

**TO:** ALA Executive Board

**RE:** Report of the Nominating Committee for the 2022 ALA Election

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

For information purposes; no action required

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:**

Madeline Peña Feliz, Chair, Nominating Committee for the 2022 ALA Election

Kathy Carroll

Tyler Dzuba

George Gottschalk

Janice Greenberg

Kirby McCurtis

Ray Pun

Shauntee Burns-Simpson

Paula Singer

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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**DATE:** October 20, 2021

## Executive Summary

The Nominating Committee for the 2022 American Library Association Election completed its charge of developing a slate of candidates to stand for the positions of ALA President-elect, ALA Treasurer, and ALA Councilor at Large during the ALA 2022 election. (See Appendix A). All members of the American Library Association were provided the opportunity to be considered for nomination through a targeted marketing campaign intended to develop a diverse pool of candidates. The call for nominations was greatly assisted by social media materials previously developed by ALA Marketing (See Appendix B). Candidates for the ALA President-elect and Treasurer were identified through the Committee's recruitment efforts that garnered self-nominations. Additionally, we had a number of ALA members self-nominate for the Councilor-at-large positions. The 2022 Nominating Committee is honored to put forward a final slate of highly qualified candidates composed of two (2) candidates for ALA President-elect, two (2) candidates for Treasurer and sixty-eight (68) Councilor-at-Large candidates (51 needed).

## Background

The committee began its work virtually via Zoom on February 2, 2021, after the 2021 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits that took place online January 22-26, 2021. We were joined by members of the Nominating Committee for the 2020 ALA Election—Candice Wing-ye Mack (Chair), Ann Ewbank, Ray James, Amy Lappin, and Deimosa Webber-Bey—who provided a general overview of the process the 2021 Nominating Committee undertook, and key takeaways and lessons learned. In addition, Sheryl Reyes, Director, ALA Governance Office provided a thorough and highly informative overview of the nomination and election process and introduced us to the comprehensive manual that was developed.

The committee was informed of the Direct Nominations website, the platform used to capture information from potential candidates in a confidential manner. The committee also discussed the use of ALA Connect as the virtual communication space for the committee, and the use of a shared folder in Google Drive to keep all the committee files in one place.

The committee discussed how to proceed with our work to leverage our professional affiliations and best utilize our networks to develop a broad representation of the association with special considerations for representation from national and state library organizations, interest groups, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and breadth of experience.

## Work of the Committee

The committee met on a bimonthly basis for one hour February 2021 thru September 2021. In addition to the kickoff meeting and the meetings held with potential presidential candidates, the committee met a total of 14 times. All meetings were held virtually via Zoom. Each meeting was scheduled via Doodle poll and the Zoom meetings were set up with support from Sheryl Reyes, ALA Nominating Committee staff liaison.

During our first meeting on February 16, 2021, we reviewed the manual (timeline, committee charge, and position descriptions for President-Elect, Treasurer and Councilor-at-Large), discussed how the committee would conduct its work, and decided to focus first on seeking nominations for the President-elect and Treasurer. We created a list of potential groups we wanted to approach in order to seek nominations for President-Elect and Treasurer including past and present ALA Executive Board members, division presidents, BARC members, and NALCOs presidents and treasurers. We created a spreadsheet to collect the names of the potential nominees suggested by committee members, and combined it with the list of potential nominees compiled by previous committees. We agreed to discuss each potential candidate as a committee before approaching them to solicit self nominations.

During our March meetings the committee started discussing potential nominees and deciding who to approach to solicit self nominations. The committee also recommended a new step in the nomination process: NALCOs verification of membership of those potential candidates who state membership in their biographical forms. We are thankful for Sheryl Reyes leadership and ALA and NALCOs' support in establishing this new step in the process. The committee also discussed the possibility of highlighting on the ballot when a councilor-at-large candidate is seeking reelection and providing a link to see attendance and voting records to make it easier for voters to make informed decisions when voting. In March we also finalized the nominations press release.

In April, we finalized our review of potential nominees and started soliciting self nominations. We divided the lists of potential nominees based on our individual relationships or professional affiliations we might have with them. As we made contact we updated the lists based on the nominees' interest in serving now, in the future, or not at all. These lists were very useful in our work and the committee encourages continued maintenance and use of these lists. In April we also continued discussing how to best publicize the nomination process and the importance of utilizing different communication modes including listservs and social media. Sheryl shared high-quality promotional graphics previously developed by ALA's marketing office.

In May and June, we continued to make contact with potential President-elect and Councilor-at-Large nominees from our list and reviewed those individuals who had completed the candidate forms in the Nominations System. We continued our marketing efforts by sharing reminders on ALA Connect, listservs,

social media, and ALA’s email platform. We also emailed each member with incomplete biographical forms to encourage them to complete their submission.

In July, we reviewed and discussed the submitted biographical forms for President-elect and Treasurer. We also discussed the traits and attributes for these positions. Ray Pun developed a survey/feedback form using GoogleForms based on attributes defined in the Nominating Committee Manual for the President and Treasurer positions.

In August, we emailed all potential candidates on Direct Nominations to let them know that their completed biographical forms were received, or that their incomplete forms were not to be considered. We also discussed ways to learn more about the President-elect candidates than what was provided in the biographical form and decided to request 30 minute interviews with each potential candidate. The interviews were conducted in early September and led by committee chair, Madeline Peña Feliz. The candidates were all asked the same 9 questions; all 5 interviews were attended by the majority of committee members.

Our final meeting on September 21 was spent reviewing the surveys/reports and robustly deliberating before making our final decisions as to whom to stand as candidates for President-elect and Treasurer. The committee also reviewed the candidates for Council and decided that all completed applications would be placed before the membership to vote upon.

By late September, all nominees for President-elect and Treasurer had accepted their candidacy and the individuals who will be running for council had been notified of their candidacy.

The Nominating Committee for the 2022 election was a very effective and thoughtful group of professionals. All worked collaboratively to develop a slate of qualified candidates to stand for the 2022 ALA Election for President-elect, Treasurer, and Councilor-at-Large. We wish to thank Patty Wong, ALA President, for bringing this diverse array of ALA membership together for this once in a lifetime opportunity to serve in this important capacity. We also wish to share our deep gratitude for the hard work and support of Sheryl Reyes and thank her for her knowledge and responsiveness to the needs of this committee.

## Profile of the Final Slate of Candidates (Councilor at Large)

Type of Library	2022 (68 candidates)	2021 (49 candidates)	2020 (66 candidates)	2019 (75 candidates)
Academic Libraries	32	15	37	37
Public Libraries	29	25	24	21
School Libraries	4	3	3	6
Other (special, government, trustees, etc.)	3	6	2	11

<b>Geographic Distribution</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Northeast	25	14	30	24
Southeast	17	13	16	19
Midwest	7	13	10	17
West	19	9	9	15

## Observations and Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for future consideration:

- Continue to refine and utilize the ALA Nominating Committee manual and the running list of potential nominees
- Develop a strategic marketing plan to help foster greater participation of membership in the nominating/elections process
- Utilize the marketing materials developed by ALA (Appendix B)
- Work with AASL and chapters to encourage more school librarians to run for office
- Assess and address possible structural barriers (fiscal, organizational support, scheduling, etc.) to memberships' service in our governance structure
- Continue and refine NALCOs membership verification process and expand to include all ALA elections
- Add links to attendance and voting records to the ballot, for Councilors-at-Large seeking reelection
- Consider adding interviews with potential president-elect and treasurer candidates as a formal step of the nomination process

## Appendix A: Nominated Candidates of ALA President, ALA Treasurer, and ALA Councilor-at-Large

- Emily Drabinski, interim chief librarian at The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), and Kelvin Watson, executive director of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, are the candidates for the 2023-24 presidency of the American Library Association (ALA).  
Press release for [Nominated ALA President Candidates](#)
- Peter Hepburn, head librarian at the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, California, and Oscar Lanza-Galindo, associate dean, Library and Learning Commons, Bunker Hill Community College, Boston, are the candidates for the treasurer of the American Library Association (ALA) for 2022-25.  
Press release for [Nominated ALA Treasurer Candidates](#)
- The following candidates were accepted by the Nominating Committee (listed alphabetically by last name):

Tarida Anantachai  
Interim Head, Learning and  
Academic Engagement  
Syracuse University  
Syracuse, NY  
(Academic)

Antonio Apodaca  
Education & Outreach Coordinator  
Ventura County Library  
Ventura, CA  
(Public)

Joanna M. Arteaga La Spina  
Spanish Translation Coordinator  
San Francisco Public Library  
San Francisco, CA  
(Public)

Richard E. Ashby, Jr  
Director, Sto-Rox Public Library  
Focus On Renewal - Sto-Rox  
Public Library  
McKees Rocks, PA  
(Public)

Glen Benedict  
Access Services Librarian  
University of the District of  
Columbia  
Washington, DC  
(Academic)

Erin Berman  
Division Director  
Alameda County Library  
Fremont, CA  
(Public)

Adriana Blancarte-Hayward  
Manager, Outreach Services  
The New York Public Library  
New York, NY  
(Public)

Jennifer Boettcher  
Business Reference Librarian  
Georgetown University  
Washington, DC  
(Academic)

Jennifer Brown  
Executive Director  
The Field Library  
Peekskill, NY  
(Public)

Nick Buron  
Chief Librarian  
Queens Public Library  
New York, NY  
(Public)

Camille Chesley  
Reference Librarian|Subject  
Librarian for Journalism,  
Newspapers, and Reference  
University at Albany  
Albany, NY  
(Academic)

Sarah Clark  
Dean & University Librarian  
La Salle University  
Philadelphia, PA  
(Academic)

John Clexton  
Library Director  
Gladwin County District Library  
Gladwin, MI  
(Public)

Kaitlin Crotty  
Interim Library Director  
Rogers State University  
Claremore, OK  
(Academic)

Amy Dye-Reeves  
Education & History Librarian  
Texas Tech University  
Lubbock, TX  
(Academic)

Maria Estrella  
Dyad Public Services Manager  
Cleveland Public Library  
Cleveland, OH  
(Public)

Maggie Farrell  
Dean of Libraries  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Academic)

Athanasia Fitos  
Librarian 4-Branch Manager  
Miami-Dade Public Library System  
Miami, FL  
(Public)

Tiffeni Fontno  
Head Librarian, Educational  
Resource Center  
Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, MA  
(Academic)

Elizabeth Fried  
Library Director  
Norwood Public Library  
Norwood, NJ  
(Public)

Kenny Garcia  
Research & Instruction Librarian  
California State University -  
Monterey Bay  
Seaside, CA  
(Academic)

Calypso Gilstrap  
School Librarian  
Goochland High School  
Goochland, VA  
(School)

Eric Gomez  
Community Library Manager -  
Tyrone Bryant Branch Library  
Broward County Library  
Fort Lauderdale, FL  
(Public)

Africa Hands  
Assistant Professor  
East Carolina University  
Greenville, NC  
(Academic)

Vicky Hart  
Director of Library Services  
Northeast Lakeview College  
Universal City, TX  
(Academic)

Carrie Herrmann  
Executive Director  
Boone County Public Library  
Burlington, KY  
(Public)

Twanna Hodge  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
Librarian  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL  
(Academic)

Jenn Hooker  
Librarian II  
Santa Cruz Public Libraries  
Santa Cruz CA  
(Public)

Martha Hutzell  
Library Director  
Central Rappahannock Regional  
Library  
Fredericksburg, VA  
(Public)

Judy Jeng  
Community Representative  
Digital Public Library of America  
Woodbridge, CT  
(Public)

Qiana Johnson  
Interim Associate University  
Librarian for Collections Strategies  
Northwestern University Libraries  
Evanston, IL  
(Academic)

kalan Knudson Davis  
Special Collections Metadata  
Librarian  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, MN  
(Academic)

Victoria Kowanetz  
Assistant Community Library  
Manager  
Queens Public Library  
Rockaway Park, NY  
(Public)

Jamie Kurumaji  
Supervising Librarian  
Fresno County Public Library  
Fresno, CA  
(Public)

Bradley Kuykendall  
Reference and Instruction  
Librarian  
Lincoln University  
Jefferson City, MO  
(Academic)

Tina Lerno  
Librarian II, Digital Content Team  
Los Angeles Public Library  
Los Angeles, CA  
(Public)

Adriene Lim  
Dean of Libraries  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD  
(Academic)

Rodney Lippard  
Director, Gregg-Graniteville Library  
University of South Carolina Alken  
Aiken, SC  
(Academic)

Amy Little  
Librarian  
Sacramento Public Library  
Sacramento, CA  
(Public)

Jennisen Lucas  
District Librarian  
Park County School District #6  
Cody, WY  
(School)

Andrea Malone  
Coordinator of Research Services  
and Liaison to Languages & Ethnic  
Studies  
University of Houston  
Houston, TX  
(Academic)

~~Martha Meacham~~  
~~Project Director~~  
~~National Library of Medicine~~  
~~Litchfield, NH~~  
~~(Government)~~  
*Note: Martha contacted us to  
withdraw*

Chulin Meng  
Director of Library Technology  
Lehigh University  
Bethlehem, PA  
(Academic)

Ryan Mcginnis  
Library Technician II  
Cook Memorial Library  
La Grande, OR  
(Public)

Valeria Molteni  
Dean of Library Services  
Bowman Library, Menlo College  
Atherton, CA  
(Academic)

Ophelia Morey  
Associate Librarian  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY  
(Academic)

Marina Morgan  
Metadata Librarian  
Florida Southern College  
Lakeland, FL  
(Academic)

Ramin Naderi  
Acting Senior Librarian  
Venice Branch, Los Angeles Public  
Library  
Los Angeles, CA  
(Public)

Mandy Nasr  
Library Director  
Camarillo Public Library  
Camarillo, CA  
(Public)

Muzhgan Nazarova  
Turkic Languages Librarian  
(Acquisitions and Cataloging)  
Library of Congress  
LS/ABA/ASME/MESA  
Washington, DC  
(Government)

James Neal  
University Librarian Emeritus  
Columbia University  
New York, NY  
(Academic)

Toni Negro  
Retired  
Montgomery County Public  
Schools, Maryland  
Rockville, MD  
(School)

Sharaya Olmeda  
Librarian at the California Men's  
Colony State Prison  
California Department of  
Corrections and Rehabilitation  
San Luis Obispo, CA  
(Special)

Anchalee (Joy) Panigabutra-  
Roberts  
Head, Cataloging  
The University of Tennessee  
Libraries  
Knoxville, TN  
(Academic)

Edwin Rodarte  
Emerging Technologies  
Department Senior Librarian  
Los Angeles Public Library  
Los Angeles, CA  
(Public)

Suzanne Sager  
Cataloger  
Portland State University  
Portland, OR  
(Academic)

Sophia Sotilleo  
Interim Library Director  
Lincoln University  
Lincoln University, PA  
(Academic)

Wendy Stephens  
Associate Professor and School  
Library Program Chair  
Jacksonville State University  
Jacksonville, AL  
(Academic)

Eric Suess  
Library Director  
Marshall Public Library  
Pocatello, ID  
(Public)

Valerie Tagoe  
Media Specialist  
Dallas Independent School District  
Dallas, TX  
(School)

Marliese Thomas  
Fine Arts Librarian  
University of Alabama at  
Birmingham  
Birmingham, AL  
(Academic)

Joseph Thompson  
Director of Public Services  
Carroll County Public Library  
New Windsor, MD  
(Public)

Paul Wartenberg  
Reference and Technology  
Librarian  
Bartow Public Library  
Bartow, FL  
(Public)

Terry Weech  
Retired  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, IL  
(Academic)

Janice Welburn  
Dean of Libraries, Raynor  
Memorial Libraries

Marquette University  
Milwaukee, WI  
(Academic)

Amber Williams  
Strategic Project Manager  
Spokane County Library District  
Spokane Valley, WA  
(Public)

Hong Yao  
Director, Technical Services  
Queens Public Library  
Jamaica, NY  
(Public)

Steven Yates  
Assistant Director and School  
Library Program Coordinator  
University of Alabama SLIS  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
(Academic)

Press release for [Nominated Councilor-at-Large Candidates](#)

## Appendix B: Promotional Materials

BE THE CHANGE.				READY TO LEAD?			
							
							
NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2022 BALLOT! ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councilor-at-large <small>ALA AmericanLibraryAssociation</small>				NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2022 BALLOT! ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councilor-at-large <small>ALA AmericanLibraryAssociation</small>			