Message from ALSC President Andrew Medlar

Dear friends,

2015 is coming to an end and ALSC has so much to be thankful for this year. Our division has the support of so many generous and passionate members who believe in the mission of creating a better future for children through libraries.

The Friends of ALSC is a big part of that movement. Every year, we receive charitable donations from both members and non-members who are excited about our work and want to encourage new ideas and a stronger national library network.

These funds - administered by the ALSC Budget Committee - go to deserving individuals and institutions that are making a difference in the lives of youth. With the oversight of the ALSC Board, the Friends of ALSC are truly changing lives.

Andrew Medlar
ALSC President
ALSC focused its attention on diversity during the 2015 Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. In collaboration with the Children’s Book Council (CBC), ALSC hosted a Day of Diversity: Dialogue and Action in Children’s Literature and Library on Jan. 30, 2015. The forum was followed by an open “Diversity Matters: Stepping it Up with Action!” News You can Use session for all interested members to lend their voice and recommendations.

This forum brought together leaders in children’s literature and literacy to discuss strategies for ensuring that all children have access to diverse literature and library programming. The event included a networking reception, made possible through the generosity of the Chicago Public Library and Friends of ALSC. This event brought attendees together to continue conversations and exchange ideas in an informal setting.
The Friends of ALSC sponsored two tables during the 2015 Newbery-Caldecott-Wilder Banquet on Sunday, June 28, 2015 at the Hilton Union Square in San Francisco. One table was specifically reserved to celebrate individual contributors to the Friends of ALSC and those that submitted their Everyday Advocacy stories as part of ALSC’s grassroots advocacy initiative. Friends of ALSC donors who contributed any donation amount between June 30, 2014 and May 1, 2015 were eligible. Four recipients were selected to receive a ticket to be a guest at one of the Friends of ALSC tables.

The four individual banquet ticket recipients were:

- Claudette McLinn
- Connie Champlin
- Betsy Orsburn
- Michael Santangelo

Additionally, four tickets were given to ALSC members who submitted an Everyday Advocacy story. The recipients were:

- Janet Weber
- Alison King
- Laura Mikowki
- Pam Carlton

The Banquet is a grand event celebrating the Newbery and Caldecott Medalists and Honorees, authors and illustrators of the year’s most distinguished books for children, as well as the annual Wilder Award winner. Past-President Starr LaTronica and *Children and Libraries* Editor Sharon Verbeten hosted the banquet table.
Friends of ALSC Sponsor Prizes for the 2015 Needs Assessment Survey

In Spring 2015, the ALSC Membership Committee launched the 2015 ALSC Membership Needs Assessment Survey. This survey is performed biennially and is designed to assess:

1) who ALSC members are
2) how the division can best serve its members

To encourage participation, the committee offered participants the opportunity to be entered in a giveaway.

These gifts, generously donated by the Friends of ALSC, included:

- eight individual tickets to the 2015 Newbery-Caldecott-Wilder Banquet (table hosted by past Board member Cecilia McGowan and Past-President Mary Fellows):
  - Jill Bickford
  - Molly Carlisle
  - Amber Creger
  - Jerri Heid
  - Lisa Nowlain
  - Katie Salo
  - Heather Salo
  - Pam Were

- four $50 gift certificates to the ALA Store

- 2014 award books including winners and honorees of the Belpre, Geisel, Newbery, and Sibert awards

Based on the results of the survey, the Membership Committee submitted a report to the ALSC Board of Directors at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. Among the findings, the Membership Committee reported a significant growth in millenial membership. The report also showed that members continue to want quality professional development and creative short-term volunteer opportunities.
Thank you to the 2015 Friends of ALSC!

President's Circle
Cynthia K. Richey

Gold Circle
Andrew Medlar

Silver Circle
Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc.
Susan Faust
Maria Gentle
Linda Perkins
Ed Spicer
Judy Zuckerman

Notables' Circle
Alan Bern
Kate Capps
Christine Caputo
Edith Ching
David Edwards
Barbara Genco
Sharon Grover
Paula Holmes
Amy Kellman
Ginny Moore Kruse
Nina Lindsay
Phyllis Mattill
Cecilia McGowan
Claudette McLinn
Betsy Orsburn
Linda Pavonetti
Connie Pottle
Susan Roman (in memory of George Anton, beloved husband of Stephanie Anton)
Michael Santangelo
Vicky Smith
Kay Weisman

Friend's Circle
Marilyn Ackerman
Jill Bickford
Elisa Gall
Patrick Gall
Emily Libke
Kathie Meizner
Pat Mora
Susan Moritz
Megan Schlesman
Beatriz Wallace

(list is through 12/13/15)
Friends of ALSC financials

Friends of ALSC funds are part of a restricted project in the ALSC budget so that unused funds accumulate and are available across fiscal years. In recent years, the fund has sponsored scholarships to attend the Institute, sponsored networking receptions at Midwinter forums and the Institute, a table at the banquet, and digitization of all the back issues of *Children and Libraries*.

Friends of ALSC “membership” follows the calendar year. In December, a Friends of ALSC annual report from the President was sent to Friends of ALSC members outlining the year’s activities and achievements, along with a financial accounting. In order to create the report, financial data was cut-off at November 30, 2015.

During the following conferences, the ALSC Board approved the following expenditures from Friends of ALSC, based on the Budget Committee’s recommendations:

**2015 Annual Conference:**
- Allocating up to $3,000 to support a networking event at the 2016 National Institute
- Allocating up to $1,500 to support the Student Membership Video project, if needed
- Allocating up to $15,000 to support a pilot student membership campaign

**2015 Midwinter Meeting:**
- Recommend approving Babies Need Words Every Day Poster Project for up to $10,000 to be funded from Friends of ALSC in FY15 (Early Literacy designation)
- Recommend approving two Friends of ALSC sponsored banquet tables at 2015 Annual Conference for up to $2,000

**2014 Annual Conference:**
- Allocating up to $5,000 to host a Diversity Forum networking event in January 2015.

Additionally, there is one other authorized expense, approved at the 2013 Annual Conference, to be spent:
- Marketing efforts for new member recruitment – up to $1,000
Friends of ALSC 

Friends of ALSC as of November 30, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Support</th>
<th># of Donations</th>
<th>Amount donated</th>
<th>Balance f/ previous last year</th>
<th>Total fund balance</th>
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Expenditures as of Nov. 30, 2015

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<th>Expenditures as of Nov. 30, 2015</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual Expense</th>
<th>Category to apply deduction</th>
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<td>Day of Diversity Reception Sponsorship</td>
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<td>Two Friends of ALSC sponsored Banquet Tables</td>
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<td>Babies Need Words Every Day Project</td>
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<td>Bank Fees</td>
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Net Asset Balance (fund balance less exp) | $52,482