

How to Participate in the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is committed to improving and ensuring the future of the nation through exemplary library service to children, their families and others who work with children.

Further information about ALSC is located at the ALSC Web site at <http://www.ala.org/alsc>, in the ALA Handbook of Organization; *Children and Libraries*: the journal of the Association for Library Service to Children and *ALSCConnect*, the newsletter of ALSC. All of these publications, plus *American Libraries*, the monthly magazine of the American Library Association (ALA), are free with your membership.

If you would like to serve on an ALSC committee, read the descriptions of the committees either below or in the ALA Handbook of Organization. Then complete a Committee Volunteer Form obtained from the ALSC office or available on the ALSC Web site at <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/boardcomm/alscforms/alscforms.htm>.

Introduce yourself to ALSC Officers and Committee Chairs and let them know of your interest in committee work. The ALSC President and Vice President/President-Elect make all committee appointments.

To contact ALSC:

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ALSC Committees and Function Statements (Priority Groups in parentheses):

AASL/ALSC/YALSA INTERDIVISIONAL COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL/PUBLIC LIBRARY COOPERATION

To identify, develop, promote, and disseminate information on effective cooperative or collaborative projects that link schools and public libraries. The committee will maintain and update the resources that have been compiled on the ALA Web site, develop training workshops and/or programs on cooperative or collaborative projects and present them at conferences and institutes and for other organizations serving youth, and detail findings in articles and books for division publications. (PG VII)

ALA/CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL JOINT COMMITTEE

To explore mutual problems concerning content, format, distribution, and promotion of juvenile books and to propose cooperative action to resolve such problems. Appointments to this committee are made by the ALA President.

ALSC/BOOK WHOLESALERS INC. SUMMER READING PROGRAM GRANT COMMITTEE:

To select annually the recipient of the ALSC/Book Wholesalers Summer Reading Program Grant for an outstanding public library summer reading program for children. To prepare and disseminate to the membership information about the winning program for the award. Additionally, to serve as needed as reading program consultants and developers as requested by the ALSC office. (PG-III)

(MAY HILL) ARBUTHNOT HONOR LECTURE COMMITTEE:

To choose annually an individual of distinction who shall prepare and present a paper which shall be a significant contribution to the field of children's literature; to select a host institution and make appropriate arrangements for the presentation of the lecture; to arrange for publication of lecture in *Journal of Youth Services in Libraries*. (PG-III)

(MILDRED L.) BATCHELDER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the books published the preceding year the most outstanding book originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country and subsequently published in English in the United States. (PG-VI)

(LOUISE SEAMAN) BECHTEL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

To select annually up to three (3) librarians, the number to be determined by the income available and the qualifications of the applicants, to be awarded Fellowship(s) in the amount of \$3,750 to read and study at the Baldwin Library of the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, for a period of at least one month. (PG-III)

(PURA) BELPRÉ AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select biennially (every other year) a children's book published in the United States or Puerto Rico to recognize outstanding original works written or illustrated by a Latino/Latina author or illustrator, that portrays, affirms and celebrates the Latino/Latina cultural experience. (PG-VI)

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

To advise the ALSC Executive Director in preparation of annual budget based on the priorities established by the Board; to submit the budget to the ALSC Board for approval; to review for the ALSC Board division activities for fiscal implications; to review for the ALSC Board, on a regular basis, the dues structure and to prepare and submit to the ALSC Board periodic analysis of the finances of the division; to review ALSC's fiscal relationship to ALA and other divisions and to act as liaisons for the ALSC Board to the Planning and Budget Assembly (PG-IV)

(RANDOLPH) CALDECOTT AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished American picture book for children. (PG-VI)

(ANDREW) CARNEGIE AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the videos produced during the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the award, the most distinguished American video for children. (PG-VI)

CHILDREN AND LIBRARIES EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

To determine editorial policy for the ALSC journal *Children and Libraries*, subject to review by the ALSC Board. To suggest themes for forthcoming issues. To recommend resource people for articles and review. To review materials for publication upon request by the editor. (PG-V)

CHILDREN AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

To educate and encourage youth librarians to be leaders on technology issues in their institutions. To identify technology issues impacting youth librarians and to disseminate information to the membership on these issues through programs, training opportunities, and publications both traditional and electronic. (PG-VIII)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE:

To administer annually an award to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to children's services and ALSC. (PG-III)

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:

To identify and disseminate information on effective, cooperative, or innovative programs or young children to libraries, childcare providers, and community agencies serving young children (birth to school age). To develop training workshops on early childhood programs and services and present them at conferences and institutes and for other institutions serving youth. To cooperate as appropriate with other ALSC committees and other associations working with the young child to initiate activities and projects. (PG-I)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

To review the elements considered essential to the formal academic continuing education of children's librarians. To inform the ALSC Board of members' needs and concerns regarding continuing education, and to assist in the initiation of programs and new publications to meet these needs and concerns. To be responsible for periodic review of ALSC Competencies. To represent ALSC at appropriate ALA committees, councils, and assemblies, and to serve as a liaison to these bodies as directed by the ALSC Board. To be responsible for periodic review of ALSC Competencies. (PG-VIII)

(THEODOR SEUSS) GEISEL AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished American book for beginning readers. (PG-VI)

GREAT INTERACTIVE SOFTWARE FOR CHILDREN:

To select, annotate, and present for publication, within the criteria and procedures established for selection, a biannual list of exemplary computer software and multi-platform media currently available. To define and develop guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of interactive software and electronic media. (PG-II)

GREAT WEB SITES COMMITTEE:

To administer and evaluate ALSC's GreatSites within the criteria and procedures established for selection and reconsideration. To complete other Web site selection tasks as appropriate. To maintain communication with the Children and Technology Committee. To work closely with the ALSC staff liaison and the director of the ALA Public Information Office. The committee will function electronically. (PG-II)

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE:

To serve as a liaison between the division and the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee and all other groups within the association concerned with intellectual freedom. To advise the division on matters before the Office for Intellectual Freedom and their implication for library service to children and to make recommendations to the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee for changes in policies involving library service to children; to promote in-service and continuing education programs in the area of intellectual freedom for those who select library material for children. (PG-I)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

Within the association's field of responsibility to encourage and facilitate the use of library techniques and knowledge throughout the world; to exchange professional information, ideas, and literature; to act as liaison with international organizations. To identify individuals and organizations which can serve as a resource for reading and reviewing books in languages other than English. To have the responsibility to develop annotated selective bibliographies of children's books available in the United States: in English that reflect the cultural diversity and/or pluralistic nature of the lifestyles and peoples of the world; translated into English from another language; bilingual; and, in languages other than English. (PG-I)

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:

To serve as a channel of communication on legislative matters between the ALA Legislation Committee and the Division, recommending to the ALSC Board changes as necessary in federal, state, and local legislation proposed by the ALA Legislation Committee. To call to the attention of the ALA Legislation Committee and to recommend to the ALSC Board endorsement or revision of legislation affecting children that might be proposed or supported by the ALA Legislation Committee. (PG-I)

LIAISONS WITH NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SERVING CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE:

To explore, recommend, initiate and implement ways of working with organizations that serve children or work for their benefit; to promote libraries and reading to these organizations; to promote awareness of these organizations' activities, services and informational materials to ALSC members. (PG-VII)

LIBRARY SERVICE TO SPECIAL POPULATION CHILDREN AND THEIR CAREGIVERS COMMITTEE:

To speak for special populations children and their caregivers; these may include those who have learning and physical differences, those who are speaking English as a second language, those who are in a non-traditional school environment, those who are in non-traditional family settings (such as teen parents, foster children, children in the juvenile justice system, and children in gay and lesbian families), and those who need accommodation service to meet their needs. To offer leadership in discovering developing and disseminating information about library materials, programs and facilities for special population children and their caregivers; to develop and maintain guidelines for selection of useful and relevant materials; and to discuss develop and suggest ways in which library education programs can prepare librarians to serve these children and their caregivers. (PG-I)

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE:

To work with the President and Executive Director in performing the tasks necessary to make ALSC Annual Conference functions run smoothly. Tasks delegated to the committee vary from year to year but generally include: 1) Providing monitors for ALSC business and program meetings; distribution of programs or other materials at such meetings. 2) Arranging (with President and Executive Director) for N/C decorations, music, etc. Distributing programs, favors, etc. Providing hostesses at N/C Celebration affairs and handling ticket collection. Managing the receiving line flow. 3) Meeting *Children & Libraries Journal* editor(s) requests and deadlines for local information and photos. 4) Arranging for special events for ALSC members, upon request or upon committee initiative, during conference week. (PG-IV)

MANAGING CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE:

To identify issues relating to the management of children's services; to determine if these issues are being addressed by other divisions or committees; to cooperate as appropriate; and to initiate action to address these issues. Issues may be referred to the Committee by the ALSC Board or the Managing Children's Services Discussion Group.(PG-VIII)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

To plan campaigns for recruiting and securing new members for ALSC at the national, state, regional, and local level. To serve as a channel for communication on membership matters between the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force and the division. To plan and assume responsibility for conference orientation sessions and to welcome and introduce new members to ALSC purposes and procedures. (PG-IV)

NATIONAL PLANNING OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE:

To maintain lists of special collections of children's books and related materials now available in libraries. To encourage the creation of new collections and the strengthening of existing collections. To identify types of collections that need to be established. To establish criteria for defining a special collection. To explore and suggest ways in which special collections can be used locally, nationally, and internationally. To publicize research trends in the field of special collections. To plan and present appropriate programs. (PG-V)

(JOHN) NEWBERY AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. (PG-VI)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

To select candidates for election for the following year. To select candidates to fill any occurring vacancies. (PG-IV)

NOTABLE CHILDREN'S BOOKS COMMITTEE:

To select, annotate, and present for publication annually the list of Notable Children's book of the preceding year. (PG-II)

NOTABLE CHILDREN'S RECORDINGS COMMITTEE:

To select, annotate, and present for publication an annual list of notable audio recordings, disc or tape form, of interest to children. To reevaluate and recommend change as needed in the ALSC Criteria for Selection of Recordings of Interest to Children. To identify titles for consideration by other committees evaluating for a specific clientele or purpose. To carry on other audio recording evaluation projects as assigned by the ALSC Board. (PG-II)

NOTABLE CHILDREN'S VIDEOS COMMITTEE:

To select, annotate, and present for publication annually a list of notable videotapes and video- discs of interest to children, available for use in homes and libraries, produced in the two calendar years prior to the date of their selection. To re-evaluate and to recommend changes as needed in the ALSC criteria for selection of notable videotapes and videodiscs of interest to children. To identify titles for consideration by other committees evaluating for specific clientele or purpose. To carry on other video evaluation projects as assigned by the ALSC Board. To implement the Video Recommendation Policy and Procedures. (PG-II)

(ALSC/Booklist/YALSA) ODYSSEY AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select annually the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States and, if desired, to also select honor titles. (PG-VI)

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE:

To continue to collect audio taped interviews and individual recollections of leaders in the Association for Library Service to Children for the ALSC Oral History Collection; to report annually to the Board on the status of the Collection; to participate actively and to engage the participation of others in the further development of the Collection through interviewing, reviewing individual tapes, preserving and reformatting, working to improve access to the Collection, and calling the Collection to the attention of researchers and others who would find it useful. (PG-V)

ORGANIZATION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE:

To develop for presentation to the Board of Directors a plan for the structure and function of each new committee or discussion group. To study, review and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Board for revision of structure or function, addition, or discontinuation of committees and discussion groups. To make recommendations to the Board on organizational matters affecting ALSC as a whole, and to serve as liaison with the ALA Committee on Organization upon request of the Board. To serve, upon request, in an advisory

capacity to priority group consultants, committee, and discussion groups on organizational matters in ALSC or between ALSC and other ALA divisions. To consider, develop, and present to the Board and subsequently to membership, suggested amendments to the Bylaws. To assist in interpretation of the Bylaws to the Board, the membership, and the ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee. (PG-IV)

PENGUIN YOUNG READERS GROUP AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select annually, in accord with the terms of the award, four children's librarians, who work directly with children, to receive the award. (PG-III)

PRECONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE:

To plan the ALSC Preconference to be held during the ALA Annual Conference.

PROGRAM COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

To serve as a liaison between ALSC committees and groups who are developing programs for conferences, institutes and preconferences to ensure quality and eliminate overlap; to work within the organization to encourage and stimulate creative programming that will provide a wide range of themes and topics appealing to a diverse membership; to review program proposals for membership appeal, relevancy, quality and value; to provide support in actual planning and implementation once approved; to submit requests for approval by the ALSC President. (PG-IV)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:

To act as a clearinghouse for new ALSC publications in consultation with the ALSC Board of Directors; to solicit proposals from ALSC committees, discussion groups, and individual members for books and pamphlets/brochures dealing with children's materials, services to children and children's librarianship to serve the needs of ALSC members; to review all proposals submitted for consideration, to recommend revisions, to select, and then forward outstanding proposals to present to the ALSC Board; to prepare for Board considerations at timely intervals proposed changes in policies and guidelines for ALSC publications; to include with proposals design and marketing strategies as deemed necessary; to review previous publications regularly for accuracy, relevancy, and currency, and to recommend they be maintained, revised/updated, or discontinued; to report biannually to the ALSC Board of Directors on the current status of projects in progress or under consideration by the ALSC Publications Committee. (PG-V)

QUICKLISTS CONSULTING COMMITTEE:

To serve as consultants and to promote books and other resources through recommendations, compilations of lists, and related services for mass media, individuals, and institutions/organizations involved in the production of programs, films, and other materials/services for children, their families, caregivers, and teachers. Requests will be made through the ALSC Office. Quicklists Consulting Committee will function electronically. Attendance at conference will be optional with the exception of the committee chairs. (PG-VII)

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

To discover areas of library service to children in need of study and development, and to stimulate, and encourage such research. To advance library service to children through the use of research and statistics. To educate children's librarians on the value and use of research and statistics. To serve as a liaison to the ALA and division research committees as appropriate. At Midwinter meeting review the Strategic Plan's "Assumptions About the Relevant Future" and inform the Board of changes. (PG-V)

SCHOLARSHIPS: MELCHER AND BOUND TO STAY BOUND COMMITTEE:

To select recipients and alternates for the annual ALSC scholarships: Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound for professional education of librarians to work with children; to publicize the scholarships to potential candidates; and to advise the ALSC Board on needed changes in terms or administration of the scholarships. (PG-III)

SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE:

To identify and disseminate information on effective, cooperative or innovative programming for school-age children to libraries, schools, and community agencies serving youth. To develop training workshops on school-age programs and services and present them at conferences and institutes and for other institutions serving youth. To cooperate as appropriate with other ALSC committees and other associations working with the school-age child to initiate activities and projects. (PG-I)

(ROBERT F.) SIBERT INFORMATIONAL BOOK AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select from the books published in the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the award, the most distinguished American informational book for children. (PG-VI)

TANDEM LIBRARY BOOKS LITERATURE PROGRAM AWARD COMMITTEE:

To select annually the recipient of the Tandem Library Books Literature Program Award, given to an individual who has developed and implemented an innovative and outstanding library program for children using literature to inspire and encourage reading. (PG-III)

(LAURA INGALLS) WILDER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

To select the recipient of the Wilder Award, established by ALSC to give recognition each two years to an author or illustrator whose books published in the U.S. have, over a period of years, made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children. (PG-VI)