Welcome to ALSC! Committees are the heart of ALSC. They are rich and varied. Each committee performs a distinct function within the organization. Some create resources, some give awards, and others help spread the word of ALSC.

To choose which committee is right for you, please use this document as a guide. When you have found a committee that suits your needs, fill out the Committee Volunteer Form inside.

Priorities Groups

Each committee falls under a priority group that classifies the committee into seven larger categories within ALSC. The seven priority groups are:

Priority Group I: Child Advocacy
To identify, evaluate and make recommendations on issues, legislation and services concerning children on the local, state and national levels.

Priority Group II: Evaluation of Media
To evaluate, to establish standards for, and to encourage the availability of materials for children. Priority group consultant, committee chairpersons, and discussion group leaders will review annually the functions of each of the committees and discussion groups and make any recommendations necessary to meet the responsibilities of this priority group. To maintain liaison with ALA committees, divisions, round tables, and other ALSC priority groups with common concerns.

Priority Group III: Professional Awards & Scholarships
To identify and recognize professional achievement and foster excellence in youth services through scholarships and awards.

Priority Group IV: Organizational Support
To review, recommend and prepare policies and budgets and to advise on issues affecting the organizational structure of the division.

Priority Group V: Awards
To nominate or select recipients of the awards based on the award criteria. Priority group consultant and committee chair will review annually the procedures of each of the committees and make any recommendations necessary to meet the responsibilities of this group. To maintain liaison with ALA committees, divisions, round tables and other ALSC priority groups with common concerns.

Priority Group VI: Partnerships
To open and maintain lines of communication with other organizations which share common interests. To encourage partnerships with these organizations which serve to promote the delivery of library services to children. To identify, evaluate, and recommend ways of working with other organizations and groups concerned with children on local, state, and national levels.

Priority Group VII: Professional Development
To identify and investigate issues relating to children’s services and to recommend and initiate action to improve those services.

Committee Descriptions

Priority Group I: Child Advocacy
Early Childhood Programs and Services To identify and disseminate information on effective, cooperative, or innovative programs for young children to libraries, childcare providers, and community agencies serving young children (birth to 5); to develop training workshops on early childhood programs and services and present them at conferences and institutes; to update and develop ALSC resources with early literacy information; to cooperate as appropriate with other ALSC committees and other associations working with the young child to initiate activities and projects.

Intellectual Freedom 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 promote in-service and continuing education programs in the area of intellectual freedom for those who select library materials for children.

Advocacy and Legislation 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
to reconsider. To complete other Web site selection tasks
Sites within the criteria and procedures established for selection
and suggest ways in which library education programs can prepare
children and their caregivers; to develop and maintain guidelines
library materials, programs and facilities for special population
in discovering developing and disseminating information about
accommodation service to meet their needs. To offer leadership
and children in gay and lesbian families), and those who need
language, those who are in a non-traditional school environment,
physical differences, those who are speaking English as a second
awareness learning opportunities for library staff and other
the importance of library service for youth. To provide public
coordinate, and disseminate public awareness campaigns about
the ALSC/BWI Summer Reading Program Grant for an
illustrator; the recipient(s) of the Penguin Young Readers
the preceding year.
the Library Service to Children for the ALSC Oral History Collection; to report
and individual recollections of leaders in the Association for Library
and Bylaws Committee.
ALSC Committees
Submit your form electronically: alsccommitees@ala.org
or by mail: ALSC, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611
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ALSC Committees
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Priority Group VI: Partnerships

AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/ Public Library Cooperation To design and conduct a project of mutual interest and benefit to the three participating ALA Divisions, working from a platform identified by the AASL/ALSC/YALSA Presidents-Elect.

Liaison with National Organizations Serving Children and Youth 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.

Quicklists Consulting [v] 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.

Priority Group VII: Professional Development

Children and Libraries Editorial Advisory [v] 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; and to review materials for publication upon request by the editor.

Children and Technology [v] To educate and encourage youth librarians to be leaders on technology issues in their institutions, and 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.

Education [v] 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; and to be responsible for periodic review of ALSC Competencies.

Managing Children’s Services [v] 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.

Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship 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. To administer the Bechtel Fellowship, a $4,000 grant 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.

Thank you for volunteering!