

TO: ALA-APA Board of Directors and Council

RE: 2023 Virtual LLX Report

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:

No action requested.

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DATE: January 13, 2023

BACKGROUND:

The ALA Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA) is a nonprofit professional organization established “to promote the mutual professional interests of librarians and other library workers.” To that end, the ALA-APA is focused on two broad areas:

- Certification of individuals in specializations beyond the initial professional degree.
- Direct support of comparable worth and pay equity initiatives, and other activities designed to improve the salaries and status of librarians and other library workers.



CPLA Program

The Certified Public Library Administrator (CPLA) Program is a voluntary post-MLS certification program for public librarians with three years or more of supervisory experience. Its aim is to further professional education and development and help librarians move to a higher level of practical professional experience. To date, there are a total of **349** enrollees in the program and **122** graduates.

LSSC Program

The Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program offers library support staff the opportunity to commit to professional development and continuing education through the completion of competency sets developed and implemented by the ALA-APA. To date, there are a total of **793** enrollees in the program and **284** graduates.

Updated Salary Survey

The newest edition of the *ALA-APA Salary Survey: Non-MLS-Librarian - Public and Academic* will be available this Spring. Information will show data for public libraries serving populations under 10,000 to more than 500,000; and for academic libraries at community colleges, four-year colleges and university libraries. Results will be organized by region and state. The information is useful for hiring managers, library directors, trustees and human resource staff. It is also valuable for those seeking employment or considering relocating to pursue professional opportunities. As a reminder, the survey will be available free as a benefit of ALA membership. For non-members, access to the survey can be purchased on an annual subscription basis.

National Library Workers Day (NLWD)

This year's celebration of National Library Workers Day (NLWD) will be held on **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**. The original resolution for the celebration of NLWD was proposed to recognize the hard work, dedication, and expertise of librarians and library support staff. It was proposed that the Tuesday of National Library Week be designated the day; and that on that day, interested library workers, library groups, and libraries should advocate for better compensation for all library workers. On this day, library organizations are encouraged to host a celebration and submit a star to honor a great worker, team or department by visiting the NLWD website (www.ala-apa.org/nlwd). As in the past, products have been developed to assist organizations in the celebration and can be purchased at Midwinter and online from the [ALA Store](#). Organizations are encouraged to submit stories about their celebrations to: libraryworklife@ala.org. If you want to view or share the posts, just like us on the [NLWD Facebook page](#) or follow the APA's Twitter feed [@alaapa](#). Be sure to use the hashtag **#NLWD23**. Stay tuned for additional information on celebration ideas and promotional materials that will be available.

Presidential Support

Both President Lessa Pelayo-Lozada and President-Elect Emily Drabinski have committed their support of ALA-APA through including it in their Presidential plans. Through their use of financial support and advocacy on behalf of the organization, it will be able to continue its mission long into the future. During the past several months, both have appointed working groups to work on various aspects of APA's mission and services.



ALA-APA Working Group

President Pelayo-Lozada has appointed an ALA-APA Working Group to explore areas that ALA-APA might expand with greater financial capacity including but not limited to advocacy work on behalf of library workers, initiatives, and staffing. The working group will present recommendations to the ALA-APA Board of Directors for consideration at their Spring meeting in April.

Presidential Advisory Subcommittee

During her tenure, President-Elect Drabinski plans to continue the work that has recently began to further the mission of ALA-APA. She has already appointed a subcommittee of her Presidential Advisory committee specifically addressing labor issues. They have been working with the ALA-APA staff to define the issues.

AFL-CIO and ALA-APA

The ALA has long had a joint committee with the AFL-CIO that was meant to facilitate conversations between labor and the library community. This committee had been housed in RUSA but has been dormant for the last several years. Conversations with leadership in both RUSA and AFSCME led the ALA-APA Board of Directors to believe this committee would be better activated in the ALA-APA. This past Fall, action was taken to dissolve the group in RUSA and establish it in ALA-APA. The ALA-APA Board approved its establishment. President Pelayo-Lozada (in consultation with President-Elect Drabinski) has been busy drafting a charge and appointing a committee to commence work between the two organizations.

Donate to APA*

The ALA-APA does not have members. It is a companion organization to the ALA and serves its members and the library community at large. Please consider supporting our efforts by giving financially. Your contributions and support make it possible for the organization to continue to strive every day for the advancement of all library employees. No gift is too small. On the ALA homepage, go to **“giveALA”** and select **“Offices → Other”** and then **ALA-APA**.

Social Media

For ongoing monitoring of APA activities and events, visit the website at: www.ala-apa.org or follow the APA on Twitter [@alaapa](https://twitter.com/alaapa) or like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/alaapa).

Acknowledgements

In closing, I would like to thank the hard-working volunteers and committee members of all of the various ALA-APA groups without which we would not be able to continue the work of advocating for library workers.

I would personally like to acknowledge the support of the Finance, Membership, IT and Governance Office staffs for their overall support of the APA. And finally, I would like to acknowledge the APA's staff and consultants (Kimberly Redd, Beatrice Calvin, Pamela Akins, Dr. Caitlin Williams and Jamie Bragg) for their dedication, commitment and hard work in getting the work done.



**** Please note: Your contribution to the ALA-APA is not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. Your contribution may be tax deductible as a business expense.***