Public Library  
Santa Monica, CA

RETIREMENT OF KEITH MICHAEL FIELS

Keith Michael Fiels served as ALA Executive Director from 2002 until his retirement in July 2017, making him one of the longest-serving executive directors in the Association’s history. On June 27, 2017, ALA Council passed a resolution recognizing his leadership and his contributions to libraries and librarianship and wishing him well on his retirement.