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:
Madeline Peña Feliz, 213-228-7071, mpena@lapl.org

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-yee 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)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Library</th>
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<th>2021 (49 candidates)</th>
<th>2020 (66 candidates)</th>
<th>2019 (75 candidates)</th>
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<td>Other (special, government, trustees, etc.)</td>
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### Geographic Distribution

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<td>West</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>15</td>
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### 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)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
<th>Institution/University</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Estrella</td>
<td>Dyad Public Services Manager</td>
<td>Cleveland Public Library</td>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
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<td>Maggie Farrell</td>
<td>Dean of Libraries</td>
<td>University of Nevada, Las Vegas</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
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<td>Athanasia Fitos</td>
<td>Librarian 4-Branch Manager</td>
<td>Miami-Dade Public Library System</td>
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<td>Tiffeni Fontno</td>
<td>Head Librarian, Educational Resource Center</td>
<td>Boston College</td>
<td>Chestnut Hill, MA</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Fried</td>
<td>Library Director</td>
<td>Norwood Public Library</td>
<td>Norwood, NJ</td>
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<td>Kenny Garcia</td>
<td>Research &amp; Instruction Librarian</td>
<td>California State University - Monterey Bay</td>
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<td>Calypso Gilstrap</td>
<td>School Librarian</td>
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<td>Eric Gomez</td>
<td>Community Library Manager - Tyrone Bryant Branch Library</td>
<td>Broward County Library</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale, FL</td>
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<td>Africa Hands</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>East Carolina University</td>
<td>Greenville, NC</td>
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<td>Vicky Hart</td>
<td>Director of Library Services</td>
<td>Northeast Lakeview College</td>
<td>Universal City, TX</td>
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<td>Carrie Herrmann</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Boone County Public Library</td>
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<td>Twanna Hodge</td>
<td>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Librarian</td>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>Gainesville, FL</td>
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<td>Jenn Hooker</td>
<td>Librarian II</td>
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<td>Martha Hutzel</td>
<td>Library Director</td>
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<td>Judy Jeng</td>
<td>Community Representative</td>
<td>Digital Public Library of America</td>
<td>Woodbridge, CT</td>
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<td>Qiana Johnson</td>
<td>Interim Associate University</td>
<td>Northwestern University Libraries</td>
<td>Evanston, IL</td>
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<td>kalan Knudson Davis</td>
<td>Special Collections Metadata Librarian</td>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
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<td>Vicky Hart</td>
<td>Director of Library Services</td>
<td>Queens Public Library</td>
<td>Rockaway Park, NY</td>
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<td>Jamie Kurumaji</td>
<td>Supervising Librarian</td>
<td>Fresno County Public Library</td>
<td>Fresno, CA</td>
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<td>Bradley Kuykendall</td>
<td>Reference and Instruction Librarian</td>
<td>Lincoln University</td>
<td>Jefferson City, MO</td>
<td>(Academic)</td>
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<td>Tina Lerno</td>
<td>Librarian II, Digital Content Team</td>
<td>Los Angeles Public Library</td>
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<td>Adriene Lim</td>
<td>Dean of Libraries</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
<td>College Park, MD</td>
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<td>Rodney Lippard</td>
<td>Director, Gregg-Graniteville Library</td>
<td>University of South Carolina Aiken</td>
<td>Aiken, SC</td>
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<td>Amy Little</td>
<td>Librarian</td>
<td>Sacramento Public Library</td>
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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)
Appendix B: Promotional Materials

BE THE CHANGE. READY TO LEAD?

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2022 BALLOT!
ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councillor-at-large
ALAmericanLibraryAssociation

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ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councillor-at-large
ALAmericanLibraryAssociation