



## The Election Results Are In!

John "Mack" Freeman has been elected IFRT vice-chair/chair-elect. Steve Norman has been elected to serve a two-year term as treasurer. Sarah Houghton and Eldon Ray James have been elected to two-year terms as directors-at-large.

Thank you to all those who ran in this year's election.

[Read more...](#)



## The Merritt Fund is Here for You

Have you or anyone you know been denied employment rights or discriminated against on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, religion, age, disability, or place of national origin? Have you or anyone you know been denied employment rights because of the defense of intellectual freedom?

If so, the [LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund](#) is available to help you. This fund was established in 1970 as a special trust in memory of LeRoy C. Merritt to provide direct financial aid to librarians faced with denial of these rights. The IFRT Merritt Fund Support Committee is very pleased that the IFRT Awards Reception and Member Social — held on Saturday, June 24, at 7 p.m. during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago — will host a recognition fundraiser for the Merritt Fund.

If you can't join us in Chicago, please go to the [Merritt Fund donation page](#) on the ALA website to support the Merritt Fund. Although the donation is not tax-deductible, all funds are used to provide relief to our fellow librarians in need. The Merritt Fund has made a huge difference for many people who have found themselves in difficult employment and defense of intellectual freedom situations.

Thanks for all your support.

Ma'lis Wendt, Chair of the Merritt Fund Support Committee



## Get Involved with IFRT

Chair-Elect Charles E. Kratz Jr. is working on appointments for the 2017-2018 program year and invites you to express your interest in serving on an IFRT committee. Appointments will be made for [all IFRT committees](#). Members can also express their willingness to run for the Executive Board in the 2018 election. Please complete the Committee Volunteer Form if you are interested in serving on a committee and/or serving on the Executive Board.

[Complete the Committee Volunteer Form...](#)

## Revised Bylaws Approved

The 2017 IFRT ballot included a series of 12 revisions to the IFRT Bylaws. The revisions were made to reflect current IFRT and ALA practice and procedures. All 12 revisions were adopted, with 92.5% of the 345 members participating in the election voting "yes." The amendments became effective immediately upon certification of the election results.

[Read the updated bylaws...](#)



## Apply for Banned Books Week Grant

Kicking off National Library Week last Monday, the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom released the [Top Ten Challenged Books of 2016](#). The office also unveiled the American Library Association's new theme for Banned Books Week: Words have power.

Just because National Library Week is over doesn't mean the celebration of libraries and the freedom to read ends. The Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) is offering \$1,000 to \$2,500 grants to libraries and nonprofits to execute creative Banned Books Week programs. With the powerful new ALA Banned Books Week theme, the possibilities are endless for innovative and impactful program ideas.

[Apply for a FTRF grant today...](#)





#intellectualfreedom

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