

ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan  
Implementation Progress

The ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Implementation Progress Report is a quarterly representation of the most recent projects and activities that are underway by ALSC committees and staff in support of ALSC's 2017-2020 Strategic Plan objectives under Advocacy, Diversity & Inclusion and Learning & Development. A full outline of the strategic plan and past progress reports can be accessed on the ALSC website at <http://www.ala.org/alsc/aboutalsc/stratplan>.

**Advocacy**

ALSC will champion the value of library service to children and the resources necessary to deliver on our vision.

1. Establish an accessible content stream of valuation tools and research updates, including customizable content for members, by September 2018. *Transforming ALSC*
  - Media Mentorship – Young Children, New Media and Libraries – ALSC staff, in partnership with University of Washington, and Kent State University and Claudia Haines are working to update the 2014 Young Children, New Media and Libraries survey to collect new data that will inform research on media mentorship.
2. Articulate a prioritized research agenda, including but not limited to summer learning/out- of-school time, by September 2018, and pursue avenues for conducting and/or supporting the research by September 2020. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
  - Research Agenda Task Force - Developed a list of potential priority areas that will be used as a framework for the ALSC Research Agenda and started to develop tentative recommendations for supporting and maintaining oversight of the research agenda.
  - Erikson Institute – Technology and Children (TEC) Center – The TEC Center was awarded an IMLS FY2018 National Leadership Grant for the project “Building an Alliance for Media Literacy in Early Childhood Informal Learning-A National Forum” in collaboration with several partner organizations including, ALSC, Association of Children's Museums (ACM), Chicago Children's Museum (CCM), and National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE). The Tec Center, ALSC and additional partners will lead their stakeholders in forming an alliance for media literacy in early childhood at a leadership forum and a consensus building forum with practitioners. These two forums will enable organizations and leaders, individually and collectively, to identify and implement promising practices in media literacy for young children and families in libraries, museums, community program and other beyond-the-classroom settings.
3. Amplify librarians' essential role as information literacy experts through advocacy outputs, including communications, webinars, and establishing collaborations, by September 2018. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*
  - Charlemae Rollins President's Program Planning 2018 – The President's Program is a way to further the work of acknowledging and advocating for the role of the library profession and

media awards in the field of children's literature and the importance of the consideration of all children in that work.

- Managing Children's Services – The committee is collaborating with the Advocacy and Legislation Committee to plan a webinar about the importance of participating in advocacy activities on work time and getting institutional support to do so.
  - Quicklists Consulting Committee – Among other booklists the committee created the ALSC Summer Reading Lists and provided content for the 2018 National Summer Learning Association Lists.
  - Public Awareness Committee - Received approval and resources from ALSC Board to develop the Champion Toolkit over the next two years. Engaged ALSC membership with survey to inform new Champion Toolkit.
  - Public Awareness Committee - Created [one-page document for NLLD 2018](#) as part of Champion Toolkit.
  - Designing Youth Spaces White Paper – ALSC staff are drafting next steps to develop a white paper on Designing Youth Spaces. The paper is an opportunity to fill a need for guidelines on designing children's spaces in libraries.
4. Increase targeted messaging to the wider library profession and the public about the expertise of ALSC and our members to demonstrate the purpose and value of strong and meaningful children's librarianship by September 2019. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*
- Library Service to Underserved Children & Their Caregivers The committee is proud of the recent blogs that highlight and advocate underserved communities, including a blog post specifically related to the current "Light the Way" grant recipient, detailing the project that impacts refugee children and their families in an underserved library community.
  - National Summer Learning Day – The National Summer Learning Association celebrates its 25th anniversary and will use this opportunity to expand the annual National Summer Learning Day (NSLD), an advocacy day in support of children's continued learning, health, and safety throughout the summer, by collaborating with ALSC to engage library participation across the country. This year on July 12, NSLD will include a national read-aloud of the award-winning book, *Trombone Shorty*, illustrated by 2016 Caldecott Honor recipient, Bryan Collier. ALSC joined NSLA and the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) to present a webinar about how to incorporate this year's national read-aloud selection of *Trombone Shorty* into library programming. The webinar also featured Bryan Collier who will serve as this year's National Summer Learning Ambassador.
  - Summer/Out-of-School Learning Task Force – A recommendation of the task force includes establishing collaboration opportunities with other out-of-school time organizations. A representative from the task force participated on a webinar, hosted by the National Summer Learning Association, a targeted organization for collaboration, to promote libraries work in

summer learning and in support of National Summer Learning Day on July 12, 2018, with which ALSC is a collaborating partner.

Other activities in support of the Advocacy strategic action area:

- Intellectual Freedom Committee - Through liaison status, contributed to work products of ALA Intellectual Freedom committee during Midwinter meeting and through phone conferences. (Specifically, Disinvited Speakers group).

### **Diversity & Inclusion**

ALSC will become more diverse and inclusive, acting to promote these values in all aspects of library service to children.

1. Increase diversity in ALSC membership and reduce barriers to participation as measured against the Diversity in ALSC baseline survey by September 2019. *Transforming ALSC*
2. Expand opportunities for existing members from underrepresented experiences to serve in ALSC activities, as measured by longitudinal studies and/or focus groups, by September 2020. *Transforming ALSC*
  - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Task Force – The task force is designing a program that would immediately work toward directly making ALSC more diverse and inclusive by encouraging active, equitable engagement in the association.
  - The Friends of ALSC (FoA) has awarded two scholarships for National Institute attendance. FoA will also sponsor an additional scholarship for a North Carolina resident who identifies as part of the LBGTQAI+ community as continued support of the decision to cancel the 2016 ALSC Institute in North Carolina.
3. Increase the cultural competency of library staff serving youth by developing an accessible online cultural competency training series by September 2018. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
  - Education Committee - The committee will continue soliciting proposals and scheduling webinars as part of the cultural competency training. Eventually, the committee will “bundle” these webinars into a series and develop questions and prompts that can be used by discussion/study groups.
  - ALSC Emerging Leader Team – The 2018 team has developed a script addressing microaggressions that can be developed into a video for the cultural competency training webinars. The team will report on the results of a survey they shared with ALSC members to learn more about member understanding of microaggressions and cultural competency. Survey result and a poster presentation will be delivered at the 2018 Annual Conference.

Other activities in support of the Diversity and Inclusion strategic action area:

- Library Service to Underserved Children & Their Caregivers - Through the combination of selecting a grant winner and providing a blog platform for publicizing the services and projects

## ALSC Board AC 2018 DOC #21c

designed to reach underserved children and their caregivers our committee strives to inform the library community of the opportunities to implement programming that is both inclusive and reaches diverse populations.

- Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media - Chair shared recording of ALSC Awards and Diversity Discussion as facilitated by K.T. Horning and asked members to listen prior to Annual. Committee members will discuss at Annual how to be inclusive and consider the needs of diverse communities when evaluating media.
- Melcher & Bound to Stay Bound Scholarships – The committee is reviewing the Committee Manual and scholarship applications and criteria with respect to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Charlemae Rollins President's Program Planning 2018 – The committee continues to work on the President's program which is wholly focused on diversity and inclusion. The speakers will represent and address these essential goals, and they will challenge attendees to think more critically about how this looks in action in regards to ALSC's work around literature for youth.
- Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship Committee - At ALA, there will be an item on the agenda about how to encourage more people to apply for the Bechtel Fellowship. This will include a discussion about ways to encourage more diverse applicants.
- Youth Media Awards & ALA Affiliates – In continuing efforts to celebrate diversity, ALSC staff are working with ALA and the ALA Ethnic Affiliates to add select youth media awards from ALA Ethnic Affiliate groups beginning with the 2019 Youth Media Award announcements.
- El día de los niños /El día de los libros – ALSC staff and committee members actively promoted El día de los niños /El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), also known as Día, a celebration every day of children, families, and reading that culminates yearly on April 30<sup>th</sup>. This year Día event registrations exceed 300.
- Awards Program Review – At the 2018 Midwinter Meeting, the ALSC Board of Directors took action to establish a task force to review the ALSC awards program, beginning with the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. The Awards Program Review Task Force is underway to bring recommendations regarding the award to the Board at Annual Conference 2018.
- 2018 National Institute Connection Event – ALSC will be hosting a Connection Event at the 2018 National Institute. The event welcomes ASLC members and colleagues interested in youth librarianship for a free networking reception. This event, funded by the Friends of ALSC, will include networking opportunities with invited, local non-library organizations representing the diversity of the host city, Cincinnati, OH.

### **Learning & Development**

ALSC will actively develop new generations of leaders.

**ALSC Board AC 2018**  
**DOC #21c**

1. Build a discernible pathway, along with opportunities for training and mentorship, to develop ALSC members as leaders in their libraries, the profession, and/or the association by September 2020.

*Transforming ALSC*

- School Age Programs and Services – The committee is continuing development of the Tween Maker Launch Pad (previously the Tween Maker Toolkit) and includes the integration of interviews.
- Charlemae Rollins President's Program Planning 2018 - From the outset, we envisioned this program as starting at a point beyond Diversity 101. In addition to the content of the program itself challenging--we hope--attendees to think even more critically, the Resource Guide developed for the program will also be a terrific source of information for attendees and others in terms of critical thinking, with suggested readings on diversity, representation, race and racism in children's literature, as well as a "must-have" list of books for libraries.
- Membership- Planned Midwinter Member Dinner for new ALSC Members and will follow up with another Member Dinner for Annual Conference; promoted the ALSC Roadshow, created a Powerpoint presentation about ALSC for potential presenters to use at conferences.
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Task Force – The task force is designing a fellowship program that actively develops a new generation of diverse leaders for the association.
- Student Gift Membership Task Force - Conducted a midpoint survey in February 2018 to gauge student member participation and to collect data on race/ethnicity; prepared a report on midpoint survey results.
- Organization and Bylaws Committee - Surveyed committee chairs to update the “What Does that ALSC Committee Do?” portion of the ALSC Website and delivered content to ALSC staff.
- Organization and Bylaws Committee - Sent survey to co-chairs regarding co-chair arrangement benefits and challenges. Results will guide planning for process committees. Also working on internal committee communication and best practices for new members.
- Mentoring Program – Applications for the next round of the ALSC Mentoring Program will open in July 2018. ALSC will alternate between two types of communication to mentor and mentee matches: newsletters that include a personal note from ALSC leadership or a mentor match in the program and check-ins from members of the Mentoring Working Group. This added support and attention to the program is expected to increase interest in participation for 2018.

2. Provide at least two educational opportunities in media mentorship and child development, ideally developed and/or presented with collaborative partners from other ALA units, by September 2018.

*Transforming Children's Librarianship*

## ALSC Board AC 2018 DOC #21c

- Children & Technology – The committee created the “New Media and Preschool Services” webinar that is scheduled for August. The committee is working on a second webinar proposal on podcasting that will be submitted in June to the Education Committee.
3. Organize and promote ALSC activities to position the core competencies as central to library service to children, by September 2018. *Transforming Children’s Librarianship*
- Education Committee - The committee developed a draft of an ALSC Presenter Guide to assist prospective webinar and course instructors.
  - Managing Children’s Services - Developed Three-part webinar series focused on leadership in youth services, specifically: finding leadership opportunities outside your organization, recognizing and marketing your skills, and moving beyond youth management into the wider library (becoming director, etc.).
  - Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship Committee – The committee continues to explore ways to create a webinar for online learning opportunities for children's librarians and others to learn about special collections.
  - Intellectual Freedom Committee- Committee decided to create a toolkit for intellectual freedom training. Co-chairs attended a PLA working group that is also planning to put together a tool kit for IF training. The committee will try to collaborate with PLA so as not to create a duplicate effort.
4. Develop a toolkit of research-based best practices for out-of-school time learning and disseminate the toolkit and practices to members by September 2019. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*
- Dollar General Literacy Fund (DGLF) – Every Reads – Strengthening Communities Through Libraries (SCTL) – The DGLF grant will help libraries provide STEAM-focused learning for children during breaks and in after-school programs. ALSC awarded fourteen \$5000 minigrants to members in public libraries and will be hosting a webinar for librarians who have implemented SCTL or similar out of school time programs to share their experiences and tips. The outcomes of these grants will inform the development of a research-based best practices toolkit in service to ALSC’s Strategic Plan. ALSC has also applied through ALA for the 9<sup>th</sup> year of funding.

Other activities in support of the Learning and Development strategic action area:

- Website Advisory Committee - members completed a comprehensive review of the new ALSC website (as of January 2018) - resulting in many content change recommendations and new content proposals.
- AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation - Continued promotion of the toolkit including an upcoming article about the toolkit in the June issue of School Library Journal.

### Opportunities

**ALSC Board AC 2018  
DOC #21c**

ALSC considers many opportunities for collaboration with ALA Divisions and other organizations. The ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan serves as a primary guide for determining how ALSC will prioritize potential projects and activities. These potential opportunities are identified below:

- The Public Library Association (PLA) has identified speaker training as a priority for 2019 for their national conference presenters and for public librarians. PLA is in the beginning stages of developing a new offering and is seeking to work with other ALA divisions to compile what might already exist for speaker trainings and/or determine if there might be interest in collaborating on a new program offering.