

Report to Council and Executive Board

March 20, 2019

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Executive Director

Top 11 Most Challenged Books of 2018

On the Monday of National Library Week (April 8), the Office for Intellectual Freedom will release the Top 11 Most Challenged Books of 2018 as part of the State of America's Libraries report. The list will be accompanied by an infographic, designed by *American Libraries*, and a motion graphics video. The office will also offer shareable graphics and resources on the banned and challenged books website, <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks>.

Announcement of Theme for Banned Books Week 2019

During National Library Week, the Banned Books Week Coalition will announce the theme of Banned Books Week 2019 (September 22-28). The theme will be highlighted in new products in the ALA Graphics catalog, including buttons, bookmarks, and posters. Both the Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) and the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) are member-sponsors of the Banned Books Week coalition.

ALA OFFICES

Center for the Future of Libraries

Recordings from the Midwinter Meeting Now Available

Recordings from the Midwinter Meeting, including sessions from the [Symposium on the Future of Libraries](#) and the [News You Can Use series](#), are now available. To access available recordings, you will need to visit the [Midwinter Scheduler](#) and sign in using an ALA login (free to create as a member or non-member), select the session, and choose the audio or video tabs where available. The [Symposium](#) and [News You Can Use](#) pages list all sessions with hyperlinks to the Scheduler.

Trend Collection Updated

The Center's [trend collection](#), which is meant to help libraries and librarians understand how trends are developing and why they might matter to our futures, has been updated with new entries on [Artificial Intelligence](#), [Micro-Mobility](#), and [Self-Driving Cars](#).

Notes from the Continuing “Conversation” Now Available

Notes from the “[Continuing Conversation: Libraries Public Libraries and LIS Education](#)” session at the 2019 Midwinter Meeting have been [posted](#). At the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, several leaders from LIS education and public libraries convened an open discussion to talk about the interests and needs for preparing library school students for work in public libraries. As this was determined to be an ongoing and continuing discussion, resources from past and upcoming meetings are available at the Center’s [Public Libraries and LIS Education page](#).

Presentations from the Center’s Staff

The Center’s staff provided presentations for the iSchool at UW-Madison, the [North American Virtual Reference Conference](#), and the LACONI (Library Administrators Conference of Northern Illinois) Youth Services Section.

Communications and Marketing Office (CMO)

This is a snapshot of Communications and Marketing Office (CMO) activities for January 9 – March 18, 2019.

Media Relations

More than 2,806 articles mentioned ALA during this reporting period. Most coverage (96 percent) was positive and focused on ALA initiatives. Approximately 3 percent of coverage was neutral and consisted of brief ALA mentions, including event calendar notices, or mentions within author references. Less than 1 percent of coverage positioned ALA negatively and was driven by the association’s position regarding ALA Awards, censorship, book banning and internet filtering. Media had a total circulation rate of nearly 1.5 billion and a publicity value of more than \$14 million. *(Circulation rate is calculated using the number of articles/mentions multiplied by the monthly unique visitors for each media outlet’s website.)*

ALA Midwinter Meeting

According to Meltwater News, the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits earned 1,615 articles, with a reach of more than 766 million and a publicity value of more than \$7 million. To pitch ALA issues and awards, ALA’s Communications and Marketing Office (CMO) reached out to more than 30 local media contacts in the Seattle market, as well as more than 500 mainstream and library trade press members. In addition, more than 50 press members registered for media credentials. Local press, including the *Seattle Times* and KING5 TV, also registered onsite.

- CMO coordinated media interviews for ALA leadership during the Midwinter Meeting. ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo was interviewed by Margaret Larson for [New Day Northwest on KING5](#) the morning of Thursday, January 24. Snacks and charging stations were made available to members of the media onsite at the conference.

- CMO coordinated a media availability with Emilio Estevez regarding his film “The Public,” which was screened during the conference. [Library Journal](#) and [Publishers Weekly](#) met with Estevez and wrote about the screening. In addition, CMO coordinated interviews in the wake of the Youth Media Awards, notably with National Public Radio’s Lynn Neary.
- Other conference coverage included a [Publishers Weekly](#) article on the keynote speeches of Melinda Gates and Isha Sesay, a blog post by Lilah Sturges in [The Geekiary](#), a [Charleston Chronicle](#) article on the 50th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King book awards, and an article by [Publishers Weekly](#) about the announcement of Melinda Gates as [honorary chair](#) of National Library Week.

Libraries = Strong Communities

Considerable coverage was devoted to ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo’s Rally for Libraries at the Seattle Public Library, including articles in [American Libraries](#), [Publishers Weekly](#) and television coverage from [KING5](#) in Seattle. CMO also provided an event [Facebook live](#) stream reaching more than 11,000 viewers.

Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction

The winners of the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction were unveiled during the Midwinter Meeting. The medals, which recognize the best fiction and nonfiction books for adult readers, garnered media coverage from the [Associated Press](#), [Publishers Weekly](#), [Seattle Times](#), [Sentinel-Tribune](#), [The Millions](#), [KWTV-News 9](#) in Oklahoma, [Bustle](#), [ColorLines](#) and [Publishers Weekly](#), among many others.

ALA Youth Media Awards

The announcement of the ALA’s Youth Media Awards also took place during Midwinter and received national press attention. CMO secured coverage through the [Associated Press](#) that filtered its way through hundreds of print and television outlets, including the [Washington Post](#). Other coverage was provided by [NPR](#), [New York Times](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Post](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Publishers Weekly](#), [Yahoo! News Canada](#), and [Pioneer Press](#). During the Youth Media Awards, the proceedings were covered by a documentary film crew led by director Joanna Rudnick. Months of preparation went into the ALA Youth Media Awards announcement, including coordination with onsite audio/video vendors and web vendor Unikron, as well as participating ALA units. There was a livestream of the awards via Facebook that drew more than 30,000 views. CMO also provided a live webcast through ILoveLibraries.org that was viewed by thousands of people. The ALA Youth Media Awards drew a significant amount of social media traffic. The Facebook livestream reached 27,134 people, with 176 shares, 11,000 views and 6,716 engagements. During the announcement, the hashtag #ALAYma was a trending topic in the United States on Twitter, with more than 7,000 mentions the morning of the awards.

YMA Affiliate Award Announcements

ALA worked to include youth award selections from the American *Indian* Library Association (AILA), Asian/Pacific *American Librarians Association* (APALA) and the Association of Jewish

Libraries (AJL) to its 2019 ALA Youth Media Awards (YMAS). 2019 affiliate winner title information was included in the wrap release that was distributed via [PR Newswire](#) and was picked up by 179 news websites reaching more than 9.1 million visitors. Notable national coverage of the Sydney Taylor Book Award and Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature winners include [New York Times](#), [NPR](#), [Book Riot](#), [Publishers Weekly](#) among hundreds of other placements. Also niche publications like the [Jewish Voice](#), [Heritage Florida Jewish News](#), [Horn Book](#), [The Times of Israel](#), [Baltimore Jewish Times](#), [SAMPAN](#), [School Library Journal](#) and additional [Horn Book](#) coverage mentioned winners and honor titles. The majority of coverage was positive minus a negative article from [Kirkus Review's](#) Vicki Smith regarding ALA's decision to not announce affiliate honor titles during the broadcast. Overall ALA's monitoring service Meltwater News recovered a coverage snapshot of more than 314 affiliate mentions/articles resulting in a circulation rate of more than 50 million and a publicity value of more than \$370,000.

Libraries Transform Public Awareness

ALA's [Libraries Transform](#) public awareness campaign now reaches more than 11,000 participating libraries and advocates, and its toolkit continues to be updated regularly with new tools and resources. CMO is also in the midst of preparations for [National Library Week](#) (April 8 – 13). Author and philanthropist Melinda Gates will lead the festivities as our 2019 Honorary Chair, and the theme for this year's celebrations is "Libraries = Strong Communities," a tie-in with one of Loida Garcia-Febo's presidential initiatives. Libraries can download free tools—including graphics and sample social media copy—from the [National Library Week](#) toolkit.

Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS)

Defeating the Bullies and Trolls in the Library

ODLOS co-sponsored an all-day symposium at Skokie (IL) Public Library called "Defeating the Bullies and Trolls in the Library". This event was co-hosted by Dr. Nicole Cooke (University of Illinois) and Amy Koester (Skokie Public Library). The structure was two panels featuring library workers who experienced bullying and doxxing as well as an opportunity for the audience to consider hypothetical situations and how to create a culture that protects colleagues. Resources and more information can be found at the [Defeating Bullies website](#).

Examining Privilege in Classifications: Connecting Critical Information Literacy to Conversations on 'Latinx' Webinar

On Wednesday, February 27, ODLOS hosted a webinar within its "literacy as a social justice" series. Catherine Fonseca, Outreach and Inclusion Librarian at Sonoma State University reviewed the history of the term "latinx" and the politics behind it. Slides from the presentation and an archived recording of the webinar can be found on the [ODLOS Continuing Education webpage](#).

EDIcon at ALA Midwinter

Jody Gray and Kristin Lahurd hosted the first EDIcon at ALA Midwinter as a pre-conference. This half-day event serves as a foundational training for attendees who are looking for a beginner's level understanding of equity, diversity and inclusion, and how it affects librarianship.

EDI Brown Bag

Jody Gray and the ODLOS staff held a 411 in February to highlight ALA's successes regarding equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts as well as the challenges that the organization still faces. Accomplishments highlighted the gender-neutral bathrooms and information guides at Midwinter as well as the inclusion of AJL, APALA, and AILA at the Youth Media Awards. Staff members were able to ask questions and hear from leadership regarding future efforts.

Spectrum Scholarship Program

The Spectrum Advisory Committee (SAC) and ODLOS staff have been working on the curriculum and materials for the 2019 Spectrum Leadership Institute at ALA Annual. SAC has identified panel themes including time management as self-care, navigating oppression, and creating leadership narratives, and are working with librarians/library workers of color in and outside of the Spectrum community to identify speakers.

- Tamara King (2013 Scholar) and Marisa Mendez-Brady (2012 Scholar) were both named 2019 [LJ Movers & Shakers](#).
- Dr. Nicole Cooke (2008 Spectrum Doctoral Fellow) was a co-organizer of the above "Defeating the Bullies and Trolls in the Library" event at Skokie PL, which included Anastasia "Stacy" Collins (2013 Scholar) and Kristin Lansdown (2017 Scholar) as panelists.
- On February 12, the Spectrum Advisory Committee hosted its fourth [Twitter Chat](#) on the topic of creative works and the creative process as it relates to professional and personal works. The chat included participation from Scholars and other library folks of color.
- Jaime Bravo (2017 Scholar) organized a local meetup at Blue Line Lounge & Grill for library folks of color in the Chicagoland area on February 8.

Upcoming

- Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Conference
Kristin Lahurd, Assistant Director for Literacy and Continuing Education, will be in New Orleans from March 31 to April 2 for the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) conference. Kristin will present with ProLiteracy on the role of public libraries in helping meet the adult literacy need by establishing and expanding their services for adult learners.

- Tennessee Library Association

Jody Gray and Kristin Lahurd were invited to the Tennessee Library Association to present EDICon. This presentation was first seen at ALA Midwinter and is now on the road for upcoming library and association workshops.

- ACRL

Jody Gray, Briana Jarnagin, and Amber Hayes are attending the ARCL Conference in April. ODLOS will have a booth in the exhibit hall showcasing the office's various resources and opportunities to get involved. Jody and Briana will be presenting on "Advocating for Social Justice: The Role of the Ally" and engaging Spectrum Scholars/alumni via two meet-ups.

- National Bookmobile Day

April 10 marks [National Bookmobile Day](#). National Bookmobile Day is hosted by ALA ODLOS, the Association for Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS), and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL). This day brings awareness to the importance of bookmobiles and the communities that they serve. ODLOS has compiled resources for libraries to use from bookmarks, new Because Statements, infographics, and social media tools.

- The Coretta Scott King Book Awards Turn 50 in 2019!

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King (CSK) Book Awards. To celebrate this momentous occasion, the CSK community and ODLOS are designing various marketing materials as well as planning a gala at the Library of Congress during ALA Annual in Washington, D.C. Both parties are expecting 500 attendees for the gala and past CSK winners are encouraged to celebrate at the gala as well.

Public Policy and Advocacy Office (PPAO)

Public Policy and Advocacy Office Hosts First Congressional Fly-In 2019

On February 25-26, the ALA welcomed around 100 attendees to Washington, D.C. for the first [Congressional Fly-In](#). Unlike National Library Legislative Day, the Fly-In is a smaller strategic event held at the onset of the appropriations cycle. Attendees were chosen based on target congressional districts, experience and established relationships with elected officials. Among the attendees were seasoned advocates including leadership of chapters, state, public, school and university libraries, friend groups, library trustees, board and Policy Corps, Corporate Committee for Library Investment, COL members and state librarians from all over the country. Participants were asked to focus on three strategic asks—ask members of Congress to fund the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) at the \$232 million reauthorized level—sign the LSTA "Dear Appropriator" letter—and visit a library in their district. Advocates completed over 200 targeted congressional meetings. Since the event, the LSTA gained a new republican co-sponsor acquiring bipartisan support, and in the week that followed the event, attendees followed up with the staff with whom they met, regarding requesting their member of Congress sign on to the LSTA "Dear Appropriator" letter.

ALA Spreads Love for Libraries on Capitol Hill

On February 14, the Public Policy and Advocacy Office partnered with D.C. Public Library to host the first [Capitol Library Card Sign-Up Day](#). Library workers conducted over 120 on-site library card sign ups. Attendees included Rep. Mark Takano (CA-41), congressional staff, and other Capitol Hill employees. The event was also featured in print *Roll Call*, a Hill newspaper delivered daily to all members of Congress and their employees. The Capitol Library Card Sign-Up Day is part of ALA's focus on year-round advocacy and introduces new members and re-educated returning members about the important services available at their local library.

ALA "Challenges" Congress to Support Libraries

In February, the ALA partnered with D.C. Public Library and Harford County Public Library to create and deliver to Capitol Hill more than 535 of the first-ever library challenge coins. Challenge coins are common on Capitol Hill and are traditionally used and traded among members of Congress and other government agencies. To introduce new members and re-educate returning members about library services, ALA participated in the coin tradition and created the first 3D printed and laser cut challenge coin using technology available in library makerspaces. The coins had the traditional library emblem 3D printed on one side and the ALA logo laser cut on wood on the back with the phrase "Support Our Nations Libraries."

ALA Adds Second Cohort of Policy Corps Members

The ALA [announced](#) its second group of Policy Corps members in January. The new members are again from across the country and from K-12 school, academic and public library backgrounds, and will join the first cohort who continue working on national policy advocacy. ALA drew a strong pool of applicants, from which a subcommittee of the Policy Corps working group made their selections. The new members will meet in Washington, D.C., during National Library Week.

ALA Reaches More Libraries Through Ready to Code, Expands Google Collaboration

Building on the strong partnership between ALA's Public Policy and Advocacy Office and Google, the \$1 million Libraries Lead with Digital Skills initiative, [announced](#) in November, [launched](#) at the end of January with its 50-state tour [kick-off](#) at the Philadelphia Free Library. Since then, the Grow with Google team has visited Connecticut, Maryland and Virginia, with next tour stops planned for Ohio, New Mexico, and Iowa. The tours focus on building digital skills for adults and highlighting what libraries do to support workforce development and economic opportunity in their communities. Following each state tour, PLA is opening [microfunding](#) applications to local public libraries that are working to develop digital skills.

ALA Engages Librarians to Advocate on the 2020 Census

With the 2020 Census less than a year away, the Public Policy and Advocacy team and the [2020 Census Library Outreach and Education Task Force](#) are continuing their efforts to ensure libraries are well-prepared. In January, ideas were promoted to [help libraries prepare for potential activities and demands](#) that may arise. During Midwinter, the team organized a panel about library advocacy and engagement, including a discussion about philanthropic resources.

In February, the conversation moved online with a [webinar](#) discussing the advocacy efforts by libraries in several states. Also in February, Congress completed work on the Census Bureau's budget for 2019 and included [provisions that ALA had sought](#) directing the Census Bureau to open local outreach sites, which could potentially be located in libraries. ALA is [continuing to advocate](#) for effective implementation of that provision. Finally, ALA is closely monitoring the litigation challenging the addition of an untested citizenship question to the 2020 Census. ALA has [opposed](#) the addition. The Supreme Court will hear the case in April, with a final ruling expected this summer.

Delayed Appropriations Campaign Kicks off; President Again Targets Libraries

Federal funding for libraries was again targeted for elimination in the [White House budget](#) request to Congress, threatening more than \$210 million in resources for libraries. The budget request—submitted more than a month late due to the unprecedented 35-day government shutdown—recommends (for the third year in a row) elimination of LSTA, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Innovative Approaches to Literacy, Title IV-A, Striving Readers, and many other programs. While disappointing, this news was expected by ALA's Public Policy and Advocacy team, which launched its [nationwide advocacy engagement](#) to fund libraries on the same day the budget was released. Within the first 24 hours, nearly every representative in Congress heard from ALA advocates in their districts. In the House, both letters supporting LSTA and IAL were led by Democrats and Republicans. The Senate deadline for Dear Appropriator letters had not been announced at press time.

Supreme Court to Hear Net Neutrality Case; Congress Introduces Legislation

On February 1, the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit heard oral arguments about whether the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was arbitrary and capricious in reversing its 2015 Order, which included rules against blocking, throttling or paid prioritization of internet access. ALA filed amicus with the plaintiffs in the case. An appeals court ruling is expected this summer, but the decision is expected to go the U.S. Supreme Court. Congress held a hearing on February 7 in the House. Since then, three republican-sponsored bills have been introduced into the House, and one bicameral democratic bill has been announced. So far, only the "Save the Internet Act" would reinstate the protections previously in place under the 2015 FCC Order. ALA joined other net neutrality advocates in [encouraging people](#) to tweet, email and call members of Congress to support passage of the Act.

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR)

National Women's History Month

During the entire month of March, the ALA [Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship \(COSWL\)](#) will recognize and celebrate women's historic achievements with National Women's History Month. The Committee hosted a webinar Monday, March 18, 2:00 p.m. (Eastern) highlighting women's history month and the [National Women's History Museum](#). The webinar was presented by Susan Scanlan, a member of the National Women's History Museum Board. Susan was instrumental in the conception and passage of Women's History Month through Congress and worked on the passage of Title IX. She also helped found the Congressional

Caucus for Women's Issues and its policy arm, the Women's Research & Education Institute (WREI). Susan gave a brief update on the Museum and discussed a "history" of Women's History Month.

Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)

Top 11 Most Challenged Books of 2018 (See *Spotlight* on page 1)

Announcement of Theme for Banned Books Week 2019 (See *Spotlight* on page 1)

OIF Presentations

- OIF Interim Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone presented a keynote in-service for the Alachua County Public Library in Gainesville, Florida on February 18. The topic of her talk addressed intellectual freedom, privacy, minors' First Amendment rights, and copyright as 21st century issues for librarianship, with an emphasis on librarians' ethical responsibility to distinguish between one's personal beliefs and one's professional responsibilities.
- OIF Assistant Director Kristin Pekoll traveled to Norman, Oklahoma for the Oklahoma Library Association conference, where she presented an Advocacy Bootcamp with Megan Cusick from Office for Library Advocacy. Their visit to Norman included tours of four libraries in Norman and informal discussions with library workers about the value of building a climate of library support before a crisis occurs.

Intellectual Freedom Roundtable's John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award

Jim Duncan, the Executive Director of the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) has been awarded the Intellectual Freedom Roundtable's John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award for his actions in fighting an ongoing challenge to the statewide EBSCO subscription package. For over two years, Duncan and his organization have been targeted by an extremist group as "purveyors of pornography" for their role as a cooperative purchasing agent for library resources throughout the state of Colorado. The award is based on Jim's activities as an outspoken defender of intellectual freedom, and his subsequent activities as an advocate for proactive responses to potential challenges.

Revisions to Three Library Bill of Rights Interpretations Adopted by Council

ALA Council adopted revisions to three Library Bill of Rights interpretations proposed by the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) at the Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, including proposed changes to "Challenged Resources," "Prisoners' Right to Read" and "Meeting Rooms." ALA Council also adopted an article to the Library Bill of Rights, which focuses on the concept of ensuring privacy and confidentiality for library users. The three interpretations and privacy article will be included in the 10th edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*, edited by Martin Garnar and Trina Magi. The Intellectual Freedom Committee will meet at ALA Chicago

headquarters March 22-24 to continue revising documents in anticipation of the manual's release.

Revisions Proposed by the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)

The ALA Council adopted revisions proposed by the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE) to "[Copyright: An Interpretation of the Code of Ethics](#)." In addition, COPE adopted significant revisions to two supplementary documents: "[Ethics and Social Media Q&A](#)" and "[Enforcement of the Code of Ethics Q&A](#)".

Public Programs Office (PPO)

ALA, Dollar General Literacy Foundation Announce Libraries Receiving Adult Literacy Grants

ALA and Dollar General Literacy Foundation [announced 16 U.S. public libraries](#) to receive 2019 American Dream Literacy Initiative grants, \$10,000 awards to expand services for adult English language learners or adults in need of basic education and workforce development. Since the program's inception, more than 200 libraries in Dollar General communities have received funding. The grants allow libraries to augment their print and digital English-as-a-second-language (ESL) collections; increase computer access and training; provide job training; hold English language learning (ELL), general educational development (GED) and citizenship classes; and raise the visibility of services for immigrant populations. Programming will take place at the libraries until November 2019. The program is funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and administered by PPO in collaboration with ODLOS.

PPO Offers Media Literacy Preconference at ALA Annual 2019

Can your patrons spot fake news? Can you? Join PPO and the Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University for a one-day workshop to learn how your library can help adults in your community become eagle-eyed news consumers. "[Media Literacy at Your Library Training](#)" will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 21, 2019, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. Workshop registration starts at \$150 for ALA members. See pricing and registration instructions under the conference [Ticketed Events page](#) under "PPO (Public Programs Office)" or add Event Code "PPO1" to your conference registration bundle.

Library Workers to Meet in Chicago for Racial Healing Circle Workshop

Forty-two library workers and educators [have been selected to participate](#) in a two-day workshop to learn how to lead Racial Healing Circles, a transformative facilitation process, championed by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, that strives to help communities engage with storytelling, deep listening and relationship building that can support healing from the effects of racism. The Preparation Workshop for New Racial Healing Circle Practitioners is offered by PPO and ODLOS in cooperation with the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U). It will take place in Chicago on March 21 and 22. Participants were selected through a competitive application process. Racial Healing Circles help participants recognize our common humanity, acknowledge the truth of past wrongs, and build the authentic relationships

necessary to begin transforming communities and shifting our national discourse. The Kellogg Foundation is supporting [PPO's Great Stories Club series on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation](#).

- Anyone interested in learning more about the Racial Healing Circle process is invited to sign up for "[Beyond the Racial Stalemate](#)," a ticketed event at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference. Two sessions will be offered on Friday, June 21; pricing starts at \$70. To learn more, email PPO at publicprograms@ala.org.

K-8 School Libraries Invited to Apply for \$5K Award Recognizing Outstanding Programming

School libraries are invited to apply for a \$5,000 award recognizing outstanding humanities programming in kindergarten through eighth grade. Nominations for the 2019 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming will be accepted until May 3, 2019. School libraries, public or private, that serve K-8 students are eligible. Nominated programs must have taken place during the current school year (2018-19). Applications, award guidelines and a list of previous winners are available at <http://www.ala.org/tools/programming/jaffarianaward>.

50 Public Libraries Selected for American Creed: Community Conversations Programming Grants

PPO, in partnership with Citizen Film and the National Writing Project, [has announced 50 U.S. public libraries](#) selected to take part in American Creed: Community Conversations, a grant program that will invite audiences to consider what America's ideals and identity ought to be through screenings of, and conversations about, the PBS documentary *American Creed*. Participating libraries receive a projection-ready download of *American Creed*, with public performance rights; DVDs for their circulating collections; marketing and facilitation resources; materials, training and support; and a \$300 stipend for conversation facilitation by an eligible public humanities scholar, or access to a National Writing Project representative to serve as moderator. Grantees were selected through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process. Selected libraries will host community screenings of the film, complemented by additional programming. They represent a wide range of rural, urban and suburban communities in 25 states.

ALA DIVISIONS

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

AASL Opens Targeted Call for Research-Focused National Conference Proposals

AASL invites proposals for a new strand of sessions added to its 2019 National Conference & Exhibition taking place November 14-16, 2019, in Louisville, Kentucky. The AASL Educators of School Librarians Section (ESLS) will offer concurrent sessions focused on bringing current research from the field into the practice setting. Proposals are due by 12:00 p.m. (noon) Central on May 6, 2019. More information on content and criteria can be found on the [AASL website](#).

Shirley Simmons Receives AASL Distinguished School Administrator Award

Shirley Simmons, assistant superintendent of educational services for Norman (OK) Public Schools, is the recipient of the 2019 AASL Distinguished School Administrator Award. Sponsored by ProQuest, the \$2,000 award recognizes and honors a school administrator who has made worthy contributions to the operations of an exemplary school library and to advancing the role of the school library in the educational program. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/2FjTiAH>

South Carolina Association of School Librarians Awarded AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant

The South Carolina Association of School Librarians' (SCASL) "Emerging Leaders" program is the recipient of the 2019 AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant. Sponsored by ABC-CLIO, the \$1,750 grant is given to AASL-affiliated school library associations for planning and implementing leadership programs at the state, regional, or local levels. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/2Fn2ZhV>

Dav Pilkey Shares 'Radical Ideas' in New AASL Video

A new video featuring *New York Times* bestselling author Dav Pilkey is now available from AASL as part of the 2019 celebration of School Library Month. In the video, Pilkey, author of the *Captain Underpants* and *Dog Man* series, speaks to how "reading without judgment" was a turning point in his life. School librarian professionals and advocates for school libraries are encouraged to [download and share the video](#) throughout their communities in celebration of School Library Month.

AASL Relaunches Research Grant Program; Calls for Papers

AASL announces the relaunch of the AASL Research Grant program now under the sponsorship of School Library Connection. Research grants recognize excellence in manuscripts addressing a persistent and recurring challenge in the field of school librarianship. AASL, in collaboration with its Educators of School Librarians Section, invites researchers to submit papers on original research for grant consideration. Papers must be submitted by Sunday, June 30, 2019, for consideration. Information on the application process and eligibility can be found on the [AASL website](#).

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

ACRL 2019 Updates

The [ACRL 2019 conference](#) is coming up April 10-13, 2019. Nearly 3,000 onsite attendees and 730 exhibitors representing 220 organizations will be joining us in Cleveland, along with a number of individuals and organizations joining in, via the ACRL 2019 Virtual Conference. ACRL 2019 features more than 500 conference programs carefully selected and presented by leaders in the profession offering insights and inspiration to enhance your library's programs

and services. The official conference app is now available through the App Store and Google Play, featuring personalized schedule creation and a variety of networking opportunities. Just search for “ACRL Conference” and download. We hope to see many of you in Cleveland!

ACRL Candidates on Ballots for IFLA Sections, 2019-2023

ACRL has nominated a number of members to serve on the International Federation of Library and Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Section Committees for the term 2019-2023. The Academic and Research Libraries Section (Jean Zanoni, Marquette University) and the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (Beth Kilmarx, Indiana University of Pennsylvania) have gone to ballot this year. If your institution is a member of either of these IFLA sections, please consider voting for the ACRL candidates.

ACRL Signs Letter Opposing Alaska Higher Education Funding Cuts

On March 4, 2019, ACRL joined a number of professional societies representing tens of thousands of faculty members and students from humanistic and social scientific disciplines in [signing a letter](#) expressing deep concern about Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy’s proposed funding cuts for higher education.

Immersion '19 Registration Open

Registration is [now available](#) for the 2019 Immersion Program. Immersion '19 will be held at Loyola University Chicago, July 28-August 2, 2019. Immersion '19 is an intensive 4-and-a-half day program designed for those who contribute to the educational role of libraries in higher education. Through a critical examination of information literacy, teaching and learning, and influence and leadership, the Immersion program curriculum aims to develop critically reflective practitioners who enact change in their practice, projects, or personal and professional goals. Registration materials are available online. Registration is capped at 100 participants, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit the [Immersion website](#) for complete details, including registration, housing, and scholarship materials.

Bring ACRL’s Project Outcome for Academic Libraries Workshop to Your Conference

Are you interested in measuring learning outcomes to drive change, make data-informed decisions, and demonstrate the impact of programs and services at your library? ACRL is offering you the opportunity to bring an expert trainer to your conference or event to facilitate a free workshop on implementing outcome measurement using Project Outcome for Academic Libraries. Between April 2019 and summer 2020, ACRL is offering free Project Outcome for Academic Libraries workshops (1 hour or half-day) to ACRL chapters, consortia, or state/regional library association conferences. ACRL will schedule workshops on a first-come, first-served basis dependent on presenter availability, and will cover costs for the presenter’s travel, lodging, and workshop materials. Conference organizers should provide the workshop space, AV equipment and support, catering should they so choose, and wifi access for presenters and participants. Typically, a minimum of two months lead time is needed to schedule a workshop. Complete details are available on [ACRL Insider](#).

Curriculum Designers for New Leading Change Online Course

The ACRL New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee has selected the team of Dani Brecher Cook, Cinthya Ippoliti, and Brianna Marshall to plan and develop an asynchronous online learning course on change management. The course includes self-guided, self-paced readings and activities, as well as activities and exercises to be completed as a team. Cook is the Director of Teaching and Learning at the University of California-Riverside; Ippoliti is the University Librarian and Director of Auraria Library, University of Colorado-Denver; and Marshall is the Director of Research Services at the University of California-Riverside. The team was selected after an [open and competitive call](#) for designers and will work closely with the New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee and appropriate ACRL staff. “Leading Change” is scheduled to debut in early 2020 and will be freely available on the ACRL website.

Call for Proposals: C&RL Special Issue on Academic Library Impact

ACRL's Value of Academic Libraries Committee is planning a special issue of [College & Research Libraries](#) (C&RL) around new research on the impact of academic libraries on student learning and success in higher education that advances the six priority areas established in ACRL's 2017 report, *Academic Library Impact: Improving Practice and Essential Areas to Research* (prepared for ACRL by OCLC Research and available for download or purchase). The research may use any investigative methods appropriate to addressing the research question(s). These include but are not limited to standard quantitative and qualitative approaches, as well as critical evaluations, case studies, reflective essays, and (auto)ethnography. Articles resulting from collaborative research involving librarians and other higher education stakeholders, such as institutional researchers, faculty, administration, students, or community partners are particularly welcome. Work on issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion as they relate to academic libraries is also encouraged. Proposals are due on April 29, 2019, and complete details are on [ACRL Insider](#).

Critical Approaches to Credit-Bearing Information Literacy Courses

ACRL released [Critical Approaches to Credit-Bearing Information Literacy Courses](#), edited by Angela Pashia and Jessica Critten, in February 2019. The collection examines how critical pedagogy and critical information literacy can be applied in specific lesson plans and throughout a credit-bearing course. The book includes chapters that examine how both critical pedagogy and critical information literacy are applied throughout a credit-bearing course as well as in specific lesson plans. The ideas explored in this book can be adapted for a variety of class and course lengths and for a range of students, from first-year undergraduates to doctoral students.

Keeping Up With...

Two new editions of Keeping Up With..., ACRL's online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education, are available. The January issue features a discussion of [Antitrust and Competition Law](#) by Ana Enriquez while the February issue features a discussion of [Implicit Bias](#) by Tarica LaBossiere, Endia Paige, and Beau Steenken. ACRL is currently accepting topic suggestions for future editions of Keeping Up With... . Visit the [Keeping Up With... website](#) for more information or contact David Free at dfree@ala.org with questions or to submit topics.

ACRL Presents – Digging for Gold with Bundles of Sticks: Copyright, Fair Use, and Text Data Mining

ACRL held a free ACRL Presents “Digging for Gold with Bundles of Sticks: Copyright, Fair Use, and Text Data Mining” on Thursday, February 28, 2019, as part of the celebration of 2019 Fair Use Week. The webcast helped library and consortia participants build literacies to navigate text data mining (TDM) copyright issues so that we may maximally support this innovative research. This includes an overview of how copyright law fits in with TDM, the scope of fair use rights and what courts have said about it, and tips for building copyright literacy into TDM support and content licensing. It also highlighted several other law and policy literacies (contracts, privacy, ethics) shaping TDM research, as a preview for our holistic TDM legal literacies training. A recording of the webcast is available on [YouTube](#).

ACRL Membership Webcast: So You Want to be an Academic Librarian: Academic Librarianship and the Hiring Process

On Thursday, February 21, ACRL held a free webcast *So You Want to be an Academic Librarian: Academic Librarianship and the Hiring Process*. The ACRL Membership Committee sponsored the one-hour interactive webcast for students who are interested in learning more about what academic librarianship is, the types of academic libraries and librarians, and how to decode a job ad, along with the application, interview, and negotiation processes. A recording of the webcast is available on [YouTube](#).

ACRL e-Learning

ACRL's e-Learning program offered five live webcasts and one online course during this report period. 72 individuals and 18 groups participated in e-learning focusing on implicit bias, difficult dialogues, and mindfulness in libraries. Upcoming topics for the ACRL e-Learning program include an introduction to the creative commons and a four-part series on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#).

Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

Host Site Application for 2020 Arbuthnot Lecture is Open

The 2020 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Committee is [accepting applications](#) to host the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture featuring author and library advocate, Neil Gaiman whose work has been honored with many awards internationally, including the Newbery Medal. Host site applications are due May 15, 2019.

Día 2019

April 30 is Día—El día de los libros, El día de los niños/Children's Day, Book Day. Libraries all over the country are hosting and will continue to host events to celebrate children and books.

ALSC encourages libraries to celebrate Día throughout the year and provides the use of its [National Día Program Registry](#) and [free downloadable resources](#) like booklists, posters and digital graphics.

2019 ALSC Professional Award Winners Announced

ALSC/Baker & Taylor Summer Reading Grant

ALSC has awarded the [2019 ALSC/Baker & Taylor Summer Reading Program Grant](#) to the Lewiston Public Library in Lewiston, New York. The funds will support the addition of sensory storytimes to better serve its special needs children and their families and create more inclusive programming and activities through adaptive activities, practices and equipment, designed with input from occupational and physical therapists and educational specialists.

ALSC Distinguished Service Award

[Maria B. Salvadore](#) is the 2019 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the ALSC. This prestigious award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to library service to children and to ALSC. Salvadore is the former coordinator of children's services at the D.C. Public Library System, and a long-time literacy consultant and advisory board member for various educational non-profits.

Light the Way Grant

With this grant, the [Suffolk Public Library \(Morgan Memorial Library\)](#) is extending its Mess Hall summer food program. It will allow staff to take a select number of 7 to 14-year-olds on field trips to community institutions throughout the summer. The community served by the library system's main branch, the Morgan Memorial Library has poverty rates over 40%, and as such, many of these children cannot afford summer enrichment programs which are critical in extending the learning beyond the school year.

Maureen Hayes Award

ALSC has awarded the 2019 Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Visit Award to the Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library in Clayton, North Carolina. Hocutt-Ellington Library will be hosting an author visit with renown children's author Grace Lin in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the town's founding.

Bookapalooza Grant

ALSC has awarded the [2019 Bookapalooza Program](#) to three libraries: McNary Community Library of McNary, Arizona; Jaffrey Public Library of Jaffrey, New Hampshire; and Lawrence County Public Library of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. The award includes a variety of materials from books to DVDs and audiobooks. These materials have been received at the ALSC office from publishers for selection committees to evaluate for awards and notables consideration. To make room for the next year's publications, Bookapalooza was created to infuse three collections with new materials for children, age birth through fourteen.

Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship

ALSC and the Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship Committee have awarded the 2019 Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship to Beth McIntyre and Caroline Ward. Beth McIntyre is the teen and collection development librarian at the Madison Public Library in Wisconsin. Caroline Ward is a children's librarian and independent consultant in Cos Cob, Connecticut. The Bechtel

Fellowship is designed to allow qualified children's librarians to spend a total of four weeks or more reading and studying at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature, a part of the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

Penguin Random House Young Readers Group Award

The Association for Library Service to Children has awarded the [2019 Penguin Random House Young Readers Group Award](#) to Alexandra Bell, Bloomington Public Library (Illinois); Jeanmarie Gielty, Cleveland Public Library (Ohio); Hadeal Salamah, District of Columbia Public Library (Washington DC); Dawn Wilbert, Decatur Public Library (Texas). The \$600 stipend, made possible by an annual gift from Penguin Young Readers Group and Random House Children's Books, enables up to four children's librarians to attend their first American Library Association's Annual Conference.

ALSC Community Forum

In February ALSC held an online [Community Forum](#) open to all on the 2018 Young Children, New Media, and Libraries Survey and Digital Media Awards. This forum provided an overview and introduction into two new initiatives with ALSC in its ongoing commitment to supporting librarians as media mentors in their service to children and families. The first topic was the updated version of ALSC's first national survey of libraries and new media, originally administered in 2014, which demonstrated a strong commitment among libraries to provide a range of technology for families with young children. The new survey offers compelling, widespread insights into the changes to this still largely uncharted and varied landscape. Following this, information about ALSC's two new achievements related to media was shared: ALSC's brand new Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media Award and the Notable Children's Digital Media (formerly Great Websites) list. This Community Forum [archive](#) is currently available and open to all to view.

Spring Online Courses

ALSC's Spring online courses begin April 1. Students had the choice of four different course offerings: [Contemporary Issues in Action: Ethics for Librarians](#) (new!), [Full STREAM Ahead: How to take Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\) to the next level with maker kits](#) (new!), [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\) Programs Made Easy](#), [Storytelling with Puppets](#).

Webinars

ALSC is currently offering a plethora of live webinars that are free and open to all: [Giving Storytime a Tune-Up: Music Activities to Support Engagement and Understanding](#); [Where the Wild Things Learn and Play](#); [Work Hard, Play Harder: An Insider's Guide to Not So Passive Programs](#); [New Media and Preschool Services - Practical Applications](#); and [Inclusive Technology for Babies to Teens in the Library](#). ALSC is also wrapping up a three-part webinar on *Early Childhood Expertise Beyond Libraryland* with the fourth installment: [Serving Refugee and Immigrant Families](#). All of ALSC's live webinars are recorded and archived for on-demand access. Archives can be accessed for free with an ALSC membership, or for a small fee for non-members.

Continuing Education Proposals

The ALSC Education Committee is always considering new courses and webinars to add to ALSC's growing online education offerings. Anyone interested in teaching needs to fill out an [online application](#) and provide a resume, teaching references, and a course syllabus (not needed for webinars). The Education Committee will be selecting proposals on a rolling basis to allow for courses to be added multiple times throughout the year.

2019 Annual Conference Activities

- ALSC Preconference Program: *With Gratitude: Honoring Stories that Connect Us*
ALSC will host an awards-focused [preconference](#) on June 21 from 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Join us in conversation with authors, illustrators, and publishers as we celebrate and explore the 2019 Batchelder, Caldecott, Geisel, Newbery, Pura Belpré, and Sibert Honor Books.

- Charlemae Rollins President's Program: *Subversive Activism: Creating Social Change Through Libraries, Children's Literature, and Art*
The ALSC [Charlemae Rollins President's Program](#), "Subversive Activism: Creating Social Change Through Libraries, Children's Literature, and Art," will take place on Monday, June 24 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. This high energy presentation will examine activism and social change through multiple lenses: first from two scholarly leaders, Dr. Nicole Cooke, representing Library & Information Science, and Dr. Janina Fariñas from the field of Pediatric Neuropsychology, then from acclaimed children's book author/illustrator Yuyi Morales, and finally, from Dr. Karin Perry's sketchnoting that will document this dynamic event.

- Pura Belpré Award Celebración
Pura Belpré Award Celebración, will take place on Sunday, June 23 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. to celebrate the 2019 Pura Belpré award-winning authors and illustrators. The event will feature speeches, book signings, and entertainment.

Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASGCLA)

Winter News from ASGCLA

This winter brought a mix of disappointments and successes to ASGCLA. After the significant increase in membership in September as FAFLRT members joined the division (995 personal members), there has been slow reduction. In February there were 930 personal members, a decrease of 65 over 5 months. Other changes for the division happened at the ASGCLA Board of Directors meeting in January. ASGCLA disbanded the Interlibrary Cooperation Interest Group, as it had outlived its original purpose and other Interest Groups, focusing on specific services, currently meeting member needs. Also, at Midwinter, a follow-up to the 2018 EBook Summit included a proposal for a committee to pursue the Summit recommendations. Since January 2019, ASGCLA staff have continued training in iMIS, the Committee Volunteer System, Connect, and Prophix to better serve ASGCLA members. Understanding these tools help us to effectively serve our members. Some specific accomplishments in member services are listed below.

Integration of Federal and Armed Forces Librarians

The merger of ASCLA with FAFLRT into the ASGCLA Division was completed on September 1, 2018. The division logo, the website and key documents were updated to welcome the new members. But not everything fell into place, and some new members did not yet feel included in the division. A “January Update” letter, shared through the ASCLA and FAFLRT listservs, acknowledged the issues and outlined solutions. Though ALA membership records for FAFLRT members were updated, the division’s new Armed Forces Librarians Interest Group and Federal Librarians Interest Group needed more work to integrate the new members into the listservs and Connect groups needed for group conversations. These technical problems have been solved, and ASGCLA has worked with the two Interest Group leaders. The Federal Librarians Interest Group is planning meetings and panel discussions at the Annual Conference. Thanks to the Interest Group leaders and the Armed Forces and Federal Library representatives on the ASGCLA Board of Directors, we look forward to encouraging full participation in the division.

Awards

By the deadline of March 15, ASGCLA received 9 nominations for 5 awards to be given at the Annual Conference in Washington DC. The ASGCLA Awards Committee will review nominations and select recipients. The ASGCLA Awards Program and Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2019.

Mentoring

The ASGCLA Membership Committee announced a call for mentor and mentee applicants for a second year of the ASGCLA Mentoring Program (<https://www.asgcladirect.org/about/mentoring-program/>). Those selected for the 2019-2020 Mentoring Program cohort will begin work at the Annual Conference in Washington DC. The mentors and mentees will continue virtually for a full year.

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)

LITA Learning Online

Can't attend the live session? Register to receive the recording.

Diversity in Libraries: Creating an InterDisciplinary Space at Meyer Library
April 2, 2019 webinar

Multimedia Instruction: Connecting through Course Integration
April 9-23, 2019 online course

Universal Parity to Resources: Rethinking Library Access
April 25, 2019 webinar

Managing Special User Groups in Academic Libraries
May 7, 2019 webinar

Guiding Students through Digital Citizenship
May 16, 2019 webinar

Techniques in Managing a Library Services Platform Migration
May 30, 2019 webinar

In-house vs. Outsourced Digitization: Similarities, Key Differences and Pitfalls to Avoid
June 5, 2019 webinar

LITA Learning at Annual

If you're attending the 2019 ALA Annual Conference, join LITA for one of our practical workshops and a thought-provoking President's Program.

Preconferences

AvramCamp

This workshop for female-identifying individuals will start with looking at imposter syndrome and then allow participants to propose unconference topics such as salary negotiation, creating inclusive job postings, and becoming leaders in the technology field.

Beginning Git and GitHub

Work smarter, collaborate faster, and share code or other files with the library community using the popular version control system Git. Featuring a mix of fundamentals and hands-on exercises, participants learn the basics of Git, how to use key commands, and how to use GitHub to their advantage.

Metadata Management Tools

Participants will use hands-on activities to learn how to incorporate different metadata management tools into their workflows, discuss example use cases for each tool, and have the opportunity to collaborate on problem-solving metadata workflow issues.

[Register today!](#)

(Not attending the Annual Conference? You *can* register for just a preconference.)

Meredith Broussard: Artificial Unintelligence

Our collective enthusiasm for applying computer technology to every aspect of life has resulted in a vast number of poorly designed systems. We are so eager to do everything digitally—hiring, driving, paying bills, even choosing romantic partners—that we have stopped demanding that our technology actually work. If we understand the limits of what we **can** do with technology, Broussard tells us, we can make better choices about what we **should** do with it to make the world better for everyone. [Hear author and data journalist Meredith Broussard speak at the LITA President's Program on Sunday at ALA Annual.](#)

#LITachat – Digital Archive and Extended Reality Projects

Join us Friday, March 29, 12:00-1:00pm (Central), on Twitter to hear about, discuss, ask questions on several technology-related projects happening in the field. This month we'll cover a grant-funded digital archives project and eXtended Reality (XR) work. To participate, launch your favorite Twitter app or web browser, search for the #LITachat hashtag, and select "Latest" to participate and ask questions.

New Excellence in Children's and YA Science Fiction Notable Lists

These annotated lists, published annually, are designed to assist children, their parents, and librarians in selecting books that use (future) science and technology rather than fantasy or magic. The selections focus on three age groups: picture books, middle grade books, and young adult books. View the full 2019 lists on the [SF Notables website](#).

Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA)

Upcoming webinars*

March 13

Best Practices for Accessible and Inclusive Marketing

Presenter: Carli Spina, Head of Research and Instructional Services, SUNY's Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, New York

March 27

The Best Way to Move Toward Leadership in Your Career

Presenter: Caitlin Williams, Career coach, researcher, consultant, North Ridgeville, Ohio

April 3

From Transactional to Interactional: Leading Change in Frontline Public Services in Academic & Public Libraries

Presenter: Stephanie OSullivan VanNess, Library Supervisor, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona; Mary Wagoner; Elisabeth Ferguson; Bo Baker

April 10

A Free Webinar! Designing for Human Behavior

Presenter: Joe Agati, Agati Furniture, IL

April 17

Project Management for Success

Presenter: Gina Minks, Owner/Principal, Gina Minks Consulting LLC, St. Charles, MO

April 24

Successful Change Management

Presenter: Gina Minks, Owner/Principal, Gina Minks Consulting LLC, St. Charles, MO

May 8

How to Create New Revenue Streams for Your Library

Presenter: Ed Rossman, Retired Adult Services Librarian, Shaker Heights Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio

*All LLAMA webinars are on Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00 p.m. Registration opens approximately one month in advance.

For more information, contact Fred Reuland at freuland@ala.org

Public Library Association (PLA)

2nd “Stronger Together” Breakfast for Public Library Councilors to be Held at ALA Annual

As part of its “Stronger Together” outreach effort, PLA will host a breakfast at the ALA Annual Conference for ALA Councilors who work in public libraries and/or are PLA members. The event will provide an opportunity to meet with PLA leaders, learn about PLA priorities, and discuss how PLA and ALA can best address areas of shared interest.

- The inaugural Stronger Together breakfast was held at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, and nearly 80% of attendees said the event helped them better understand how PLA works with ALA. Two-thirds requested guidance on specific PLA concerns in order to better advocate for public libraries at Council.
- In response, PLA will provide Councilors with the opportunity to engage and learn more about PLA’s strategies and programs related to social service needs of community members; digital access and literacy; outcome measurement; leadership and professional development; consumer health information and the opioid crisis; and equity and social justice.
- The breakfast is scheduled for 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. on Monday, June 24. Councilors who work in public libraries and/or are PLA members will receive an invitation with more information. PLA hopes to create an ongoing dialogue with the Council throughout the year, so even if you cannot attend the June 24 breakfast, please feel free to share any questions and comments about PLA by emailing Executive Director Barb Macikas at bmacikas@ala.org.

PLA Announces Collaboration with Capital One Aimed at Increasing Financial Well-Being through Libraries

PLA is working with [Capital One Financial Corporation](#) to bring innovative financial literacy resources to public libraries across the U.S. Through this project, PLA and the American Library Association will help public libraries nationwide learn about Capital One’s [Ready, Set,](#)

[BankSM program](#), which teaches consumers basic mobile banking skills. Ready, Set, Bank is designed specifically for older adults, and offers numerous, unbranded videos to guide learners through every step of the process, with overviews and step-by-step tutorials to help them manage their finances online -- regardless of where they bank. [Learn more.](#)

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)

RUSA's Achievement Awards

The nomination period for RUSA's Achievement Awards recently closed, and winners will soon be announced. A total of 19 Achievement Awards were up for consideration and winners will be celebrated at the upcoming Annual Meeting.

Upcoming Educational Offerings

Upcoming contracted educational offerings include 5 courses:

- 4/15/2019 - "*Who Manages, Who Leads?*",
- 5/6/2019 – "*Libraries and Aging 101: Educate, Engage and Empower Mature Adults*",
- 5/20/2019 – "*Marketing the 21st Century Library*",
- 9/9/2019 – "*Mastering Emotional Intelligence*", and
- 9/16/2019 – "*Reference Interview 101*"
-and one webinar: 4/9/2019 - "*Nonprofits and Libraries: Collaboration for the Public Good*".

Documents on Values and Norms RUSA Holds in High Regard

The RUSA Board recently created a Cultural Norms document reflecting the values and norms RUSA hold in high regard. A Statement Against Racism, Discrimination and Harassment in the Profession was also recently declared. These documents, along with other strategic activities and considerations, continue to help guide and support RUSA's ongoing strategic planning efforts. A new strategic plan is expected to be complete before the end of the fiscal year.

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

YALSA's 2019 YA Services Symposium Registration & Travel Stipend

[Registration](#) for YALSA's 2019 YA Services Symposium will open on April 15. The symposium will take place November 1-3 in Memphis, TN, with the theme: "Show Up and Advocate: Supporting Teens in the Face of Adversity". YALSA is offering [travel stipends](#) worth up to \$1,000 to offset travel expenses to the symposium. [Apply](#) by June 1. Learn more about the

symposium, registration rates, deadlines, and the travel stipend at www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium.

2019 Teens' Top Ten Nominees Announcement Coming Soon

The official 2019 Teens' Top Ten nominees will be announced on April 11, the Thursday of National Library Week. A list of the 25 nominated titles, along with annotations will be posted at www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten. After the nominees are announced, library staff should encourage teens to read the nominated titles over the summer so they can start voting August 15.

YALSA's Printz Program at 2019 ALA Annual Conference

This year only, YALSA's Printz Program & Reception will take place on Monday, June 24, instead of its usual Friday date. Please see the full information below:

- YALSA and *Booklist* Present: The Michael L. Printz Program and Reception
Monday, June 24, 8-10 p.m. Tickets – \$39.

To learn more about how to add the ticket events or for a complete listing of YALSA events, please visit: tinyurl.com/yalsa-ac19.

New Diverse Titles on YALSA's Teen Book Finder Database

YALSA's Teen Book Finder Database has been recently updated with all of YALSA's 2019 book & media award winners and selected lists, along with titles from ALA's affiliates such as the American Indian Library Association, Association of Jewish Libraries, Coretta Scott King Award, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, and more. Learn more at <http://booklists.yalsa.net/>.

Upcoming YALSA Activities & Events

- April 11 – 2019 Teens' Top Ten Nominees Announcement; www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten
- April 11 – Webinar: What Does it Take to be Career Ready? 2:00 p.m. (Eastern); www.ala.org/yalsa/onlinelearning/webinar
- April 15 – 2019 YA Services Symposium Registration Opens; www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium
- April 15 – 2019 Teens' Top Ten Book Giveaway Deadline; www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten
- April 28 – June 8 – E-Course: More Than Just a Ramp: Disability Services Beyond the ADA; www.ala.org/yalsa/onlinelearning/onlinecourses/disabilityservices
- June 1 – 2020 Midwinter Paper Presentation Travel Stipend Deadline; www.ala.org/yalsa/awardsandgrants/mwpaper
- June 1 – 2019 Symposium Travel Stipends Deadline; www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium

For more events and information, visit http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar_of_Events
or
<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=yalsa@ala.org&ctz=America/Chicago&gsessionid=OK>

ROUNDTABLES

Graphic Novels and Comics (GNCRT)

Webinars for School Library Media Month

GNCRT is working with AASL on webinars for School Library Media Month in April including one that focuses on making the case for comics to gatekeepers and one that focuses on resources for collection development around comics.

Professional Development Programming and Networking Opportunities

GNCRT is hosting professional development programming and networking opportunities at three comic conventions in the month of March (including two sessions at C2E2 that will provide continuing education (CE) credit – Emerald City Comic Con, Seattle WA; C2E2, Chicago, IL; and WonderCon, Anaheim, CA – <http://www.ala.org/rt/gncrt/events>). At C2E2 the Round Table members are also hosting a Pop-Up Library on the exhibit floor where they will have author visits, crafting programs and storytimes, a browsing collection of comics with space for attendees to sit and read, as well as providing reference and readers advisory.

Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries

The juries for the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries are currently reviewing submissions and expect to announce the 2019 recipients in early April. This year the grants have been expanded from two grants to three, and are now open to ALA members across North America, including Mexico and Canada.

ALA PUBLISHING

ALA Editions

New Books from ALA Editions and ALA Neal-Schuman

The new professional development books published include

- *[Be Opportunity-Minded: Start Growing Your Career Now](#)*, by Caitlin Williams, which provides readers with the tools for sustaining a self-directed growth plan;
- *[Recipes for Mindfulness in Your Library: Supporting Resilience and Community Engagement](#)*, edited by Madeleine Charney, Jenny Colvin, and Richard Moniz, which offers more than a dozen in-depth examples of mindfulness in action;
- *[Mother Goose on the Loose—Here, There, and Everywhere](#)*, spotlighting how Betsy Diamant-Cohen's renowned early literacy and school readiness programs have been adapted to a wide range of contexts;

- [*Beyond Reality: Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Reality in the Library*](#), edited by Kenneth J. Varnum, which shares exciting case studies from a mix of institution types (ALA Editions);
- The second edition of [*Collection Development and Management for 21st Century Library Collections: An Introduction*](#), by Vicki L. Gregory, which offers a comprehensive handbook of the discipline;
- The third edition of [*Conducting the Reference Interview*](#), by Catherine Sheldrick Ross, Kirsti Nilsen, and Marie L. Radford, a comprehensive resource that teaches how to understand the reference needs of library users;
- [*New Top Technologies Every Librarian Needs to Know*](#), edited by Kenneth J. Varnum, a LITA guide which surveys the systems, software, and approaches most crucial to the knowledge institutions of tomorrow;
- [*Foundations of Information Ethics*](#), edited by John T. F. Burgess and Emily J. M. Knox, a groundbreaking intellectual primer (ALA Neal-Schuman).

Spring/Summer 2019 Catalog Mailed in March

In late March the Spring/Summer 2019 catalog, which features [dozens of newly announced titles](#), will be mailed to ALA Members, customers, and potential customers. For a full listing of titles including books, online workshops, and eCourses, visit the ALA Store. www.alastore.ala.org

American Libraries

March/April Issue

The cover story for *American Libraries* magazine's March/April issue is [blockchain technology](#)—how these secure, distributed databases work and the potential impact blockchain could have for libraries. Other tech-themed highlights include [library tech trends](#), a roundup of tips and tools from panelists featured at LITA's Top Tech Trends program at the 2019 Midwinter Meeting; an overview of the [Library of Congress's new digital strategy](#); and a look at how [virtual reality is being introduced to seniors](#). The issue also features an interview with philanthropist [Melinda Gates](#) and a story on how [alcohol-friendly events](#) are bringing new, younger faces into the library.

American Libraries Online and Social Media

January: 100,800 site visits (second-highest site traffic ever)
 Highest single-day traffic ever: January 28 (10,074 visits), YMA announcement
 Twitter followers: 73,647, as of March 18

Top stories (January–March):

1. [2019 Youth Media Award Winners](#)
2. [Other Duties as Assigned](#)
3. [Robin DiAngelo Gets Real on Racism](#)

AL Direct

The top three AL Direct news items since January 9:

- [ALA releases statement on Midwinter incident](#) (2,845)
- [Director of Fort Myers Beach library stabbed to death](#) (1,711)
- [Governor snubs “One Book, One Nebraska” pick](#) (1,339)

Number of links published in [Latest Library Links](#): 483

Dewey Decibel podcast

The [January podcast episode](#) featured interviews with Seattle locals aimed to help Midwinter attendees make the most of their visit to the conference city. Travel guru and Midwinter speaker [Rick Steves](#) talked about his favorite off-the-beaten path sights in Seattle. The February episode “[Fostering New Businesses](#)” looks at libraries that are helping local entrepreneurs and start-ups. The episode was tied to National Entrepreneurship Week in February.