



Guide to the 2019 Elections

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Introduction



Voting is one of the most important things you can do as a member of the American Library Association. This is because the officers you elect will make a real difference:

The President of the Association will serve as the public voice of the Association, libraries of all types and all across the nation, and of American libraries around the world. The president represents us and the library users we serve, doing hundreds of media interviews and speaking with dozens of groups each year. A new president-elect is elected every year.

The Treasurer helps chart the financial future of the Association, and makes sure that our dues dollars get the maximum “bang for the buck”. The treasurer works closely with member advisory groups and staff to guide the Association through financial ups and financial downs, and helps support our work on behalf of libraries and the public by sustaining a strong Association. The treasurer position appears on the ballot every three years, and this year is a treasurer election year.

The 186 Councilors are responsible for setting the broad policies that shape our Association’s public positions and direction. Whether we’re talking about intellectual freedom, the privatization of libraries or e-books, Councilors weigh all of the factors and make sure that the Association takes stands that are important to libraries and to the public we serve. This year we will be electing 34 individuals to fill vacant three-year Council terms, as well as four individuals to fill mid-term vacancies.

You may also be wondering about “petition candidates.” ALA has a Nominating Committee that slates individuals

to run for the offices of president-elect, treasurer, and councilor-at-large. We also have a process whereby individuals can file petitions to get on the ballot by obtaining a required number of signatures from ALA members. This process is one hallmark of the Association’s openness. Once the petition process is completed, petition candidates and nominated candidates are treated exactly the same and are not differentiated on the ballot.

All of these elected officers represent you and your interests. The good news—You get to pick them! So your vote is very, very important.

This Online Election “Booklet” is designed to provide:

- Some information and insights about the Presidency, Treasurer and Council
- Some Council “myth busters” and some examples of Council’s recent resolutions relating to libraries
- Easy-to-find information about the candidates
- Voting instructions and timeline.

Reviewing candidate information and voting does take some time, but we hope that you will join the members who understand that their vote really does shape the future. So get out and vote!

Mary W. Ghikas
Interim Executive Director
American Library Association

The ALA President

The individual elected to the position of ALA President serves three years on the ALA Executive Board: One year as President-elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

The role of the ALA President is to be the Association's chief spokesperson and to work closely with the ALA's Executive Director in identifying and promoting library issues nationwide and internationally. The ALA President is recognized as the Association's leader by its members. He/she is also vital to the governance of the Association and serves as presiding officer at Executive Board, Council, and Membership meetings.

Throughout this three-year term, the individual promotes ALA's programs, priorities, and key messages through attendance at various state, national, and international library association meetings, as well as with the media.

They lead the Association in planning for the future and work closely with members to ensure that their ideas and concerns help drive the overall direction of the Association.

The ALA President is also a member, ex officio with vote, of the Board of Trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation. They also serve as the President of the ALA-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

Based on the experience of successful past ALA presidents, this position is equal to at least a half-time job.

During the year as President-elect, this individual serves as spokesperson for the Association in the absence of the president or when asked to do so. They also represent the Association at meetings, conferences, receptions, legislative hearings, and other events.

Presidential Initiatives

The President may develop presidential initiatives in keeping with the prevailing ALA messages and Strategic Plan. Here are some recent presidential accomplishments:

Loida Garcia-Febo



My service as President of the American Library Association began at the close of the 2018 Annual Conference in New Orleans. Over the past six months I visited libraries and had conversations with library workers across the USA and other countries. As I wrote in [Serving with Love](#), my recent column for American Libraries magazine (AL), the renewed love for the communities we serve, makes me feel hopeful about the future of libraries. My other columns for AL include [Libraries=Strong Communities](#), [From Local to Global](#), and [Immerse Yourself in Wellness](#).

These six months have been full of inspiring conversations about serving communities during my [National Library Tour](#) to advocate for libraries which so far has included [Pikes Peak Library District](#) in CO, [Cambridge Public Library](#), Harvard and MIT Libraries in MA, [Cranston High School East](#) in RI, Seattle Public Library in WA, and North Miami Public Library in FL. My Global Tour which includes ALA's long standing commitments in other countries, included keynotes at the Guadalajara and Sharjah book fairs. It was very special to be the first ALA President to speak at the European Union Parliament to advocate for libraries.

I loved to speak at conferences in Ohio, Kentucky, Georgia, Missouri, Oregon, the New England Library Association Conference in RI, and the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in NM.

My advocacy efforts include revamping the Advocacy University website and a video series on using storytelling to effectively impact library advocacy at ala.org/advocacy.

In addition to revamping the ALA-APA Wellness Website with new information on eight wellness area, we coordinated a program for Midwinter: A Native Perspective on Trauma: Bridging Past, Present, and Possibilities. Next, webinars on microaggressions and a wellness pre-conference at the annual conference.

I am committed to providing library professionals with resources that support equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). News release on EDI efforts, here and another release, here ALA president reminds members of professional EDI tools to address microaggressions, quash racial profiling.

My Midwinter President's Program speaker, Dr. Robin DiAngelo, discussed themes that should help us to understand what people can do to engage more constructively in conversations about racism. Videos on how to incorporate the EDI principles are underway.

Our 'I am ALA' spotlight highlights international members: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/i-am-ala-international-spotlight>. Our webinars on international issues are available here: <http://www.ala.org/rt/irrt/initiatives>.

I am grateful to library workers, library advocates, my Advisory Board, ALA Executive Board and staff members for their collaboration and support.

Jim Neal



The overarching theme for 2017-18 president James (Jim) Neal's year was **LIBRARIES TRANSFORM: LIBRARIES LEAD**. There are five key components building on excellent work already advancing across the Association:

- **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**—Neal is focusing on outreach and pipeline development in high schools and colleges; expanding support for scholarship programs such as Spectrum; creating resident positions through the new Diversity Alliance; expanding financial support for attendance and participation in conferences; and creating new leadership development opportunities.
- **Leadership Development Programs**—In this area, Neal plans to evaluate, expand and improve the wide range of leadership development programs across the Association, aimed at strengthening professional leadership in our institutions and organizations, in our communities, in our profession and the Association both domestically and internationally.

- **Advocacy/Activism for Library Support and Information Policies**—Neal has formed a 12-member "ALA Policy Corps" cohort of library and information professionals who have a deep and sustained knowledge of national and public policies in areas key to ALA's strategic plans. These individuals will have a voice in defending as well as shaping national policies that impact library patrons, the profession and the nation.
- **Partnerships and Working Relationships**—Activities will take place to build expanded and more robust collaboration with organizations like the Library of Congress, national libraries, IMLS, Digital Public Library of America, etc. to advance our shared interests and clout and to develop cooperative programs and activities.
- **School Libraries and Knowledge Literacy**—Neal's goal is to continue advocating for school libraries as foundational to the health of our work to prepare students who are college and career ready.

Julie Todaro



To further the success of ALA's public awareness campaign, **Libraries Transform**, 2016-17 president Julie Todaro's **Libraries Transform: The Expert in the Library** initiative focused on the librarian.

Teams from all sectors of the library world—academic, public, school, and special libraries—worked together to find and create the best materials to design a 21st-century human resources "playbook" for the librarian of the future. This included value statements; core competencies; job descriptions and job titles; competencies for multiple levels of positions; recommended competencies matched to training and continuing education; and more.

Along with **Libraries Transform: The Expert in the Library**, there was a special emphasis on book clubs with content available on a new **Book Club Central** website and in various programs at the 2017 Annual Conference.

In addition, Todaro created the 45-115 ALA Federal Initiative (45th US President-115th Congress), to promote our vision and national agenda to leading federal policymakers and to position US libraries and library professionals as valuable assets and team members in the setting of federal policy and the advancement of national goals for both the Administrative and Legislative branches. The 45-115 ALA Federal Initiative intends to highlight and strengthen library community efforts to communicate the value of libraries.

Sari Feldman



With generous support from Overdrive, On October 29, 2015, 2015-16 president Sari Feldman launched Libraries Transform, ALA's multi-year public awareness campaign. Its ultimate goal is to increase funding support for libraries and advance information policy issues in alignment with ALA advocacy goals.

Libraries Transform focuses on the one main idea that libraries today are less about what they *have* for people

and more about what they do *for* and *with* people. The campaign's broad objectives are to:

- increase awareness of and support for the transforming library;
- shift perception of library from “obsolete” or “nice to have” to essential;
- energize library professionals and build external advocates to influence local, state and national decision makers.

Visit www.librariestransform.org for more information.

This Year's Candidates

Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., Section Head, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, and Lance Werner, Executive Director, Kent District Library, Comstock Park, Mich., are the candidates for the 2020-21 presidency of the American Library Association (ALA).

Julius Jefferson



An active member of ALA for 15 years, Jefferson currently serves on and has been a member of the ALA Council since 2011, and most recently completed a 3-year term on the ALA Executive Board (2015-18). He has also served on a number of critical committees, including the Finance and Audit Committee (2017-18), the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (2014-18),

the Intellectual Freedom Committee (2010-14) serving as the 2010-11 chair, and is currently chair of the Chapter Relations Committee, as well as on numerous other committees and task forces of the association.

Jefferson is an active member of a number of ALA-affiliated entities, including the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA), the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (which will become part of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) effective Sept. 1), International Relations Round Table, the Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA) and the Asian/Pacific Librarians Association (APALA).

In addition to his service to the American Library Association, Jefferson has held a seat on the board of the Freedom to Read Foundation (2012-16) serving as

the 2013-16 president; served as president of the DC Library Association (2015); and served on the board of the BCALA (2007-09). He is the recipient of several awards, including BCALA Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Award (2013), BCALA Appreciation Award (2010), and Congressional Research Service Special Achievement Award (2010).

An often called upon authority/speaker on issues of importance to library workers, Jefferson has appeared on a number of media outlets, including National Public Radio. He is co-editor of *The 21st-Century Black Librarian in America: Issues and Challenges* and is often sought as a speaker on library-related issues such as diversity, leadership and professional development.

"It is an honor to stand as a candidate for ALA President," said Jefferson. "I look forward to being a champion for library workers who should be recognized and celebrated for the value they bring to the communities they serve. I am also enthusiastic about advocating for a healthy library economy, creating strong financial support for libraries. The significance of ALA is the instrumental role our members perform in our communities. As ALA President I will seek to ensure that all voices are valued so together we can transform lives."

Jefferson holds a BA in History from Howard University and an MLS from the University of Maryland.

Lance Werner



Werner has also been an ALA member for 10 years and is an active member of the Public Library Association (PLA) and the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) and is a member of the new [ALA Policy Corps](#).

Werner has held numerous positions in the Michigan library community, including chairing the Michigan Library Association Legislative Committee (2015-16), serving as president of the Lakeland Library Cooperative (2015-16), and president of the Michigan Library Association (2012-13). He is currently a Fellow at the Michigan Political Leadership Program and serves on the Advisory Board of the Wayne State University School of Library and Information Science Advisory Board (2015-present).

Werner has received various awards and honors, including: *Library Journal* Librarian of the Year (2018), Michigan Library Association Librarian of the Year (2017), Joey Rodger Leadership Award from the Urban Libraries Council (2017), Wayne State University Distinguished

Alumni Award (2017). He has received special tributes from the Michigan Secretary of State (2018), Michigan Legislature (2017) and was named a Wayne State University Rising Star (2017), *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker Change Agent (2016) and received the Capital Area Michigan Works New Kid on the Block Award (2010).

“The world is rapidly changing, making this an exciting time to help libraries because their role has never been more important than it is now,” says Werner. “While technology and politics attract a lot of attention, I believe that people and relationships are the core of libraries. Working with people at all levels of academic, public and special services libraries is very rewarding to me because of our common goal to transform lives. Additionally, I’ve become involved with advocacy for libraries in Washington DC because it’s important to engage stakeholders at all levels. I find that it’s best to engage stakeholders in ways that enable them to become part of the solution. This creates win/win situations for everyone.”

Werner holds an MLIS from Wayne State University as well as a Juris Doctorate from Michigan State University College of Law.

Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates’ Forum at the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed on [ALA’s YouTube Channel](#).

The ALA Treasurer

The individual elected to the position of ALA Treasurer will serve three years on the ALA Executive Board (2020-2023). The role of the ALA Treasurer is to:

- Recommend ALA financial policy to the Executive Board
- Approve elements of financial plans
- Suggest measures to build financial resources
- Review annual budget performance and recommend budget changes to the Executive Board
- Review the audit process and monitors the audit findings and recommendations
- Provide the Executive Board with interpretation of financial data needed for decisions
- Recommend to Council the approval of the annual estimate of income
- Provide input and raise questions on the preliminary Annual Budget presented by the Budget Analysis and Review Committee
- Assist in the selection of financial goals
- Provide guidance in program planning and budget analysis.
- Create and provide financial reports to members and committees, etc. on ALA's financial status
- Monitor the Operating Agreement for Council
- Advise units on fiscal matters
- Recommend financial planning for the Association
- Serve as a member of the ALA Endowment Trustees

This Year's Candidates

Maggie Farrell, dean of university libraries, University of Nevada Las Vegas and Andrew K. Pace, executive director, technical research, at OCLC in Dublin, Ohio, is the candidate for treasurer of the American Library Association (ALA) for 2019-2022.

Maggie Farrell



A member of ALA for 30 years, Farrell is currently chair of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC). She served on ALA Council as Councilor-at-Large (2004-2007) and as ACRL Division Councilor (2010-2013). She is an active member of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA),

and United for Libraries, as well as the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT), Government Documents Round Table (GODORT), Social

Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT), the Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT), and the International Relations Round Table (IRRT). Farrell is also a member of REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking.

In addition to her ALA service, Farrell has been active in numerous state associations, including Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming. She has also served on the Board of Trustees of OCLC.

Farrell was appointed by the Wyoming governor to the Wyoming Commission on Judicial Conduct and

Ethics (2018-2013), serving as the 2013-14 chair. She was named an American Library Association/United States Information Agency Library Fellow in 1993 and participated in Leadership Wyoming 2006-2007.

“ALA and the library profession are transforming to new, exciting ways to connect with our communities and advance libraries,” said Farrell, “but we need an organizational structure that supports professional development, networking, research, data, and advocacy. As ALA imagines new ways of working and connecting,

we require a financial infrastructure that supports ALA’s vision and work. As treasurer, I would work with members, divisions, roundtables, units, Council and the Executive Board to provide diverse perspectives in creating financial sustainability to ensure relevancy for our association supporting libraries.”

Farrell holds a BA from the University of Missouri Kansas City, an MLS from the University of Arizona, and an MPA from Arizona State University.

Andrew Pace



A member of ALA for 23 years, Pace is currently a member of the ALA Executive Board (2016-19) and has served on ALA Council as Councilor-at-Large (2012-present). He is an active member of the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA), the Public Library Association (PLA), the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services Association (ALCTS), the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and the Library Information and Technology Association (LITA), serving as its president 2008-09.

Pace has been a member of the Finance and Audit Committee since 2016, and has served on several other committees, including Committee on Organization, Nominating Committee, Committee on Appointments, and *American Libraries* Advisory Committee, where he served as the 2010-12 chair. He has held numerous positions within LITA, including the LITA Budget Review Committee (2007-10). He is a current member of the Library History Round Table,

the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, the Freedom to Read Foundation and Friends of the Book Art Press.

In 2006 Pace was named a Frye Leadership Institute Fellow (now known as the Leading Change Institute) and was named Librarian of the Year by Data Research Associates in 2002.

“I’m honored to have been selected by the nominating committee and humbled by the work ahead,” said Pace. “If elected, I look forward to following through on the exciting transformations being planned by the ALA Executive Board, Council, Divisions, Chapters, Affiliates, and the membership at large. As treasurer, I want to do more than simply present financial data to the membership. I want to bring my library, business, and volunteer experience to bear on the issues facing libraries, library workers, and library users. ALA isn’t at a cross-road, it’s on a launch pad that will help define its future for the next 150 years. I look forward to being part of the diverse team that defines that future.”

Pace holds a BA in Rhetoric and Communications Studies from the University of Virginia, and an MSLS from the Catholic University of America.

Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates’ Forum at the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed on [ALA’s YouTube Channel](#).

ALA Council

What is Council?

The Council is the governing body of ALA. It delegates to the divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities within the policies established by Council. Council determines all policies of the Association and its decisions are binding unless set aside by a majority vote in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted.

Council Composition

Council is comprised of 100 councilors-at-large who are elected by the Association membership as provided in Bylaw Article III, Sec. 1(c) and Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(e). The slate of councilor-at-large candidates is determined by the ALA Nominating Committee.

Each division of the Association is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the divisions as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(c).

Each state and territorial chapter is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the chapter as provided by Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(b). Chapter representation is through state chapters unless chapters in a region choose to take representation through that regional chapter. In such case, the regional chapter shall elect one representative from each state or provincial chapter within that regional association. There is no current regional chapter representation.

Round tables with personal membership equal to or greater than one percent of ALA's total personal



membership shall be entitled to elect one councilor each, and the remaining round tables jointly shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of three years by the members of the respective round tables. The membership of the round tables, for purposes of this section, shall be fixed as of August 31st of each year. A councilor elected under this Article shall continue to serve without prejudice to any change that might occur in the size of the membership of their round table as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(d).

Councilors serve three-year terms and may run for subsequent terms by filing a petition which must be signed by at least 25 ALA members in good standing. Petition candidates are placed on the ballot along with candidates selected by the Nominating Committee.

Council Responsibilities

The Council meets four times at both the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. At these meetings, Council may perform any or all of the following duties (this is a partial list):

- Review actions of the ALA Executive Board;
- Receive reports from the ALA President, Executive Director, Treasurer, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and the Endowment Trustees;
- Originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote;

- Establish dues for chapter, organization and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board;
- Establish or discontinue divisions or round tables;
- Determine all Association policies;
- Authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee.

Council “Mythbusters”

Myth: Once you’re on Council, you’re on for life, so what’s the point of voting if the same people keep getting re-elected?

Actually, based on an unofficial census, approximately 26.9% of councilors have served more than four (4) years; and only 6.6% of all councilors between 1992 and the present have served more than nine (9) years. In fact, of the 64 councilors whose terms expire in 2018, only 18 are running for re-election.

Myth: You have to be an ALA member for many many years before you can be elected to Council.

In the past three elections, the average length of ALA membership of those elected to Council was 16 years, with the shortest being one year of membership and the longest being 40 years.

Myth: Councilors get a “free-ride” to Midwinter and Annual Conference.

Not true! ALA does not pay for councilors to attend conferences; in fact, many councilors receive no financial support from their home institutions and have to pay out-of-pocket to attend conferences and serve on the ALA Council.

Myth: Council does not address topics that are pertinent to libraries or the profession.

While it is true that the ALA Council occasionally discusses such matters as war in the Middle East or a crisis in a foreign land, most Council actions relate directly to library issues. Following is a partial list of actions taken by ALA Council in recent years.

In 2016, Council took the following actions:

- A resolution for restoring civil liberties and opposing mass surveillance, which read:
“That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members and the public interest:
 1. urges the President and Congress to amend all germane surveillance-enabling authorities, such as Executive Order 12333, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) as amended, and the USA PATRIOT Act, to:
 - a. require government agencies to obtain judicial warrants before collecting any individual’s personal information from third parties and require court approval for National Security Letters;
 - b. raise the standard for government collection of all records under FISA from “reasonable grounds” to “probable cause” and sunset Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT (commonly known as the “library records” section);
 - c. limit the government’s ability to use information gathered under intelligence authorities in unrelated criminal cases, thereby making it easier to challenge the use of illegally obtained surveillance information in criminal proceedings; and
 - d. prohibit the government from requiring hardware and software companies to deliberately design encryption and other security features to facilitate government access to information otherwise protected by such features;
 2. recommits itself to leadership in the fight for restoration of the public’s privacy and civil liberties through statutory and other legal reforms; and
 3. commends and thanks all parties, both inside and outside of government, involved in developing and securing passage of the USA FREEDOM Act, resulting in movement away from overbroad surveillance laws and practices for the first time in more than a decade.”
- A resolution on replacing the Library of Congress subject heading “Illegal Aliens” with “Undocumented Immigrants,” which read:
“That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members urges the Library of Congress to change the subject heading *Illegal aliens* to *Undocumented immigrants*.”
- A resolution urging immediate ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled, which read: “That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members and the public interest:
 1. calls upon the United States Senate and its committees of jurisdiction to immediately and concurrently take every procedural step possible to both ratify the Marrakesh Treaty and approve, with no amendment whatsoever, the Marrakesh Implementation Act and its associated legislative history text;
 2. urges the House of Representatives and its committee of jurisdiction to take any and all appropriate steps to immediately expedite consideration and passage of the Marrakesh Implementation Act and its associated legislative history text in unamended form; and
 3. encourages the President to publicly speak out, on all appropriate occasions, in support of the foregoing expedited Congressional processes and rapid ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty.”
- A Resolution on equity for school libraries for the Department of Education making rules for ESSA, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:
 1. urges the United States Department of Education to address equity issues while developing the ESSA legislation rules regarding funding and staffing school libraries, and

2. shares the American Association of School Librarians' position statement on an effective school library program with the United States Department of Education."
- A resolution on equity for all in school libraries, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:
 1. Endorses the idea that every student have access to a well-funded, effective school library program;
 2. Advocates for equitable access to effective school library programs with a certified school librarian, personalized learning environments, and equitable access to resources;
 3. Works with ALA research committees to document the impact on students of well-funded, effective school library program, particularly in minority and rural communities;
 4. Advocates for equitable access to well-curated, high-quality, and accessible electronic resources;
 5. Encourages state departments of education and coalition partners to establish and maintain funding of digital databases and shared resources to provide greater equity of access in all states and regions; and
 6. Continues to encourage school librarians to apply for Innovative Approaches to Literacy grants."
- In 2017, Council voted on:
- A resolution to amend the ALA Strategic Plan by adding a new Strategic Direction: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion.
 - A resolution establishing family/caregiver status as a protected class in ALA volunteer work, which read:
 1. Establishes "Family/Caregiver Status" as a protected class within the organization for purposes of volunteer work by members with the following provisions:
 - No section of the organization shall use family status to jeopardize or sideline an individual's path as a volunteer in the organization.
 - Family status shall extend to any member's children, spouse/partner, parents, or any other family member in a traditional or non-traditional sense.
 - While an individual's family status shall not be used to determine if a person shall be chosen for a committee or volunteer opportunity, the organization shall make every effort to make appropriate accommodations for persons with family status issues.
 - While periods of appointment may not be changeable particularly for elected positions within the organization, absences at meetings will not be grounds for immediate loss of position.
 2. Values the contributions of its volunteer members and recognizes the importance of their families as motivators and assistants in the individual's work in the organization.
 - A resolution on gun violence affecting libraries, library workers, and library patrons, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA) on behalf of its members:
 1. grieves with the families and friends of all those victimized by gun violence;
 2. calls upon the Directors of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to:
 - publicly announce that their respective agencies will resume funding non-political, comprehensive research on causes and effects of gun violence in the United States; ensure that such research, and any uses to which such research is put by the NIH or CDC, does not violate the 'Dickey Amendment' prohibition on the advocacy or promotion of gun control; and

- sponsor robust research for the dual purposes of ‘preventing firearm injuries’ and identifying ‘ways to prevent firearm deaths...without encroaching on the rights of legitimate gun owners’;
- 1. encourages libraries to collaborate with appropriate local agencies to provide training and education for library workers related to the presence of guns in the workplace; and
- 2. encourages libraries to support community discussions around all aspects of guns in society.”
- A resolution on access to accurate information, which read: “The American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. reaffirms the resolution on disinformation, media manipulation and the destruction of public information approved in 2005;
 2. opposes the use of disinformation, media manipulation, and other tactics that undermine access to accurate information;
 3. encourages its members to help raise public consciousness regarding the many ways in which disinformation and media manipulation are used to mislead the public;
 4. urges librarians and library workers to actively seek and provide sources of accurate information that counter disinformation;
 5. supports the critical role of librarians and library workers of all types of libraries in teaching information literacy skills that enable users to locate information and evaluate its accuracy;
 6. will pursue partnerships with news organizations, journalism institutions, and other allies to promote access to accurate information and defend the role of journalists and the free press in American society.”
- A resolution on Global Climate Change and a Call for Support for Libraries and Librarians, which read: “The American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. recognizes that human interactions and activities affect the dynamics of Earth’s climate system, and that there is a large and growing base of factual scientific data, information, and literature providing robust and accurate STE3M3 (scientific, technical, environmental/economic/ethical, medical/mathematical/management) evidence of global climate change;
 2. affirms a commitment to the preservation and availability of this factual scientific data, information, and literature, both from government and citizen sources; and
 3. supports librarians, library workers, and educators, as they are guided by the *ALA Policy Manual*, in their roles for providing rigorous, robust, and accurate reference and referral services; access to data (both historical and current) and information resources, literature, and collections; and instruction in their use in assisting climate stakeholders’ and library users’ greater understanding of global climate change.
- A resolution on Libraries as Responsible Spaces, which stated that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members,
 1. urges libraries to embrace the mantle of responsible spaces by adopting and enforcing user behavior policies that protect patrons and staff from harassment while maintaining our historic support for the freedom of speech;
 2. encourages libraries to develop community partnership programs with and promote services to underrepresented and unacknowledged community members;

3. encourages libraries to sponsor programs fostering meaningful and respectful dialogue in community; and
4. directs the Committee on Diversity, with the support of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services and the ODLOS Advisory Committee, to develop, provide, and disseminate materials and programming for libraries that deter hate, foster community, and oppose bigotry or oppression against any group.

In 2018, Council voted on:

- A resolution to Honor African Americans Who Fought Library Segregation, which stated that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. acknowledges the fundamental injustice, cruelty, and inhumanity of racially segregated libraries;
 2. apologizes to African Americans for wrongs committed against them in segregated public libraries;
 3. commends African Americans who risked their lives to integrate public libraries for their bravery and courage in challenging segregation in public libraries and in forcing public libraries to live up to the rhetoric of their ideals;
 4. welcomes all African Americans to libraries, recognizing in particular those who were forced to use segregated libraries;
 5. encourages libraries to defend, in their policies and in their actions, the ALA Code of Ethics principle 1—"We provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests;" and will review policy documents and internal procedures to ensure Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) principles are reflected throughout; and be it further resolved that this resolution be

printed in full in American Libraries and publicized widely via all media channels.

And at the 2019 Midwinter Meeting, the Council took the following actions:

- A resolution for the Adoption of Sustainability as a Core Value of Librarianship, which stated that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. shall define sustainability using the "triple bottom line" conceptual framework: "To be truly sustainable, an organization or community must embody practices that are environmentally sound AND economically feasible AND socially equitable."
 2. adopt "*Sustainability*," as defined above, as a core value of librarianship.
 3. evolve accreditation standards to ensure the topic of sustainability is an inherent element in library school curriculum.
 4. provide ALA members with the necessary knowledge and resources to inspire, cultivate and encourage active leadership in the application of the triple bottom line framework to guide decisions for the future of our society.
- A resolution on Eliminating Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity, which stated that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. adds a statement to the Policy Manual that establishes that "The American Library Association asserts that imposition of monetary library fines creates a barrier to the provision of library and information services.";
 2. urges libraries to scrutinize their practices of imposing fines on library patrons and actively move towards eliminating them; and
 3. urges governing bodies to fund [of] libraries [to strengthen funding support for libraries] so they are not dependent on monetary fines as a necessary source of revenue.

- 4. establish a working group to develop information resources, including strategies and tips, for libraries interested in abolishing fines, with a report due to Council at the 2019 Annual Conference
- A resolution in support of Civil rights Protections for People of Diverse Gender Identities, which stated that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 - 1. encourages libraries to defend those civil rights protections, in their policies, procedures, and their actions, in accordance with the first principle of the *ALA Code of Ethics*: “We provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests.”
 - 2. encourages libraries to create welcoming and inclusive spaces to meet the information needs of people of diverse gender identities, as well as create inclusive programs, projects, and events to support and demonstrate equality, inclusion and respect.
 - 3. reviews ALA policy documents and internal procedures to ensure Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) principles are reflected throughout and broadly communicated to the membership broadly; and be it further resolved that this resolution be printed in full in *American Libraries* and publicize widely via all media channels.
 - 4. creates avenues within existing ALA structures to highlight model policies as well as identify model training and educational opportunities for library staff and administrations that encourage the creation of all-inclusive spaces and provide an understanding of bias.

The 2019 Council Ballot

This year, 80 candidates are running to fill 34 vacant Councilor-at-Large seats. [Candidate biographies](#) are available on the ALA website (PDF document).

The biographies are also available in a [searchable Excel spreadsheet](#) format on the ALA election website.

How Do I Vote?

To be eligible to vote, individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31, 2019. In mid-February, members received notification by email confirming their eligibility to vote.

In 2008, the American Library Association began holding its election exclusively online. The only exception is for members with disabilities and without Internet access. These individuals may obtain a paper ballot by contacting ALA customer service at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5. Those without Internet access at home or at work can easily access the election site by visiting their local public (or in many instances, academic or school) libraries. The ballot

can also be accessed on your Smartphone and other devices.

The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. Central Time on Monday, March 11. Over the three-day period of March 11–13, voters will be notified by email and will be provided with a unique URL and information about how to vote.

The polls close on Wednesday, April 3 at 11:59 p.m. Central Time. On April 10, the Election Committee will meet at the ALA headquarters to certify the election. Election results will be released following that meeting.

Interested in Running for Office?

The ALA Nominating Committee nominates candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect (annually), for the position of treasurer (every three years), and for members-at-large of Council (annually). ALA elections are held in the spring of each year with the results announced in the second Wednesday in April.

About the Nominations Process

The 2020 Nominating Committee began its work of selecting potential candidates for the 2020 ALA elections for President-elect and Councilor-at-Large at the 2019 Midwinter Meeting. The members of the Nominating Committee for the 2020 ALA Election are:

Emmanuel L. Faulkner, Sr. (Chair), Librarian, Baltimore City Public School System, Baltimore, MD, (443)642-4511, efaulkner@bcps.k12.md.us

Matthew P. Ciszek, Library Director, Penn State Behrend, Erie, PA, (814) 898-6377, mpc16@psu.edu

Carol Edwards, Independent Book Reviewer, Littleton, CO, (303) 794-1236, edwarc48@gmail.com

Michelle Frisque, Chief of Technology, Content & Innovation, Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL, (312) 747-4250, frisquem@gmail.com

Jill Gengler, Director of Alumni Affairs, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL, (217) 265-6252, gengler@illinois.edu

LeRoy LaFleur, Associate Director of Library Services, Ginn Library, Tufts University, Medford, MA, (617) 627-0854, leroy.lafleur@tufts.edu

Janice S. Lewis, Director, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, lewisja@ecu.edu

Jacquie Samples, Head, Metadata & Discovery Strategy, Duke University Libraries, Durham, NC, jacqueline.samples@duke.edu

Pamela Sandlian Smith, Director, Anythink Libraries, Thornton, CO, (303) 405-3299, psmith@anythinklibraries.org

You may contact any of the committee members if you are interested in being considered for candidacy in the 2020 election or if you would like to recommend someone for consideration.

Petition Candidates

Individuals who are not selected by the Nominating Committee may run for office by completing a petition form with the signatures of no fewer than 25 ALA current personal members for the position of Councilor-at-Large, or 100 personal members for the positions of President-elect or Treasurer. Petitions must be created electronically by [logging-in to the ALA website](#).

The petition form will become available on October 2, 2019 and will close on December 4, 2019.

All candidates, whether nominated or running by petition, must complete a Candidate Biographical Information form. The information provided on this form provides the basis for the ballot. Once on the ballot, there is no designation as to whether a candidate has been nominated or is running by petition.

Further Information

For further information about running for office, general election information, and links to press releases and various forms, please go to: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection>.