

ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan  
Implementation Progress

**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*
  - No additional activities under this objective to report, at this time.
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*
  - The Library Service to Underserved Children and their Caregivers committee is currently in communication with researchers from Kent State University's School of Information and University of Washington's Information School to possibly collaborate with and/or assist them to conduct an ALA Hot Topic program at the 2018 ALA Annual Conference. The session will cover results from a survey designed to elicit information regarding library outreach offerings to reach and support children and caregivers in underserved communities.
  - The Research Agenda Task Force created and disseminated a survey for ALSC membership to collect member ideas on potential research topics. The committee has narrowed down the list of topics for the research agenda and will incorporate survey results before finalizing the topics and moving forward with creating questions that fit within each topic. Objectives of the ALSC Strategic Plan will be addressed in the final product of the research agenda.
  - The Summer/Out of School Time Task Force is working on a Legislative Day Handout that includes summer learning messaging and talking points.
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*
  - The Advocacy & Legislation committee continues to support grassroots advocacy through blog posts, which have included interviews with librarians directly involved in advocacy work and a focus on advocacy resources. The committee also will contribute to the advocacy column for Children and Libraries.
  - The Advocacy & Legislation committee is collaborating with the Managing Children's Services committee to create a webinar about advocacy that will include sections addressing managers.
  - The Advocacy & Legislation committee co-chairs will join members of the Public Awareness Committee for an ALSC 2018 National Institute workshop presentation titled, "Demystifying Advocacy: Building support for your library" which will highlight the committee's toolkit for advocating with elected officials about the importance of youth librarianship.
  - The Intellectual Freedom committee is updating the content for the existing "Kids, Know Your Rights" publication that introduces the concepts central to intellectual freedom and the library's role in protecting First Amendment Rights. The final draft is projected to be completed by the end of the Midwinter meeting, and the undated versions posted/published soon thereafter.

- The Library Service to Underserved Children and their Caregivers committee took part in an ALSC Community Forum on January 10, 2018 addressing the topic of inclusive spaces and services in libraries.
  - The Library Service to Underserved Children and their Caregivers committee wrote an ALSC blog in December 2017 addressing a need to provide information on little-or-no- cost adapted storytimes and highlighted additional resources to assist other libraries with this extremely important program implementation.
  - The Public Awareness committee is working on Year 1 of a virtual toolkit to champion children's services and continues to manage the "Post-Election" resource for ALSC, renamed "Serving Diverse Communities".
  - The Public Awareness committee has been using blog posts to highlight professional development resources, inspiring programs and partnerships, and uplift ALSC community.
  - School-Age Programs and Service committee continues to use their meetings to move the work forward on the Tween Maker Toolkit.
  - The AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation has created a Public Library and School Library Collaboration Toolkit which will provide helpful guidance to school and public librarians on how to work together to increase access and support for students.
  - The Education committee has approved two webinars, "Bringing PLUM Landing to Your Library and Community" and "Introducing the Notable Books for a Global Society".
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*
- The Advocacy & Legislation committee is also considering a project with the Washington Office in support of National Library Legislative Day 2018.
  - The Membership committee is currently trying to reach out to School of Library and Information Studies students to show them the benefits of ALSC membership and the resources available through ALSC.
  - The Building Partnerships committee has been working on a robust, interactive spreadsheet teeming with information for national, state, and local organizations for partnering.
  - The Everyday Advocacy newsletter continues to highlight the contributions of ALSC members and their libraries as they relate to the Everyday Advocacy initiative's five tenets: Be Informed, Engage with Your Community, Speak Out, Get Inspired, and Share Your Advocacy Story. Recent features have included a refresher on Advocacy 101: Advocacy within the Library and highlights of recent contributions to ALSC blog content by ALSC Advocacy committees.
  - The Erikson Institute - Technology and Children (TEC) Center, has submitted an IMLS National Leadership Grant as a National Forum Grant application along 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). If awarded, the TEC Center and 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 programs and other beyond the classroom settings.

Other activities in support of the Advocacy strategic action area:

**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*
  - ALSC worked to expand the Spectrum Scholar program and will increase the Spectrum Scholar award from one to two Scholars each year for applicants who expresses an interest in library service to children.
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*
  - The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Task Force has been exploring options addressing recommendation 5.4 of their charge, “Create a scholarship fund to support visible minorities’ ALSC membership for up to 2 years if they serve on an ALSC Committee”.
  - ALSC incorporated a demographic section on the volunteer form and the Bill Morris Seminar application to allow members to self-identify under several underrepresented groups.
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*
  - The Education committee and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Task Force plans to develop a webinar series on the topics of diversity and cultural competence.
  - ALSC submitted a 2018 ALSC Emerging Leader project proposal and the proposal was accepted. The 2018 EL Team will help ALSC deliver on its Diversity and Inclusion objectives by developing the framework for a cultural competency training video that will complement a future online cultural competency training series. Specifically, the training video will enhance the understanding of microaggressions – what we say and how we say it- and the impact they have on common workplace and social interactions.

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

- ALSC, YALSA, ODLIS, ALA Governance Office and the ALA Public Awareness Office and the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have begun communicating with ALA ethnic affiliate groups to include their book and media awards in the FY19 Youth Media Awards (YMA). Discussions and a formal announcement are in progress.
- The Library Service to Underserved Children and their Caregivers committee communicated with past “Light the Way” grant winners to receive updates and solicit them to each author a blog post detailing their progress raising the profile of the "Light the Way" grant and provide a platform for grant winners to share out their excellent work. “The ALSC/Candlewick Press "Light the Way" Grant is sponsored by Candlewick Press in honor of author Kate DiCamillo and the themes represented in her books. The

award consists of a \$3,000 grant to assist a library in conducting exemplary and replicable outreach to underserved populations through a new and *innovative* program or an expansion of work already being done”.

- The Public Awareness committee promoted REFORMA and ALSC’s 2018 Pura Belpré Award Committee new resource, “Stories of Immigration: Perspectives from Pura Belpré Medal and Honor Books”.
- The Notable Children’s Digital Media committee has developed a preliminary list of 15 recommended free apps. One of the tools used for app evaluation is the DIG Checklist tool developed by Claudia Haines, available on the KIDMAP site here. The tool was designed to help evaluators “...identify and recognize high-quality, inclusive children's digital media.”
- The Grants Administration committee actively looks for award applications that would, while meeting award criteria and requirements, support ALSC’s goal of increased diversity and inclusion within all ALSC grants including the Penguin Random House Young Readers Group Award, the Baker and Taylor Summer Reading Program Grant and the Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Award.
- The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Task Force Board Liaison reached out to the Morris Seminar leaders on behalf of the task force to share equity, diversity, and inclusion resources for discussion with seminar participants.
- The Membership committee has been writing postcards to every new member as a personal welcome to ALSC. The committee will host a dinner at the 2018 Midwinter Conference promoted to ALSC members but open to anyone unsure about the Midwinter conference or members who do not know anyone at conference to provide a personal connection with them.
- The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Task Force met with the Director of the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, who shared some of the relevant work that ODLOS and other ALA divisions are doing that can inform the work of the EDI Implementation Task Force.
- The Program Coordinating committee incorporated diversity and inclusion objectives from ALSC’s strategic plan when selecting sessions for the ALSC 2018 National Institute the 2018 ALA Annual Conference and is confident that the programs selected represent an inclusive and diverse group of individuals and viewpoints. Special care was given to ensuring that program topics addressed these issues.
- The 2018 National Institute Planning Task Force finalized the keynote speakers and Breakfast for Bill panel, which include a diverse range of own voices authors and illustrators. Several of the programs offered also fit in with this theme. A Big Ideas session will include ideas for how we can be more proactive and informed in advocating, decision-making, and working with all stakeholders to promote diverse literature.
- The Wednesday night reception for the National Institute will be held at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and will be open to those registered and non-registered for the National Institute. The reception theme is diversity and inclusion.
- The Charlemae Rollins President’s Program committee created an entire program built around diversity and inclusion with invited speakers to envision what a book evaluation in ALSC might look like if diversity and inclusion are truly foundational to our individual and shared thinking. The program is designed to start at a point beyond Diversity 101 and challenge ALSC members to push their own thinking as it applies to their work on book/media evaluation in ALSC, and in their professional lives.
- The Pura Belpré Award 2018 Selection Committee is working on a proposal to create display of related item (like articles of clothing) during the awards announcement ceremony, to create excitement about the Belpré Award for our members.
- When reviewing the Bechtel applications, the Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship committee discussed the impact of the research topics of prospective fellows and whether or not the topics included investigations into diversity and inclusion.

- The Quicklists Consulting Committee updated the Building STEAM with Dia list with a number of titles by authors of color, featuring titles that are inclusive.

### Learning & Development

ALSC will actively develop new generations of leaders.

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*
  - The Student Gift Membership Task Force continues to alert gift membership recipients about professional development opportunities in ALSC. Recipients will have a chance to win a free ALSC online course by filling out our mid-point survey.
  - In January the Student Gift Membership Task Force will send gift membership recipients a mid-point survey to assess their involvement in ALSC in their first year of membership, and how we can support them. There has also been discussion about creating an online forum for recipients to meet each other, if there is enough interest. The committee is also recruiting recipients to be featured in ALSC blog posts, one of whom was interviewed for the December 4, 2017 blog post.
  - The Education committee developed the "Get Involved with ALSC" webinar in collaboration with ALSC Vice President/Elect that clarifies the different opportunities for involvement that ALSC offers as well as the process for volunteering in ALSC. The topics of the webinar were informed by a survey sent via the ALSC-L listserv.
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*
  - No additional activities under this objective to report, at this time.
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*
  - The Managing Children's Services committee has led three ALSC webinars related to management of children's services: Strategic Planning in the Youth Services Department, Program Evaluation, and Employee Engagement. All were well received and provided some ideas around what topics participants were especially interested in and where the committee might want to share further information in the future. The committee is also exploring options to create an online Ask-A-Manager form to allow anyone with questions related to managing children's services in libraries to anonymously submit and receive answers from the committee. The form could incorporate privacy language, liability disclaimers and submission guidelines.
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*

**ALSC Board MW 2018**  
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- The Summer/Out of School Time Task Force began planning online education opportunities for children's librarians and will be contacting the education committee to collaborate on offering a webinar or other learning opportunity.

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

The Batchelder Award Evolution Task Force is working on a survey to ascertain librarians', educators', and publishers' knowledge and thoughts about the Batchelder Award. The task force hopes that this survey and other activities they are planning that we will raise awareness of the Batchelder Award among librarians, teachers, publishers and the like, and make suggestions that will create a contemporary framework for this award.