Message from ALSC President Ellen Riordan

Dear friends,

The end of the year is typically when we reflect on how fortunate we’ve been. The Friends of ALSC is no different. Through the generosity of our members, we’ve been able to make some dreams a reality.

You’ll learn more about one of the best examples here on this page. This year, the Friends of ALSC sent two deserving members to the National Institute. What an exciting way to meet new people and learn more about their profession!

In case you’re wondering, the Friends of ALSC funds are administered by the ALSC Budget Committee and disbursements of funds require ALSC Board approval. With this stewardship in place, please know that your contribution will go to the best possible place for members. Thank you!

Ellen Riordan
ALSC President

Institute reflection: Gesse Stark-Smith

“As I look back at the conference as a whole, what comes into focus for me are particular moments when I saw the work we do in a new light. We’re all so busy at our jobs that it can be hard to take a step back to think about the impact our work has and to be intentional about how we want to support our communities.

As children’s librarians, I truly believe that we are each other’s best resource. Having the opportunity to attend a whole conference with our colleagues has left me feeling connected, supported and heard like never before.”

Read more from Gesse’s October 14, 2014 ALSC Blog reflection post.

Institute reflection: Nicole Martin

“I was lucky enough to attend the 2014 ALSC National Institute in Oakland, California thanks to a generous scholarship awarded to me by the Friends of ALSC. I am so grateful for the time spent at the Institute last month and would like to thank the Friends for enabling me to participate in such a stellar weekend of learning and fun. And a huge thanks to everyone at ALSC who worked hard to put together the Institute!”

Read more from Nicole’s October 21, 2014 ALSC Blog reflection post.

Want to join the Friends of ALSC? Go to http://www.ala.org/alsc/donate

Martin and Stark-Smith win Institute scholarships

The Friends of ALSC awarded two scholarships to attend the 2014 ALSC National Institute in Oakland, California. The recipients were Nicole Martin, children’s librarian at the Grafton-Midview Public Library, Grafton, Ohio and Gesse Stark-Smith, bilingual youth librarian at the Multnomah County Library in Fairview, Ore.

Martin and Stark-Smith were chosen from a pool of more than 50 well-qualified applicants. Criteria for selection included commitment to children’s library services and to ALSC; leadership qualities as displayed through library and community involvement; need for professional development and desired outcome for attending the ALSC Institute; financial need for scholarship, personally and professionally; and well-roundedness of the applicant.

Institute reflection: Nicole Martin

“I was lucky enough to attend the 2014 ALSC National Institute in Oakland, California thanks to a generous scholarship awarded to me by the Friends of ALSC. I am so grateful for the time spent at the Institute last month and would like to thank the Friends for enabling me to participate in such a stellar weekend of learning and fun. And a huge thanks to everyone at ALSC who worked hard to put together the Institute!”

Read more from Nicole’s October 21, 2014 ALSC Blog reflection post.

Friends of ALSC sponsors Children’s Fairyland reception

At the 2014 ALSC National Institute, the Friends of ALSC sponsored the Friday night reception at Children’s Fairyland, located in downtown Oakland.

The event included a panel presentation. After the presentation, attendees took part in small group discussions and interactive breakout sessions on important topics in youth services. The event was followed by a reception that included book signings, networking, and a puppet show.
Why your contribution is important to ALSC

Every year, ALSC seeks to help children's librarians achieve new and exciting goals such as completing an online course or webinar, attending a special conference event, or receiving a new piece of technology for their library.

Your contribution helps ALSC tackle four important areas of our field:

- Professional Development
- Early Literacy Projects
- Innovative Conference Programs and Institutes
- 21st Century Challenges

We thank you for your donation and we hope that you will continue to be a part of Friends of ALSC in the future.

Friends of ALSC recognized at 2014 Newbery-Caldecott Banquet

Donors to the Friends of ALSC were recognized at the 2014 Newbery-Caldecott Banquet in Las Vegas, Nev. The banquet, held in honor of the 2014 award recipients (pictured, right), was held on Sunday, June 29, 2014 at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel.

Each donor had his/her name listed on the banquet presentation. Donors were recognized by contribution circle. In addition to being recognized at the banquet, donors are also acknowledged in the newsletter, *ALSC Matters!* and with a special listing on the ALSC website.

Friends of ALSC sponsors 2014 ALSC Blog Photo Contest

To celebrate the creativity of members, the Friends of ALSC supported the 2014 ALSC Blog Photo Contest. To participate, members were encouraged to submit photos that related to children’s library service.

The contest was only open to ALSC members. Twelve contestants submitted photos in two categories, each of which was tied to a specific award: banquet tickets or Barnes & Noble gift certificates. There were four winners in each category. Winners were determined by public vote. Nearly 500 individuals voted. Winning photos were displayed on the ALSC Blog and Facebook page.

CAL goes digital thanks to Friends of ALSC funds

The Friends of ALSC funded the digitization of the first 11 volumes (2003-2013) of *Children and Libraries: The Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children*.

Each archived issue currently is available at http://alsc.metapress.com and is open access to all. The CAL digital archive was unveiled in Spring 2014 when the first, new online issue of CAL (Spring 2014) was released.
Friends of ALSC financials

In FY2007, the Friends of ALSC changed from an operating project to a restricted project so that unused funds could accumulate rather than rolling over into ALSC’s fund balance. In recent years, the group has sponsored scholarships to attend the Institute and preconference, sponsored lunches at events, a table at the banquet, and digitization of all the back issues of *Children and Libraries*.

The Friends of ALSC “membership” year began following the calendar year in FY2012. In December, a Friends of ALSC annual report from the President is sent to Friends of ALSC members outlining the year’s activities and achievements, along with a financial accounting. In order to create this report, financial data was cut-off at November 30, 2014.

During the 2014 Midwinter Meeting, the ALSC Board approved the following expenditures, in the amount of $6,800, from the Friends of ALSC, based on the Budget Committee’s recommendations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Support</th>
<th># of Donations</th>
<th>Amount donated</th>
<th>Balance from previous reporting period</th>
<th>Total fund balance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified Donations</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>21st Century Challenges</td>
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<td>$1,105.50</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$9,382.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,743.56</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,126.71</strong></td>
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Expenditures as of 11/30/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual Expense</th>
<th>Category to apply deduction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute Reception Sponsorship</td>
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<td>$3,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Institute Travel Scholarships</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>Two Institute Registrations</td>
<td>$800</td>
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<td>Friends of ALSC-sponsored Banquet Table</td>
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<td>Metapress for CAL (digitization) 2/28/14</td>
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<td>Bank Fees</td>
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<td>Accounting adjustment (error w/ manual calculations due to calendar yr vs. fiscal year)</td>
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<td>$117.43</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Asset Balance</strong></td>
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