130+ years of history
62,000 personal members
3000 organizational members
270 staff in 4 locations
11 Divisions
25 Offices
18 Round Tables
And over 1100+ Committees

Confused?
Let us help!
About ALA

What are you interested in?

Governance

Groups – Get Involved!

Calendar & Events

Tools

Mentors
What are YOU interested in?

- Areas of Librarianship
- Issues in Libraries
- Advocacy
- Getting Involved with ALA
Areas of Librarianship

- Academic Libraries
- Public Libraries
- School Libraries
- Special Libraries
- Support Staff
Issues in Libraries

- Diversity
- Outreach
- Information & Technology
- Literacy
- Rural Libraries
- Management
Advocacy

- Intellectual Freedom
- International Issues
- Copyright Protection
- Washington Office

ALA Interests
Getting Involved with ALA

- Find a Division
- Find a Roundtable
- Join an ALA Committee
- Go to Connect!
- New Member Round Table (NMRT)
Groups – Get Involved!

Divisions

Round Tables

ALA & Joint Committees
(All others found under Divisions/Round Tables/Offices)

Offices
Calendar & Events

American Libraries Calendar

Affiliates Conference & Event Calendar

ALA
Mentors

- ALA International Mentor Program
- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Mentors
- Science & Technology Mentors from ACRL
- Library Administration & Management Association (LAMA) Mentor Program
- New Members Round Table (NMRT) Mentor Program
- Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Mentor Program
Governance

Finance Hierarchy
Endowment Trustees
Council Committees
Council Roles
Executive Committees
Executive Board Roles
Executive Director Roles
President Roles
Treasurer Roles
ALA Governance
Hierarchy

- ALA Membership (All 62,000 members of the association)
- Council (193 elected officials. Determines ALA’s policies.)
  - Executive Board (Manages established policies. Acts for Council when Council cannot meet)
  - Advisory Groups
    - Council Committees (assigned tasks by Council and can make motions for Council’s consideration)
    - Association Committees
    - Divisions
    - Round Tables
  - Executive Director (Council assigns tasks to, ED then delegates tasks to ALA staff hierarchy)
    - ALA Staff (Employees of ALA. Each ALA Committee & RT has an ALA staff liaison)
  - Ad hoc Task Forces (Temporary groups created to aid Council in addressing specific issues)

How can regular members affect ALA policy?
- By communicating with Council via phone, email, etc.
- Committee Participation
- Attending membership meetings at conferences
- Joining Ad hoc Task Forces
- Participation in any advisory groups listed below

Notes on ALA Staff
ALA Staff are usually also ALA members.
Due to internal ALA policy, staff are restricted from "certain modes of speech":
  • No advocating for candidates for ALA elections (the "biggie")
  • No "leading" advocating for the association to perform certain activities
Executive Board Roles

- The ALA Executive Board consists of the president, president-elect, immediate past president, treasurer, executive director, and eight members elected by Council from its membership for three-year terms.
- The Executive Board acts for Council in the administration of established policies and programs and is the body that manages within this context the affairs of the Association, delegating management of day-to-day operation to the Association’s executive director.
- The Executive Board makes recommendations with respect to policy and operation.
- Functions as Council’s Executive Committee
Executive Director Roles
Executive Board

Ex Officio*
- ALA Council
- Committee on Appointments
- Executive Board

Collaborates with
- ALA Department Heads

* To be automatically appointed to a position

Governance
President Roles
Executive Board

Serves on:
- ALA Council
- ALA Executive Board
- Committee on Appointments
- President of ALA-APA
- Planning and Budget Assembly
- Board of Trustees of FTRF

Approves/Appoints:
- Minutes of Council Meetings
- Persons to Fill Vacancies in Council

Governance
Treasurer Roles

Executive Board

Serves on

- Executive Committee
- BARC (Budget Analysis & Review Committee)
- Endowment Trustees
- Chair of Budget & Audit Committee
Executive Committees

Sub-committees of the Executive Board

- **Executive Committee**
  - Made up of ALA’s Past-President, President (chair of the Committee), President-Elect, Treasurer, Executive Director (ex-officio), and 1-2 at-large* members
  - Members assist the full Executive Board in fulfilling its duties to Council and act as public representatives of the Board and the rest of the association

- **Finance and Audit**
  - Works with BARC and the Endowment trustees to handle the association’s fiscal matters
  - Made up of Executive Board’s Treasurer, the Chair of BARC, and 3 other Executive Board members

- **Endowment Trustees**
  - Not technically a committee, but three of the trustees are appointed by the Executive Board
  - Trustees hold, invest, reinvest, or disburse endowment funds as directed by the Executive Board.

- **Board Effectiveness**
  - Includes an officer and 3 members of the Board. Reviews the Executive Board’s performance and suggests improvements to that effect.

- **Partnership & Sponsorship**
  - Works with ALA Development Office to develop relationships with sponsors and external organizations
  - Consists of 3 Board Members

*Definition: To represent a section of the association*
Council Roles

• 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 with policy established by Council.
Endowment Trustees

- The Trustees have the authority to hold, invest, reinvest and disburse endowment funds as directed by the Executive Board; recommend endowment operating procedures and assumptions to the Executive Board; select endowment investment managers; report endowment status to the Executive Board, Council and Membership. There are three of these trustees at any given time.

Membership

- One of the 3 trustees is appointed by Executive Board
- Executive Board Treasurer (non-voting, ex-officio)
Finance Hierarchy

Council
- Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC)
- Endowment Trustees
- Division Board of Directors
- Planning & Budget Assembly

Executive Board
- Finance & Audit Committee

Governance
Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC)

• To review the proposed budget, as forwarded by the ALA Executive Board, in the context of the ALA strategic plan, annual priorities and budget assumptions; to review the financial performance of the Association and the budget impact of potential actions of ALA Council; to make budget recommendations to the ALA Executive Board and to report to Council regarding budget analysis and process.
Committee on Committees (COC)

- Article III, Sec. 6 (c): Sec. 6 (c) Such committee shall nominate annually candidates for three members of the Executive Board for three-year terms, and every third year two members of the Executive Board for three-year terms for election by the Council from among the members of the Council.* Article VIII, Sec. 2 (b): Sec. 2 (b) Committees of Council. (i) Appointments to the Committees of the Council will be made by the Council Committee on Committees. (See Bylaw, Article III, Section 6(a), 6(b), and 6(c), and Article VIII, Section 2(b)(i).)
Council Orientation

- To develop and carry out a mentoring and orientation program for new and continuing councilors and to manage the Council suite or lounge at the Midwinter Meeting and at the Annual Conference.
Committee on Diversity (COD)

• To provide a forum to research, monitor, discuss, and address national diversity issues and trends.
• To analyze and address the impact of diversity issues and trends on the profession, and the relevance and effectiveness of library leadership, library organizations and library services to an increasingly diverse society.
• To provide to Council and ALA membership information, needed for the establishment of ALA policies, actions and initiatives related to national diversity issues and trends.
• To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA membership and the recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce in the profession as a whole.
• To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA leadership and leadership development.
• To facilitate a broad awareness of how and why diversity is unequivocally linked to all ALA areas of concern such as intellectual freedom, education and continual learning, literary and equity of access.
• To work collaboratively with the ALA president, ALA Council, ALA Divisions, ALA Offices and Units, ALA Round Tables, ALA Committees, and ALA Affiliates.
• To serve in an advisory capacity to the director of the Office for Diversity to (1) support the role of the Office for Diversity as the clearinghouse for ALA’s diversity resources, contacts, and information exchange, (2) monitor the implementation, progress and ongoing evaluation of ALA national diversity initiatives and programs, and (3) plan, support and encourage conference programs, activities and special events.
Committee on Education (COE)

- To have responsibility for developing and recommending the Association’s policies related to the full spectrum of education for all library and information studies personnel.
- To assure that the Association actively solicits from its members information about the condition, currency, relevance, and type of education necessary to improve current and future library and information services. This information will be shared with the ALA Committee on Accreditation, the ALA membership and its units, and allied professional organizations.
- To coordinate recommendations and policies concerning education promulgated by ALA divisions, round tables, and other units to eliminate conflict or unnecessary duplication and to work closely with these units through the Education Assembly.
- To maintain communication and rapport nationally and internationally, as appropriate, with other organizations concerned with library and information studies.
- To represent the Association nationally and internationally to organizations and agencies outside the field of library and information studies that are concerned with professional education and staff preparation.
- To identify needed education initiatives in library and information studies and to help promote their accomplishments.
- To identify needed research concerning education for library and information studies and to help promote its accomplishment.
- To act as a clearinghouse of information on all aspects of education for library and information studies, for the profession and the public-at-large.
Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC)

- To recommend such steps as may be necessary to safeguard the rights of library users, libraries, and librarians, in accordance with the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Library Bill of Rights as adopted by the ALA Council. To work closely with the Office for Intellectual Freedom and with other units and officers of the Association in matters touching intellectual freedom and censorship.
International Relations Committee (IRC)

- To have full responsibility for the Association’s international relations programs and initiatives; to work with the International Relations Round Table, division international relations committees, and other units of the Association in promoting the exchange of professional information, techniques and knowledge, as well as personnel and literature between and among libraries and individuals throughout the world; to advocate the recognition of the international aspects of the library profession and its priority within ALA.
- To recommend international relations policy for Council approval and to take the necessary steps for implementation; to make recommendations to the ALA Executive Board for appointments or nominations to international organizations (IFLA, etc.) and other agencies concerned with international library and information services (IREX, etc.).
- To administer programs of the Association focused on international relations (awards, recognition, exchanges).
- To promote program and publication activities on international relations by the Association and its divisions and committees.
- To maintain communication, when appropriate, with other library and information service organizations concerned with international relations.
- To represent the Association’s view to organizations and agencies outside the ALA that are concerned with international relations of libraries; to encourage active participation by U.S. librarians in the work of international organizations.
Committee on Legislation (COL)

- To have full responsibility for the Association's total legislative program on all levels—Federal, State, and local.
- To recommend legislative policy and programs for Council approval and to take the necessary steps for implementation.
- To protest any legislative or executive policy adversely affecting libraries.
- To seek rulings and interpretations of laws and regulations affecting the welfare and development of libraries.
- To represent the ALA before the executive and legislative branches of government as required at all levels.
- To provide a forum within ALA to gather information about needed legislation and to keep all units of the Association informed of the ALA legislative programs.
- To direct the activities of all units of the Association in matters relating to legislation.
Committee on Library Advocacy (COLA)

- To support the efforts of advocates for all types of libraries; to develop resources, networks and training materials for advocates at the local, state and national levels with particular emphasis on the grassroots level; to work closely with the Office for Library Advocacy in collaboration with the Public Awareness Committee, the Chapter Relations Committee, the Committee on Legislation, and other ALA offices, divisions, and Round Tables as well as external groups to integrate advocacy efforts into the overall planning, priorities and policies of the association; and to cultivate future leadership in order to sustain and enhance the advocacy efforts of the association.
Committee on Organization (COO)

- To advise and assist regarding structural and organizational concerns in ALA. To recommend to Council the establishment or discontinuance of divisions, round tables, membership initiative groups, ALA committees, assemblies and joint committees, as the needs of the Association may require. To define the functions of these units, subject to the approval of Council. To recommend to Council the establishment, including the name and size, of other standing committees to consider matters of the Association that require continuity of attention by the members. To recommend to Executive Board the appropriate unit to appoint Official Representatives to outside organizations. To receive notification of the formation of interdivisional committees.
Policy Monitoring Committee

- To monitor the accurate documentation and codification of ALA policy, as determined by formal action of Council; to prepare additions or changes in the ALA Policy Manual following each annual conference and midwinter meeting, as may be required by motions and resolutions adopted by Council.
- To review and advise on all unit organization policies to ensure that they are in compliance with Council approved Association-wide policies.
- To provide oversight by review prior to publication of the written text and Policy Manual numbers prepared by ALA staff and report to Council the accomplishment of Council’s directives.
- To be responsible for keeping the Policy Manual accurate and up to date and to call Council’s attention to out-dated items to be retired from the Manual or gaps in the presentation of Policies. (See ALA Policy 5.6.)
Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)

- The Council Committee on Professional Ethics shall augment the Code of Ethics by explanatory interpretations and additional statements, prepared by this committee or elicited from other units of ALA. When units of the association develop statements dealing with ethical issues, a copy will be sent to the Committee on Professional Ethics for review so that it may be compared to the existing ALA Code of Ethics in order to determine whether or not conflicts occur.
Public Awareness Committee (PAC)

- To develop programs that promote libraries and library issues nationwide. To assist ALA members in promoting their libraries at the local, state and national levels. To work closely with the ALA Public Information Office and ALA officers, committees and units in developing and coordinating promotional and marketing programs and tools for libraries, librarians and ALA, including National Library Week and other national campaigns focused on the continuing support of libraries.
Publishing Committee

• To set the framework within which ALA publishing operates by overseeing the publishing activities in all formats (print, electronic, etc.) of ALA and its Publishing Services Department, by establishing liaisons with the publishing activities of all committees and units of the Association, by educating these committees and units regarding ALA publishing policies and the use of the ALA imprint, and by mediating conflicting publishing policies among these committees and units. To provide budgetary oversight to the ALA Publishing Services Department and make recommendations to appropriate Association budget and planning committees. To recommend policies on publishing products and services for the approval of Council. The ALA Publishing Committee has the responsibility for control of the ALA imprint.

• To implement this Charge, the Publishing Committee will:
  – Set the framework within which ALA publishing operates;
  – Recommend policies on publishing products and services, including the use of the ALA imprint, for the approval of Council;
  – Advise and assist all committees and units of the Association in their publishing activities.
  – Provide budgetary oversight and make recommendations to appropriate Association budget and planning committees.

• The Publishing Committee administers The Carnegie-Whitney Grant.
Resolutions Committee

- The Council Resolutions Committee shall provide an advisory and channeling function for all resolutions presented for Council's consideration, reviewing all resolutions submitted to Council pursuant to the criteria established by Council. (Guidelines for Preparation of Resolutions for Presentation to Council). The committee is also directed to provide consistent, in-depth training for all new members.
Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL)

- To officially represent the diversity of women’s interest within ALA and to ensure that the Association considers the rights of the majority (women) in the library field.
- To promote and initiate the collection, analysis, dissemination, and coordination of information on the status of women in librarianship.
- To coordinate the activities of ALA units that consider questions having special relevance for women.
- To identify lags, gaps, and possible discrimination in resources and programs relating to women.
- To help develop evaluative tools, guidelines, and programs in cooperation with other ALA units designed to enhance the opportunities and the image of women in the library profession, thus raising the level of consciousness concerning women.
- To establish contacts with committees on women within other professional groups and to officially represent ALA concerns at interdisciplinary meetings on women’s equality.
- To provide Council and Membership with reports needed for the establishment of policies and actions related to the status of women in librarianship, and monitor ALA units to ensure consideration of the rights of women.
American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

• The mission of the American Association of School Librarians is to advocate excellence, facilitate change, and develop leaders in the school library media field.
AASL Representatives

- AASL sends representatives to the following groups:

  - ALA Appointments Committee
  - ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group
  - ALA Conference Program Coordinating Team
  - ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  - ALA Membership Promotion Taskforce
  - ALA Professional Ethics Committee
  - ALA Rural, Native & Tribal Librarians Committee
  - ALCTS/CCS Cataloging of Children's Materials Committee
  - ALA Education Assembly
  - ALA Legislation Assembly
  - ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  - ALA Research & Statistics Assembly
  - ASCLA Accessibility Assembly
  - ALA-PIO Carnegie/NY Times I Love My Librarian Award
  - Freedom to Read Foundation
  - National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
  - New Members Round Table
  - Sara Jaffarian Award Committee

AASL Divisions
AASL Sections

- Educators of Library Media Specialists Section (ELMSS)
- Independent Schools Section (ISS)
- Supervisors Section (SPVS)
The general purpose of this section shall be to provide a membership group for the exchange of ideas, for the review and study of curricula, and for the development of research activities for educators in colleges and universities whose programs focus on school library media education and training.
Independent Schools Section (ISS)

- The specific purpose of this section shall be to provide a means for discussion of and action on the problems relating to all phases of non-public school librarianship.
Supervisors Section (SPVS)

- The specific purpose of this section shall be to provide a means for discussion of and action on the problems relating to all phases of school library supervision.
Comprised of nearly 5,000 members from across the United States and 42 countries from around the globe, ALCTS is the premier resource for information specialists in collection development, preservation, and technical services. We are the leader in the development of principles, standards, and best practices for creating, collecting, organizing, delivering, and preserving information resources in all forms.
ALCTS Representatives

- ALCTS sends representatives to the following groups:
ALCTS Sections

- Acquisitions
- Cataloging & Classification
- Collection Management & Development
- Continuing Resources
- Preservation & Reformatting
Acquisitions Section (AS)

• Focus: Acquisition and associated bibliographic control for all formats of information resources through purchase, lease, and other access methods and in all types of libraries.
Cataloging & Classification Section (CCS)

- Focus: Cataloging and classification of information resources with developed and developing metadata structure and content standards. Using standards to provide intellectual access to and organize information resources in both traditional and nontraditional settings.
Collection Management & Development Section (CMDS)

- Focus: Collection management and development through selecting and evaluating all types of library materials in all types of institutions.
Continuing Resources Section (CRS)

- Focus: Theory and practice concerning continuing resources in all formats.
Preservation & Reformatting Section (PARS)

- Focus: Preserving and reformatting all types of library materials in all types of institutions and taking the lead in applying new technologies to assure continued access to library collections.
The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is the world's largest organization dedicated to the support and enhancement of library service to children. From creative programming and best practices to continuing education and professional connections—ALSC members are innovators in the field of children's library service.
ALSC Representatives

ALSC sends representatives to the following groups:

- ALA Chapter Relations Committee
- ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
- ALA Education Assembly
- ALA Legislation Assembly
- ALA Literacy Assembly
- ALA Membership Promotion Taskforce
- ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
- ALA Professional Ethics Committee
- ALA Recruitment Assembly
- ALA Sara Jaffarian Award
- ALA Scholarships & Study Grants
- ALA Website Advisory Committee
- Freedom to Read Foundation
The committees of ALSC are divided into seven Priority Groups:

- Priority Group I - Child Advocacy
- Priority Group II - Evaluation of Media
- Priority Group III - Professional Awards and Scholarships
- Priority Group IV - Organizational Support
- Priority Group V - Awards
- Priority Group VI - Partnerships
- Priority Group VII - Professional Development
Priority Group I - Child Advocacy

• Charge: To identify, evaluate and make recommendations on issues, legislation and services concerning children on the local, state and national levels.

Website
Priority Group II – Evaluation of Media

• Charge: To evaluate, to establish standards for, and to encourage the availability of materials for children.
Priority Group III - Professional Awards & Scholarships

• Charge: To identify and recognize professional achievement and foster excellence in youth services through scholarships and awards.
Priority Group IV - Organizational Support

• Charge: To review, recommend and prepare policies and budgets and to advise on issues affecting the organizational structure of the division.
Priority Group V - Awards

- Charge: To nominate or select recipients of the awards based on the award criteria.
Priority Group VI - Partnerships

• Charge: To open and maintain lines of communication with other organizations which share common interests.
Priority Group VII - Professional Development

- Charge: To identify and investigate issues relating to children's services and to recommend and initiate action to improve those services.
The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association, is a professional association of academic librarians and other interested individuals. It is dedicated to enhancing the ability of academic library and information professionals to serve the information needs of the higher education community and to improve learning, teaching, and research.
ACRL Representatives

- ACRL sends representatives to the following groups:
ACRL Sections

African American Studies Librarians Section (AFAS)

Anthropology & Sociology Section (ANSS)

Arts Section

Asian, African, & Middle Eastern Section (AAMES)

College Libraries Section (CLS)

Community & Junior College Libraries Section (CJCLS)

Distance Learning Section (DLS)

Education & Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS)

Instruction Section (IS)

Law & Political Science Section (LPSS)

Literatures in English Section (LES)

Rare Books & Manuscripts Section (RBMS)

Science & Technology Section (STS)

Slavic & East European Section (SEES)

University Libraries Section (ULS)

Western European Studies Section (WESS)

Women's Studies Section (WSS)
African American Studies Librarians Section (AFAS)

• Promotes the study of librarianship and collection development as it progresses and relates to the African American Studies collection.
Anthropology & Sociology Section (ANSS)

• Supports the study of those aspects of library service that require knowledge in anthropology, sociology and related fields.
Arts Section

• Provides an umbrella organization for the promotion of library service in the field of visual and performing arts through discussion of current issues, the exchange of information, and the carrying out of suitable projects.
Asian, African, & Middle Eastern Section (AAMES)

- Represents librarians and specialists in the fields of Asian, African and Middle Eastern area studies.

Website

ALA Connect Page

ACRL

Sections
College Libraries Section (CLS)

- Advances college librarianship and encourages the development of library services in baccalaureate-degree-granting institutions.
Community & Junior College Libraries Section (CJCLS)

- Serves to share common areas of interest to enhance library services and librarianship in libraries and learning resource centers in two-year institutions and to support the educational programs of these institutions.

Website  ALA Connect Page
Distance Learning Section (DLS)

• Supports and promotes library services to off campus and distance education students; provides a vehicle for the professional development and exchange of ideas among librarians working with off campus and distance education students.
Education & Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS)

- Serves the common interests of education and behavioral sciences librarians, including communications studies, psychology, and social work librarians.

Website

ALA Connect Page
Instruction Section (IS)

• Enhances the ability of academic and research librarians to advance learning, teaching, and research with respect to information literacy in higher education.
Law & Political Science Section (LPSS)

- Represents librarians in the fields of law and political science in regard to those aspects of library service that require special knowledge of law and political science.
Literatures in English Section (LES)

- Represents members of ACRL who specialize or are otherwise professionally involved in the selection, acquisition, organization, and use of information resources related to literatures in English.
Rare Books & Manuscripts Section (RBMS)

- Exercises leadership in the local, national, and international special collections communities to represent and promote concerns related to rare books, manuscripts, and other special collections.
Science & Technology Section (STS)

- Provides a forum through which librarians in scientific and technical subject fields can achieve and maintain awareness of the impact and range of information with which they work.
Slavic & East European Section (SEES)

- Represents librarians and specialists in the fields of Slavic and Eastern European Studies.

[Website]
[ALA Connect Page]
University Libraries Section (ULS)

- Advances university librarianship, university library service, and the development of university libraries in institutions with graduate programs.

[Links to Website and ALA Connect Page]
Western European Studies Section (WESS)

- Promotes the improvement of library services supporting study and research in Western European affairs from ancient times to the present.

Website

ALA Connect Page
Women's Studies Section (WSS)

• Serves to discuss, promote, and produce resources to support women's studies collections and services in academic and research libraries.
Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends & Foundations (ALTAFF)

- The mission of ALTAFF is to support citizens who govern, promote, advocate, and fundraise for all types of libraries.
ALTAFF Representatives

- ALTAFF sends representatives to the following groups:
  
  - ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group
  - ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
  - ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  - ALA Legislation Committee
  - ALA Membership Committee
  - ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  - ALA Website Advisory Committee
  - PLA Board
  - Freedom to Read Foundation
ALTAFF Sections

Corporate Friends Section

Foundation Section

Friends Section

Trustee Section
Corporate Friends Section

- The Corporate Friends Section is open to corporate members of ALA and corporate sponsors of ALTAFF.
Foundation Section

• For library foundation members and those interested in library foundations, looking toward securing the future of their libraries.
Friends Section

- For library friends group members and persons interested in friends groups, supporting libraries.
Trustee Section

• For library trustees serving on governing or advisory boards.

ALA Connect Page
The Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) represents state library agencies, specialized library agencies, multi-type library cooperatives, and independent librarians.
ASCLA Representatives

- ASCLA sends representatives to the following groups:
ASCLA Sections

- InterLibrary Cooperation & Networking Section (ICAN)
- Independent Librarian's Exchange Section (ILEX)
- Libraries Serving Special Populations Section (LSSPS)
- State Library Agency Section (SLAS)
InterLibrary Cooperation & Networking Section (ICAN)

- ICAN provides discussions, programs, and planning activities for the effective delivery of quality library services through multi-type library networks--local, state, multistate, national, and international.
The purpose of the Independent Librarian's Exchange Section is to expand the definition of librarianship by supporting ALA members who work outside of traditional library settings and by providing programs, information exchange, and networking opportunities.

Website

ALA Connect Page
Libraries Serving Special Populations Section (LSSPS)

- The Libraries Serving Special Populations Section is charged to improve the quality of library service for people with special needs, including people who have vision, mobility, hearing, and developmental differences, people who are elderly, people in prisons, health care facilities, and other types of institutions; to improve library service for families and professionals working with these people; to foster awareness of these populations and their needs in the library community and among the general public.

Website

ALA Connect Page
State Library Agency Section (SLAS)

- The purpose of the SLAS is to develop and strengthen the unique role and functions of state library agencies in providing leadership and services that foster and improve the delivery of library services.
Library & Information Technology Association (LITA)

The Library and Information Technology Association is the leading organization reaching out across types of libraries to provide education and services for a broad membership. The membership includes new professionals, systems librarians, library administrators, library schools, vendors and anyone else interested in leading edge technology and applications for librarians and information providers.
LITA Representatives

- LITA sends representatives to the following groups:

  ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group
  ALA Conference Program Coordinating Team
  ALA Education Assembly
  ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  ALA Legislation Assembly
  ALA Membership Promotion Task Force
  ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) Advisory Committee
  ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  ALA Professional Ethics Committee
  ALA Recruitment Assembly
  ALCTS Networked Resources & Metadata Interest Group (NRMIG)
  ALCTS Cataloging & Classification: Description & Access (CC:DA)
  ASCLA Accessibility Assembly
  Coalition for Networked Information
  Freedom to Read Foundation
  GODORT Rare & Endangered Publications Committee
  International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)
  New Members Round Table

LITA

Divisions
The Library Leadership and Management Association encourages and nurtures current and future leaders, and develops and promotes outstanding leadership and management practices.
LLAMA Representatives

• LLAMA sends representatives to the following groups:

  - ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group
  - ALA Appointments Committee
  - ALA Chapter Relations Committee
  - ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
  - ALA Education Assembly
  - ALA Emerging Leaders Task Force
  - ALA Human Resource Development & Recruitment (HRDR) Assembly
  - ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  - ALA Legislation Assembly
  - ALA Literacy Assembly
  - ALA Membership Promotion Task Force
  - ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  - ALA Professional Ethics Committee
  - ALA Research & Statistics Committee
  - ALA Website Advisory Committee
  - ALSC Managing Children’s Services Committee
  - ASCLA Accessibility Assembly
  - (Hugh C.) Atkinson Memorial Award Committee
  - Learning Round Table (LearnRT)
  - Freedom to Read Foundation
  - New Members Round Table

LLAMA

Divisions
LLAMA Sections

- Buildings & Equipment Section (BES)
- Fund Raising & Financial Development Section (FRFDS)
- Human Resources Section (HRS)
- Library Organization & Management Section (LOMS)
- Measurement, Assessment, & Evaluation Section (MAES)
- Public Relations & Marketing Section (PRMS)
- Systems and Services Section (SASS)
Buildings & Equipment Section (BES)

• BES brings together librarians and design professionals to analyze, discuss, and share information related to academic, public, and school library buildings, equipment, and furnishings.
Fund Raising & Financial Development Section (FRFDS)

- FRFDS exercises responsibility for matters pertaining to fund raising and resource development for libraries.
The Human Resources Section exercises responsibility for general personnel administration in all types of libraries.
Library Organization & Management Section (LOMS)

- LOMA investigates issues pertaining to efficient library operations in all types of libraries and disseminates information on management issues to all its members, the LAMA membership, and all librarians.

[Website] [ALA Connect Page]
Measurement, Assessment, & Evaluation Section (MAES)

- The Measurement, Assessment, and Evaluation Section exercises overall responsibility for all matters pertaining to needs for and uses of measurement of library resources, services, and facilities, regardless of type of library or functional activity.
The Public Relations and Marketing Section provides a framework and impetus for the study of public relations theory and policies; for improving the practice of public relations in public, school, college and university, and special libraries; for serving as public relations liaison between the division and other ALA units; and for identifying those aspects of public relations about which the profession needs to be informed and educated so as to conduct appropriate programs and institutes.
The purpose of the section shall be to study and evaluate the application of new technology in services, and the management thereof, for the improvement of library services and systems.
Public Library Association (PLA)

• PLA is a member-driven organization that exists to provide a diverse program of communication, publication, advocacy, continuing education, and programming for its members and others interested in the advancement of public library service.
PLA Representatives

- PLA sends representatives to the following groups:

  - ALA-APA Working Group
  - ALA Carnegie/NY Times I Love My Librarian Award Committee
  - ALA-COL E-Government Services Subcommittee
  - ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
  - ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  - ALA International Relations Committee
  - ALA Legislation Assembly
  - ALA Membership Promotion Task Force
  - ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  - ALA Research & Statistics Assembly
  - ALA Rural, Native & Tribal Librarians Committee
  - ALTAFF Board
  - LC Cataloging in Publication Advisory Board
The Reference and User Services Association is responsible for stimulating and supporting excellence in the delivery of general library services and materials to adults, and the provision of reference and information services, collection development, and resource sharing for all ages, in every type of library.
RUSA Representatives

- RUSA sends representatives to the following groups:

  - ALA Chapter Relations Committee
  - ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
  - ALA Education Assembly
  - ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
  - ALA Legislation Assembly
  - ALA Membership Promotion Task Force
  - ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
  - ALA Professional Ethics Committee
  - ALA Recruitment Assembly
  - ALA Website Advisory Committee
  - ALCTS Cataloging & Classification: Description & Access (CC:DA)
  - ASCLA Accessibility Assembly
  - Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI)
  - Freedom to Read Foundation
RUSA Sections

- Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS)
- Collection Development & Evaluation Section (CODES)
- History Section (HS)
- Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS)
- Reference Services Section (RSS)
- Sharing & Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS)
Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS)

- Represents the subject interests of reference librarians, business information specialists, and others engaged in providing business reference/information services.
Collection Development & Evaluation Section (CODES)

- For reference and adult services librarians who are involved or interested in collection development and evaluation.

Website

ALA Connect Page
History Section (HS)

• The History Section represents the subject interests of reference librarians, archivists, bibliographers, genealogists, historians, and others engaged in historical reference or research.
MARS: Emerging Technologies in Reference Section

• Represents the interests of those concerned with attaining the highest possible quality in planning, developing, managing, teaching, or conducting all forms of computer-based reference information services in libraries.
Reference Services Section (RSS)

- Represents the interests of librarians and library support staff engaged in all aspects of reference and information services including the delivery, management, and evaluation of reference and users services in all kinds of libraries.

Website

ALA Connect Page
Sharing & Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS)

- Brings together librarians and library staff involved with interlibrary loan, document delivery, remote circulation, access services, cooperative reference, cooperative collection development, remote storage, and other shared library services as well as publishers, producers, and suppliers of products and services which support resource sharing activities.

Website

ALA Connect Page
Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

- YALSA’s mission is to advocate, promote and strengthen library service to teens, ages 12-18, as part of the continuum of total library services, and to support those who provide library service to this population.
YALSA Representatives

- YALSA sends representatives to the following groups:

- ALA Appointment Committee
- ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group
- ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
- ALA Conference Programming Coordinating Team
- ALA Education Assembly
- ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
- ALA Legislation Assembly
- ALA Literacy Assembly
- ALA Membership Promotion Task Force
- ALA Professional Ethics Committee
- ALA Recruitment Assembly
- ALA Research & Statistics Assembly
- ALA Schneider Family Book Award Committee
- ALA Website Advisory Committee
- ASCLA Accessibility Assembly
- Freedom to Read Foundation
- New Members Round Table
The Ethnic and Multicultural Exchange Round Table serves as a source of information on recommended ethnic collections, services, and programs.

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Groups

Round Tables
Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Committees

- Armenian-American Librarians
- Building Coalitions for Ethnicity
- Children’s Services
- Collection Development Task Force
- Conference Programming
- Executive Board
- Gale Research Multicultural Award
- Jewish Information
- Membership
- Nominating
- Public Relations
- Publishing & Multicultural Materials
- Web Pages
The Exhibits Round Table is unique among ALA units in that librarians and exhibitors share both the leadership positions and membership of ERT. The Round Table provides a venue for communication and cooperation between the exhibitors at library conferences and ALA for the purpose of making the exhibits an effective part of conference.
Exhibits Committees

(Chris) Hoy Scholarship

Executive Board
Federal & Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT)

Website

Affiliates/External Organizations
- Federal Library & Information Center Committee (FLICC)
- International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA)

Committees

Assemblies
- ALA Planning & Budget Assembly
- ALA Round Table Coordination Assembly
- ALA Education Assembly

Offices & Task Forces
- Membership Development Office
- ALA Membership Promotion Task Force

Groups

Round Tables
Federal & Armed Forces Libraries Committees

- Awards
- Bylaws
- Conference
- Education
- Executive
- Internet/Web
- Legislation
- Membership

FAFLRT | Round Tables
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table of the American Library Association is committed to serving the information needs of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered professional library community, and the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered information and access needs of individuals at large.
GLBTRT Committees

- Book Award
- Breakfast Planning
- Bylaw
- External Relations
- Fundraising
- Membership
- Nominating
- Program Planning
- Steering
- Website
- Over the Rainbow Project (GLBTRT/SRRT)
Government Documents Round Table (GODORT)

- **Mission:**
  - To provide a forum for discussion of problems, concerns, and for exchange of ideas by librarians working with government documents
  - To provide a force for initiating and supporting programs to increase availability, use, and bibliographic control of documents
  - To increase communication between documents librarians and other librarians; (4) to contribute to the extension and improvement of education and training of documents librarians.
Government Documents Committees
The Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT) provides a forum for the discussion of activities, programs, and problems in intellectual freedom of libraries and librarians; serves as a channel of communications on intellectual freedom matters; promotes a greater opportunity for involvement among the members of the ALA in defense of intellectual freedom; promotes a greater feeling of responsibility in the implementation of ALA policies on intellectual freedom.
Intellectual Freedom Committees

- (Eli M.) Oboler Award
- Executive
- Immroth Memorial Award
- Membership Promotion
- Merritt Support Subcommittee
- Nominating
- Organization & Bylaws
- Program
- Publications
- Representatives & Liaisons
- State & Regional Achievement Award

IFRT Round Tables
The International Relations Round Table promotes interest in library issues and librarianship worldwide; helps coordinate international activities within the American Library Association, serving as a liaison between the International Relations Committee and those members of the Association interested in international relations; develops programs and activities which further the international objectives of ALA; and provides hospitality and information to visitors from abroad.
International Relations Committees

- Chair’s Program
- International Exchange Subcommittee
- International Librarians’ Orientation
- International Librarians’ Pre-Conference
- International Paper Session
- International Poster Session
- International Reception
- International Sister Libraries
- International Visitors Center
- Membership
- Officers
- Publication

IRRT

Round Tables
The Learning Round Table of ALA (LearnRT) (Formerly CLENE)

- The Learning Round Table promotes quality continuing education and staff development for all library personnel, serves as a source for staff development continuing education assistance, publications, materials, training and activities, and is an advocate for quality library staff development and continuing education at both the local and national levels.
Learning (LearnRT)
(formerly CLENERT)

Electronic Publishing
Executive Board
Long Range Planning
Marketing
Membership
Nominations
Print Publications

LearnRT
Round Tables
The Library History Round Table encourages research and publication on library history and promotes awareness and discussion of historical issues in librarianship.
Library History Committees

- Auction
- Donald G. Davis Award
- Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award
- Justin Winsor Prize
- Newsletter
- Nominating
- Officers
- Phyllis Dain Dissertation Award
- Publications
- Research

LHRT

Round Tables
Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT)

- The Library Instruction Round Table provides a forum for discussion of activities, programs, and problems of instruction in the use of libraries; contributes to the education and training of librarians for library instruction; promotes instruction in the use of libraries as an essential library service, and serves as a channel of communication on library instruction between the ALA divisions, ALA and ACRL committees, state clearinghouses, Project LOEX, other organizations concerned with instruction in the use of libraries, and members of the Association.
Library Instruction Committees

- Adult Learners
- Conference Program
- Liaison
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Nominations
- Officers
- Organization & Planning
- Research
- Teaching, Learning & Technology
- Transition to College
- Web Advisory

LIRT

Round Tables
Library Research Round Table (LRRT)

- The Library Research Round Table contributes toward the extension and improvement of library research; provides public program opportunities for describing and evaluating library research projects and for disseminating their findings; to inform and educate ALA members concerning research techniques and their usefulness in obtaining information with which to reach administrative decisions and solve problems; and expand the theoretical base of the field. LRRT also, serves as a forum for discussion and action on issues related to the literature and information needs for the field of library and information science.
Library Research Committees

- Annual Conference
- Ingenta Award
- Membership Promotion
- Nominating
- Steering

LRRT
Round Tables
The Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) provides an arena within ALA for addressing a wide variety of issues of concern to library support staff, including but not limited to basic training programs, education, career development, job duties and responsibilities and other related issues for the purpose of fostering communication and networking among all levels of library personnel. It is responsible for the timely dissemination of information to local, regional, state and national support staff organizations.
Library Support Staff Interests Committees

- Certification Task Force
- Conference Program
- Constitution & Bylaws
- Membership
- Nominating
- Publications/Communications
- Steering
- Strategic Planning
- Round Tables
- LSSIRT
The Maps and Geography Round Table provides a forum for the exchange of ideas by persons working with or interested in map and geography collections, provides a forum to increase the availability, use, and bibliographic control of map and geography collections, increases communication and cooperation between map and geography librarians and other librarians, and contributes to the improvement of education and training of map and geography librarians.

Affiliates/External Organizations

- ACRL-Rare Books & Manuscripts Section (RBMS)
- ALCTS-CCS
- Anglo American Cataloging Committee for Cartographic materials
- Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC)
- Intellectual Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA)
- LC Geography and Maps Division
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)
- North American Cartographic Information Science Society (NACIS)
- Northeast Map Organization (NEMO)
- Special Libraries Association (SLA - Science Division)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML)
Map and Geography Committees

- Audio-Visual
- Cataloging & Classification
- Constitution & Bylaws
- Exhibits
- GEOTECH
- Honors Awards
- Membership
- Nominating
- Officers
- Publications

MAGERT
Round Tables
New Members Round Table (NMRT)

Page 1

- NMRT is an organization for people with fewer than 10 years of membership in ALA.
- The goals are fourfold: (1) to structure formal opportunities for involvement and/or training for professional association committee experiences on the national, state and local levels; (2) to provide a wide variety of programs to assist, encourage, and educate those new to the association and the profession; (3) to offer a variety of leadership training and opportunities to help those approaching the end of their NMRT eligibility make the transition to future positions in the association and the profession, and; (4) to develop and implement ongoing programs for library school students which encourage professional involvement and networking.

Affiliates/External Organizations – A-I
- American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
- ACRL Arts Section
- ACRL-Education & Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS)
- ACRL-Instruction Section (IS)
- ACRL-Science & Technology Section (STS)
- ACRL-University Libraries Section
- American Indian Library Association (AILA)
- Alabama Library Association (ALLA)
- Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)
- ALCTS-Committee on Cataloging Section (CCS)
- ALCTS Membership
- Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)
- Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)
- Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)
- Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF)
- Illinois Library Association
- Iowa Library Association

Affiliates/External Organizations – J-Z
- Kentucky Libraries Association
- Library Leadership & Management Association (LLAMA)
- Library & Information Technology Association (LITA)
- Maryland Library Association
- Michigan Library Association
- Missouri Library Association
- Medical Library Association (MLA)
- North Carolina Library Association (NCLA)
- North Dakota Library Association (NDLA)
- Online Audiovisual Catalogers (OLAC)
- Public Library Association (PLA)
- Reference & User Services Association (RUSA)
- Tennessee Library Association (TNLA)
- Texas Library Association (TXLA)
- Wyoming Library Association (WYLA)
- Young Adults Library Services Association (YALSA)
New Members Round Table (NMRT)

Page 2

Website

Committees

Offices & Task Forces
- ALA Membership Development Office
- ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP)
- ALA Membership Promotion Task Force

Groups

Page 1

Round Tables
The Retired Members Round Table (RMRT) works to develop programs of particular interest to retired persons from all types of libraries and all forms of library services, including formal opportunities for continued involvement and learning; a variety of leadership training and opportunities for mentoring; lifelong professional involvement and networking; and active engagement in the American Library Association and the profession of librarianship.
SRRT is a unit within the American Library Association. It works to make ALA more democratic and to establish progressive priorities not only for the Association, but also for the entire profession. Concern for human and economic rights was an important element in the founding of SRRT and remains an urgent concern today. SRRT believes that libraries and librarians must recognize and help solve social problems and inequities in order to carry out their mandate to work for the common good and bolster democracy.
The Staff Organization Round Table encourages the formation of staff organizations, acts as a clearinghouse for information about staff organizations, brings staff organizations of library employees into closer relationship so as to foster mutual cooperation, and cooperates with all ALA units that are set up to study and act upon personnel matters.
Staff Organizations Committees

- Bylaws
- Membership Promotion
- Nominating
- Program
- Publicity
- Steering
The Video Round Table (VRT) provides leadership within the American Library Association (ALA) on all issues related to video collections, programs, and services in libraries.
Video Committees (VRT)

- Bylaws
- Communications
- Nominating
- Notable Videos for Adults
- Officers
- Program
- Publications & Communications

VRT

Round Tables
Chapter Relations Office

- The Chapter Relations Office promotes a sense of identification between the national Association and the 57 ALA Chapters
- Facilitates communication between the Chapters and all ALA units
- Coordinates leadership development for Chapter officers, Chapter Councilors, chief paid staff members, and other Chapter leaders
- Strengthens membership promotion activities for ALA and the Chapters
- Coordinates the ALA Student Chapters and the ALA Students to Staff programs
- Helps raise awareness of and sensitivity to Chapter needs throughout the ALA
Conference Services

- To provide professional services and well planned events of value to ALA's members, exhibitors and staff while returning financial and long term growth.
Development Office

• The Development Office is responsible for planning, coordinating, implementing, managing, and evaluating ALA fundraising activities, programs, projects and events within ALA and for establishing strategic alliances and partnerships. The purpose of the Development Office is to seek and obtain philanthropic resources to support Association work in promoting and improving libraries in America consistent with the goals of the Association.
Human Resources

• Our mission is to contribute to the association’s achievement of its strategic goals through the effective use of its people. We provide the association with coordinated, proactive quality services that support their business goals and objectives and are consistent with Human Resources Management principles.

Website

Offices
Information Technology & Telecommunication Services

- The ITTS Department supports the technology services of ALA to its staff and membership by investigating new technology, providing training and support materials, and implementing hardware and software platforms that support ALA's Action and strategic direction goals.
International Relations Office

- The mission of the International Relations Office (IRO) is to increase the ALA’s presence in the global library community, to implement ALA policies concerning international librarianship, to promote a greater understanding of international librarianship and international library issues within the ALA, and to manage international library activities on behalf of the ALA.
The Finance and Accounting Department’s mission includes safeguarding and growing the Association’s assets, establishing and maintaining a functioning set of policies and procedures, while ensuring compliance to audit and generally accepted accounting principles and ethical standards.
The primary mission of the ALA Library is to help the staff of the American Library Association serve ALA members, and thereafter, the needs of the members of ALA, other libraries, and members of the public seeking information on librarianship. The ALA Library is a small special library with a collection that focuses exclusively on the history of and issues within libraries and librarianship. The Library's staff will respond to reference and information requests in accordance with this mission and collection scope.
Member & Customer Service

- As one of the primary support units for the entire organization, we are committed to member satisfaction and to providing the highest and most efficient service to our members and customers.
Membership

- The Membership Development Office works to make the process of joining or renewing your ALA membership a simple, straightforward, easy experience. We look out for new opportunities for professional growth for the membership and encourage innovations around the association that provide new support to the profession. Member satisfaction in the broad Association drives our work.
The Office for Accreditation provides authoritative leadership in assuring quality and value to its stakeholders through accreditation of master’s-level library and information studies programs. The Office serves the profession, the general public, students, employers, and library and information studies master’s programs through the promotion and advancement of education in library and information studies. The Office for Accreditation manages the external review process that provides professional development opportunities for both academics and practitioners, and provides programs with a framework for their development.
The Council Committee on Diversity (COD) provides a forum to research, monitor, discuss, and address national diversity issues and trends impacting the library profession. Additionally, the Committee on Diversity provides ALA Council and ALA membership with information needed for the establishment of ALA policies, actions and initiatives related to national diversity issues and trends.
The mission of the American Library Association (ALA) Office for Human Resource Development & Recruitment (HRDR) is to facilitate the development of librarianship as a profession.
The Office for Information Technology Policy advances ALA’s public policy activities by helping secure information technology policies that support and encourage efforts of libraries to ensure access to electronic information resources as a means of upholding the public’s right to a free and open information society. It works to ensure a library voice in information policy debates and to promote full and equitable intellectual participation by the public.
Office for Intellectual Freedom

- The Office for Intellectual Freedom is charged with implementing ALA policies concerning the concept of intellectual freedom as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights, the Association's basic policy on free access to libraries and library materials. The goal of the office is to educate librarians and the general public about the nature and importance of intellectual freedom in libraries.
Office for Library Advocacy

- The Office for Library Advocacy (OLA) supports the efforts of advocates seeking to support and improve libraries of all types by developing resources, a peer-to-peer advocacy network, and training for advocates at the local, state and national level.
The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) serves the Association by identifying and promoting library services that support equitable access to the knowledge and information stored in our libraries. OLOS focuses attention on services that are inclusive of traditionally underserved populations, including new and non-readers, people geographically isolated, people with disabilities, rural and urban poor people, and people generally discriminated against based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, language and social class.
The Mission of the Office for Research and Statistics (ORS) is to provide leadership and expert advice to ALA staff, members, and public on all matters related to research and statistics about libraries, librarians, and other library staff.

- Represent the Association to Federal Agencies on these issues
- Initiate projects needed to expand the knowledge base of the field through research and the collection of useful statistics
Office of ALA Governance

- The Office of ALA Governance provides support to and facilitates the work of the ALA president, president-elect, immediate past president, Executive Board, Council, and the ALA executive director.
Office of Government Relations

As part of the ALA Washington Office, the Office of Government Relations (OGR) is charged with tracking and influencing legislation, policy and regulatory issues of importance to the library field and its publics. The Office of Government Relations covers a broad range of issues including, but not limited to: copyright, appropriations, library programs, government information and telecommunications.
The Public Information Office develops and implements strategic communications plans tied to association goals and priorities in the areas of public awareness, communications services, media relations and crisis communications. The Office creates targeted initiatives that communicate ALA’s messages on key action areas to key audiences. The Office provides public relations counsel and media training to ALA officers, members and staff; coordinates national media relations efforts; and develops online support materials to help librarians promote their programs and services at the local level.
Public Programs Office

The ALA Public Programs Office provides leadership, resources, training, and networking opportunities that help thousands of librarians nationwide develop and host cultural programs for adult, young adult, and family audiences. The mission of the ALA Public Programs Office is to foster cultural programming as an integral part of library service in all types of libraries.

Website

Public & Cultural Programs Advisory Committee (PCPAC)

Offices
The Publishing Department of the American Library Association provides all librarians a comprehensive, one-stop resource for print and digital materials dedicated to professional development, improving library services, and the promotion of libraries, literacy, and reading.
Staff Support Services

- The staff in the Office of Staff Support Services seek to provide a safe, efficient physical working environment for all ALA staff.
The ALA Washington Office is charged with tracking and influencing policy issues, legislation, and regulations of importance to the library field and the public.
ALA Committees

- Accreditation
- American Libraries Advisory
- Appointments
- Awards
- Chapter Relations
- Conference
- Constitution & Bylaws
- Election
- Human Resource Development & Recruitment Advisory
- Information Technology Policy Advisory
- Literacy & Outreach Services Advisory
- Literacy
- Membership
- Nominating
- Membership Meetings
- Public & Cultural Programs Advisory
- Rural, Native & Tribal Libraries of All Kinds
- Research & Statistics
- Scholarship & Study Grants
- Training, Orientation & Leadership Development
- Website Advisory
- Website Advisory

Groups

Group Committees
Accreditation
Committee on Accreditation (COA)

• To be responsible for the execution of the accreditation program of ALA, and to develop and formulate standards of education for library and information studies for the approval of Council.
American Libraries Advisory

- To review and recommend editorial policies for *American Libraries* and to provide oversight for the implementation of those policies.
- To communicate with, and operate within, the frameworks established by the ALA Publishing Committee.
- To serve as a channel for member communication regarding the scope and coverage of *American Libraries*.

[Button: Roster]  [Button: Website]  [Link: ALA Committees]
There shall be a Committee on Appointments to be comprised of the presidents-elect of the divisions and the president-elect of the Association, who shall serve as chairperson, to advise the president-elect of the Association on nominations for committee appointments. (Provided for in Bylaw Article VIII, Section 2(a)(i).)
Awards

• The ALA Awards Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive Board and the ALA Council on all policies relating to ALA distinguished service, exemplary accomplishment, and/or achievement awards, and ALA book/media awards to be made or sponsored by ALA and its units.
• It shall administer all such awards presented in the name of the American Library Association, known as “ALA General Awards.”
• All ALA General Awards shall recognize achievements within the profession.
• The Committee shall review periodically the appropriateness of existing ALA General Awards; shall recommend modification, elimination, or suspension of existing ALA General Awards as needed; and shall make recommendations with respect to proposed new ALA General Awards.
• The Committee shall appoint juries to select recipients of ALA General Awards (i.e., awards not administered by a unit of the Association), and shall coordinate the work of these juries and committees.
• The committee will work with other units of the Association to coordinate tracking, statistics, and other information about all awards sponsored by ALA and its units.
• Each unit of ALA shall determine, within the general policies governing awards, new awards relating to its specific area of responsibility, known as “ALA Unit Awards.”

• The Awards Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the ALA Awards Manual, which includes information for all awards presented by ALA or any of its units; it shall also provide general guidance regarding the procedural aspects of the Awards Program (such as information concerning deadline dates and publicity releases).
• Each unit shall review periodically the appropriateness of its existing awards; and shall modify, eliminate, or suspend its existing award(s) and shall handle all details and expenses with respect to its award(s).
• Each unit will submit its proposals for new awards or changes to existing unit awards as prescribed in the ALA Awards Manual to the ALA Awards Committee at a regular meeting of the committee at least six months prior to the anticipated date of advertisement.
• The Awards Committee will review and provide assistance to the unit on questions of procedure and coordination with other ALA units. All new awards must be reported prior to the implementation date to the Awards Committee, Executive Board, and Council.
• Each unit is also responsible for submitting complete records as prescribed in the ALA Awards Manual concerning its award(s) to the Awards Committee in order that the ALA Awards Manual may be maintained.
Chapter Relations
ALA Chapter Relations Committee (CRC)

- To develop and recognize Chapters as integral components of ALA.
- To encourage discussion, activities and programs that support the mutual interests of ALA and the Chapters.
- To advise when requested on proposals and actions of other ALA units that may affect Chapters.
- To provide a forum wherein Chapters can share ideas and concerns of common interest and identify common needs and goals.
- To communicate these Chapter needs and goals to ALA and ALA goals, programs and priorities to the Chapters.
- To encourage and maintain a cooperative and supportive relationship among ALA, its units, and the Chapters.
- To formulate and review periodically requirements for Chapter status.
- To serve as an advisory committee to the Chapter Relations Office.

Roster
Website
Conference

- To recommend additions and changes to ALA Policy 7 (Conferences and Meetings) as appropriate
- To recommend policies to Council for the coordination and scheduling of conference programming and for simplification of meeting scheduling, including use of technologies
- To recommend to Council policies guiding the selection of Conference and Meeting sites and dates
- To review recommendations of specific sites and dates prior to their presentation by Conference Services to the ALA Executive Board
- To recommend to Council and to ALA staff a means for communication with the membership to hear their concerns about Conference and Meeting procedures and policies.
Constitution & Bylaws

- To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws; to review and draft rules for the conduct of Council and Membership meetings; to review and draft rules for the preparation of resolutions, memorials, and tributes; and to make recommendations to the Association in accordance with the provisions of Articles XI and XII of the Constitution.
Election

- To consist of six ALA members who agree to travel to ALA Headquarters at no cost to the Association. One member shall be appointed chair annually. To monitor ALA elections for Association officers, Councilors, and Constitution and Bylaws by:
  - Reviewing and certifying, before ballots are distributed for voting, that all election documents, practices and procedures are in accordance with the ALA Constitution and Bylaws and ALA Policy Manual
  - Resolving irregularities that may arise during the election process by promptly making a recommendation for appropriate action to the ALA President
  - Certifying the election results and reporting the results to the candidates and the ALA membership in a timely manner. In addition, at the request of any ALA division or round table, the committee shall review any irregularities in the division or round table election process and advise the division or round table of possible resolution.
HRDR Advisory
(Human Resource Development and Recruitment)

• To advise the Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (formerly Office for Library Personnel Resources, OLPR) on activities, problems, and procedures related to library concerns in such areas as recruitment, utilization, education and training, and staff welfare. The committee will identify special areas of need or emphasis, suggest activities and programs, and stimulate programs and projects related to library personnel planning, development, and concerns. The committee will aid in communication and cooperation with other units of ALA and with other agencies, groups, and organizations within and beyond the library profession.
The Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) advocates for public policies that support and encourage efforts by libraries to ensure free and open access to electronic information resources. It works to ensure that the voice of the library community is heard in information policy debates and to promote full and equitable public participation in those debates by:

- Conducting research and analysis aimed at understanding the implications of changing information technology, policy, law and regulation for libraries and library users,
- Educating the ALA community about the implications of changing information technology, policy, law, and regulation for libraries and library users,
- Advancing ALA’s information policy interests on behalf of libraries and library users in non-legislative government policy forums, and
- Engaging in strategic analysis to anticipate technological change, particularly as it presents policy challenges to libraries and library users.

To fulfill this mission, OITP conducts activities grouped into four Programs: Public Access to Information, Networks, America’s Libraries in the 21st Century, and OITP Fellows.
To develop and recommend the Association’s policies related to the promotion of literacy; to develop and encourage the development of programs, educational opportunities, and other resources that assist librarians and libraries in promoting literacy; to raise the awareness of literacy within the Association; to work cooperatively with the Literacy Assembly, the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services and its Advisory Committee, and other ALA units, including the Washington Office, on efforts that have a literacy focus; to develop and maintain partnerships with national literacy organizations.
The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) serves the Association by identifying and promoting library services that support equitable access to the knowledge and information stored in our libraries. OLOS focuses attention on services that are inclusive of traditionally underserved populations, including new and non-readers, people geographically isolated, people with disabilities, rural and urban poor people, and people generally discriminated against based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, language and social class. The Office ensures that training, information resources, and technical assistance are available to help libraries and librarians develop effective strategies to develop programs and services for library users.
Membership

- To establish general policies, programs, and procedures to secure new members; to be responsible for the implementation of these programs; to coordinate membership promotion activities of all units and chapters of the Association; to coordinate the ALA committee internship program; to make recommendations concerning membership dues; and to serve the Association as a sounding board on membership.
Membership Meetings

• To plan the agenda for the membership meetings specified in ALA Policy 7.4.10; to identify potential discussion topics for the membership meetings; to educate the membership about the purposes of the membership meeting and the opportunities it offers members; to identify and recommend incentives for attendance; to advise staff on logistics for membership meetings; to oversee publicity plans for membership meetings; to assess the effectiveness of the membership meetings in addressing the ALA membership’s needs; and to recommend changes in light of that assessment.
Nominating

• A complete outline of the ALA Nominating Committee’s duties and responsibilities is identified in the ALA Bylaws, Article III. Briefly, they are:
  – The ALA Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect annually; for the position of treasurer, whenever this is required.
  – The Nominating Committee shall nominate annually candidates for members-at-large of Council for three-year terms. The number of nominees shall not be fewer than one-and-one-half times the anticipated number of member-at-large vacancies to be filled at the next election.
  – The Nominating Committee shall also nominate and place on the ballot candidates for a vacancy in the membership of Council, representing the Association at large.
  – The ALA Nominating Committee shall report its nominations at the midwinter meeting of the Council. The final list of the candidates’ names shall be reported in American Libraries.
  – The ALA Nominating Committee shall also include on the official ballot other nominations filed with the executive director by petition of any twenty-five members of the Association at least four months before the annual conference, provided written consent of these nominees shall have been filed with the executive director of the Association.
• Note: No person may be nominated for or serve on the Council unless that person is a personal member of the American Library Association; no candidate may accept nomination from more than one group.
• No person shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee whose written consent has not been filed with the executive director of the Association.
• ALA Nominating Committee, no one of whom shall be a member of the Board, to nominate candidates for elective positions.
Public & Cultural Programs Advisory Committee (PCPAC)

• To serve as an advisory committee to the ALA Public Programs Office. To promote excellence in cultural programming; to assist library staff to become more effective providers of cultural programming; to identify and disseminate resources for cultural programming; and to promote the Cultural Communities Fund.
Research & Statistics

Committee on Research & Statistics (CORS)

- To facilitate research and related activities in all units of the Association, especially activities related to library statistics; to advise the ALA Council and Executive Board on programs, policy, and priorities regarding research and related activities; to recommend procedures to achieve expeditious consideration of all ALA unit proposals for research and related activities by the ALA Executive Board; to encourage the establishment of divisional committees for the purpose of stimulating research and statistics; to maintain liaison with all units of the Association regarding research and related activities in the units; to identify questions regarding library service which need to be answered through research and promote the conduct of research to answer those questions; to review and make recommendations concerning national data collection efforts pertaining to libraries, recommending inclusions, definitions, procedures, and policies as appropriate; to serve as a base committee for liaisons from other associations and groups with shared concerns about library statistics; and to serve as an advisory committee for the Office for Research and Statistics.
Rural, Native, & Tribal Libraries of All Kinds Committee

- To review issues and challenges facing rural, native, and tribal libraries of all kinds
- To collaborate with other ALA units addressing the needs of rural communities
- To serve as an advocate for and partner with libraries serving rural, tribal and native populations
Scholarships & Study Grants Committee (SSGC)

- To make recommendations to the Executive Board and the ALA Council on all policies relating to ALA scholarships, study grants, conference sponsorships or research grants to be made or sponsored by ALA and its units. It shall administer the general scholarships, study grants, conference sponsorships, and research grants presented in the name of the American Library Association, known as “ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants.” All ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants shall exist to advance study or knowledge in library science.
- The Committee shall review periodically the appropriateness of existing ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants; shall recommend modification, elimination, or suspension of existing ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants, as needed; and shall make recommendations with respect to proposed new ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants.
- The Committee shall appoint juries to select recipients of ALA General Scholarships and Study Grants (i.e., scholarships and study grants not administered by a unit of the Association), with the exception of Spectrum juries, and shall coordinate the work of these juries and committees.
- The Committee will work with other units of the Association to coordinate tracking, statistics, and other information about all scholarships and study grants sponsored by ALA and its units. The Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the ALA Scholarships and Study Grants Manual, which includes information for all scholarships and study grants presented by ALA or any of its units; it shall also provide general guidance regarding the procedural aspects of the Scholarships and Study Grants Program (such as information concerning deadline dates and publicity releases).
- Each unit of ALA shall determine, within general ALA policies, new scholarships and study grants relating to its specific area of responsibility, known as “ALA Unit Scholarships and Study Grants.” Each unit shall review periodically the appropriateness of its existing scholarships and study grants; and shall, as needed, modify, eliminate, or suspend its existing scholarship and study grant(s) and shall handle all details and expenses with respect to its scholarship and study grant(s).
- Each unit will submit its proposals for new scholarships and study grants or changes to existing ones as prescribed in the ALA Scholarships and Study Grants Manual to the ALA Scholarships and Study Grants Committee at a regular meeting of the committee at least six months prior to the anticipated date of advertisement.
- The Scholarships and Study Grants Committee will review and provide assistance to the unit on questions of procedure and coordination with other ALA units.
- All new scholarships and study grants must be reported prior to the implementation date to the Scholarships and Study Grants Committee, Executive Board, and Council.
- Each unit is also responsible for submitting complete records as prescribed in the ALA Scholarships and Study Grants Manual concerning its award(s) to the Scholarships and Study Grants Committee in order that the ALA Scholarships And Study Grants Manual maybe maintained.

Roster
Website
Training, Orientation & Leadership Development (TOLD) Committee

- To plan and coordinate training, orientation, and leadership development for member leaders at all levels across the Association. To inventory training and orientation modules in divisions, round tables, and other Association groups. To coordinate the ALA committee internship training program.

[Buttons: Roster, Website, Subgroups]

[Button: ALA Internship Program]
Website Advisory Committee (WAC)

- To develop, review and recommend to Council Association policies for the ALA website.
- To recommend editorial or structural guidelines for the ALA website.
- To provide advice to the ALA Executive Director responsible for implementing such policies and guidelines.
- To provide an ongoing channel for member communication by working closely with other units, committees and offices of the Association.
- To make recommendations concerning technical issues or changes to the ALA website, including evaluating, testing and implementing web-based products and services used by Association members or by the public.
- To advise the Association on priorities and strategies that promote utilization and continued development of the ALA website.

ALA Committees
In order to strengthen the relationship between the ALA and AAP, a Joint Committee of ALA and AAP is established for the discussion of vital issues of mutual concern which affect the development and progress of both organizations. The committee will provide for continuing communication and the interchange of expert advice for information on matters not covered by or in the province of activities of any single unit of ALA.
ALA/Beta Phi Mu Distinguished Lecture Committee

• Has oversight for developing the terms and criteria for selecting lecturers and for issuing invitations for the ALA-Beta Phi Mu Distinguished Lecturers Project.
ALA-CBC Joint Committee

• This committee enables the Children's Book Council and ALA to explore areas of mutual concern. It meets twice annually at CBC headquarters in New York.

Website
Committee on Archives, Libraries and Museums (CALM)

Joint Committee of the ALA, SAA, and AAM

• **Charge:**
  – To foster and develop ways and means of effecting closer cooperation among the organization
  – Encourage the establishment of common standards
  – Undertake such activities as are assigned to the committee by either of its parent bodies
  – Initiate programs of a relevant and timely nature at the annual meetings of one or more parent bodies either through direct Combined Committee sponsorship or by forwarding particular program plans to the appropriate unit of one or more parent bodies for action
  – Refer matters of common concern to appropriate committees of ALA, SAA or AAM.
Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information (MARBI) Committee

- The ALCTS/LITA/RUSA Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI) is the body within the American Library Association responsible for developing official ALA positions on standards for the representation in machine-readable form of bibliographic information. MARBI focuses its attention on the development of the MARC format.
- A thorough introduction to MARBI and its work is available in the pamphlet,
Rainbow Project of ALA - Bibliographies

• The Bibliographies of the Rainbow Project of ALA. The Rainbow Project presents an annual bibliography of quality books with significant and authentic GLBTQ content, which are recommended for people from birth through eighteen years of age.
Brought to You By:

2010 Emerging Leaders – Group L
- Elizabeth Moreau, Anchorage Public Library
- Jeff Bond, Texas Christian University Library
- Monifa Carter, University of Delaware Library
- Reagen Thalacker, USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center Library

Project Description:
Team L was charged to develop a visual guide of ALA’s network of member-group and affiliate relationships, committees, event cycles, and other interactions and connections. The team interviewed several ALA staff members and member-volunteers, and collected information from ALA websites and other documents for this project. The team then built a highly interconnected PowerPoint which shows the association’s units and overall structure, and highlights connections between the various units. The PowerPoint includes many links to ALA and division websites, ALA Connect, and also includes internal links that show the many connections between ALA’s divisions, round tables, committees, offices, ALA Council, and other units.

This is a living document, changing as the network changes. If you have any suggestions for additions or improvements please contact the Office of Information Technology & Telecommunication Services at 1-800-545-2433.