

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Annual Conference  
New Orleans  
June 22-26, 2018**

**Topic:**                   **Connecting the Board to ALA Affiliates & Round Tables**

**Background:**           At the 2018 Midwinter Meeting of the ALA Executive Board, Sandra Hughes-Hassell presented a proposal on behalf of YALSA’s Board that outlined the rationale and suggested tactics for building stronger ties with ALA Affiliates. During the ensuing discussion the idea to have YALSA become institutional members of ALA Affiliate Associations and Round Tables was suggested. Derek Ivie has presented the proposal below to allow one Board member each year to become a designated Affiliate/Round Table Liaison as one means of demonstrating YALSA’s commitment to working with the Affiliates and Round Tables.

**Action Required:**   **Action**

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**Proposed Action**

Each year identify one Board Member to serve as YALSA’s official liaison to ALA Affiliates and Round Tables that focus on serving one or more traditionally underrepresented groups.

**Proposal**

Join the designated Board Member to all relevant Affiliates and Round Tables as a personal member.

- American Indian Library Association (AILA)
- Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)
- Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)
- Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)
- Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA)
- Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)
- National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking (REFORMA)
- Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT)

YALSA would pay for the cost of these memberships and model this Affiliate/Roundtable Liaison role after the ALA Committee Liaison position that was established last year, with the focus on

increasing awareness of each other's key activities and identifying ways to work together for mutual benefit. The Liaison could attend virtual and in-person Affiliate and Round Table meetings and events as their schedule allowed and provide formal a report to the Board two times per year and informal updates as warranted.

Interested Board Members can put their name forward each May, with the goal of identifying the individual before ALA's Annual Conference so they can begin to make connections with Affiliates and Round Tables at the event. Selecting the Affiliate/Round Table Liaison is delegated to the President-Elect.

### **Rationale**

- This effort supports YALSA's Operational Plan
  - Per YALSA's Organizational Plan and mission, the association wants members and library staff to be better able to meet the needs of all teens, especially those who belong to traditionally underrepresented and marginalized communities. Connecting with Affiliates and Round Tables could yield information sharing or partnerships that helps YALSA achieve this.
  - YALSA's Operational plan states that the organization should "model diversity for the field through YALSA's recruitment, membership, and governance."
- Establishing closer ties to Affiliates can help YALSA better meet the needs of our members who belong to underrepresented communities.
- The report from the 2017 – 2018 Advancing Diversity Taskforce included the recommendation that YALSA partner with other organizations to recruit diverse members. Affiliate/Round Table partnerships could also lead to the implementation of other Taskforce recommendations, such as having conference buddies or addressing concerns about individuals from diverse backgrounds feeling excluded or ignored.
- Currently YALSA does not have an efficient method for engaging with the Affiliates and Round Tables. Typically contact is made by staff or member leaders on an ad-hoc basis through ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Service or by contacting the Affiliate/Round Table directly.
- Joining a YALSA Board Member to each Affiliate/Round Table provides a tangible means to show YALSA's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion issues.
- Joining a YALSA Board Member to each Affiliate/Round Table helps build the capacity of these groups, if only in a small way by providing membership dues.
- The investment in this effort is minimal (\$334 per year) and can be taken from YALSA's operating budget.

### **Fiscal Implications**

The monetary cost to YALSA would be \$334 per year. There would also be member leader and staff time involved in initial communication about this effort, as well as some annually recurring tasks.

### **Measuring Impact**

In July 2019 the Board Standing Committee on Fund & Partner Development will implement an evaluation process to measure first year impact. The evaluation will seek to identify the degree to which the Liaison position was able to strengthen YALSA and Affiliate/Round Table relations.

Desired outcomes include improved communication between YALSA and Affiliates/Round Tables, and increased awareness of opportunities for collaboration. Possible questions to explore during the evaluation phase could include:

- What specific actions were taken to strengthen ties with Affiliates/Round Tables?
- To what degree was the transferring of knowledge between the Affiliates/Round Tables and YALSA (and vice versa), achieved?
- How many Affiliate/Round Table meetings were attended? How many YALSA blog posts were written by the liaison?
- What opportunities for collaboration was YALSA able to leverage through the efforts of the Liaison?

**Recommended Action**

Accept the proposal as presented in this document and 1) direct the in-coming President to identify a 2018 – 2019 Affiliate/Round Table Liaison, and 2) Direct the Executive Director to work with staff to join the Liaison to the Affiliates and Round Tables and to inform these groups of YALSA’s Liaison effort and the name of the appointee.

**Additional Information**

**Affiliate Membership Levels and Dues:**

<b>Affiliate</b>	<b>Institutional Membership</b>	<b>Personal Membership</b>
<b>The American Indian Library Association (AILA)</b>	\$40	\$20
<b>Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL)</b>	\$100 (includes 1 personal membership)	\$70
<b>Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)</b>	\$70	\$35
<b>Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)</b>	\$150	\$49
<b>Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA)</b>	\$100	\$45
<b>Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)</b>	\$100	\$30
<b>The National Association to Promote</b>	\$100	\$50

<b>Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking (REFORMA)</b>		
<b>Ethnic &amp; Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)</b>	\$25	\$20
<b>Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT)</b>	\$20	\$15
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$725	\$334

**Affiliate and Round Table Websites:**

- AILA ALA Website: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/affiliates/affiliates/aila>
- AJL Website: <http://jewishlibraries.org/index.php?bypassCookie=1>
- APALA Website: <http://www.apalaweb.org/>
- ARSL Website: <https://arsl.info/>
- BCALA Website: <https://www.bcala.org/>
- CALA Website: <http://www.cala-web.org/>
- REFORMA Website: <http://www.reforma.org/>
- EMIERT Website: <http://www.ala.org/rt/emiert/>
- GLBTRT Website: <http://www.ala.org/rt/glbtrt/>

**Other Relevant Online Documents & Information**

- ALA Personal Membership fees: <http://www.ala.org/membership/ala-personal-membership#Roundtables>
- YALSA 2018 Annual Conference Board Document #18, Creating a YALSA Liaison to ALA Groups [http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/ALArep\\_AN17.pdf](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/ALArep_AN17.pdf)
- YALSA’s ALA Liaison information, <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/ala-liaison>
- YALSA’s Organizational Plan: <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/aboutyalsa/strategicplan>
- YALSA Statement of Diversity: <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/statement-diversity>