

**TO:** ALA-APA Board of Directors

**RE:** 2020 Midwinter Report

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

*No action requested.*

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**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 **320** enrollees in the program and **103** 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 **629** enrollees in the program and **214** graduates.

### **APA @ PLA**

Kimberly Redd, MSHTM, APA Program Manager for Certification & Talent Development, will be attending the PLA National Conference in Nashville, TN, February 25-29, 2020. APA will have a booth presence. The goal is to introduce a whole new audience of library workers to the products and services offered by APA.

### **2020 Salary Survey**

The data collection phase of the online version of the 2020 edition of the *ALA-APA Salary Survey: Librarian – Public and Academic*, is in its final stages. The database will be available in early spring. Counting Opinions (SQUIRE) Ltd, is the vendor who conducted the survey and as previously stated, for the first time ever this will be a benefit free to all ALA members.

### **National Library Workers Day (NLWD)**

This year's celebration of **National Library Workers Day (NLWD)** will be held on **April 21, 2020** and we are encouraging individuals, groups, and libraries to celebrate.

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](http://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](mailto: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 #NLWD20.

### **APA Website**

We have recently been notified by our vendor, *LISHost*, that they will be shutting down in April of this year. They have been in business since 2001 and APA has been a client very early on. We have been working with Sherri Vanyek and the staff in IT to move the site over to the ALA server. We will keep you posted on the progress of this endeavor.

### **Donate to APA\***

The 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](http://www.ala-apa.org) or follow the APA on Twitter [@alaapa](#) or like us on [Facebook](#).

### **Acknowledgements**

In closing, I would like to thank the hard working volunteers and committee members of all of the various 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 (Adriane Alicea, 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.*