

TO: Executive Board

RE: Conference Services

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:

Discussion
Review/Feedback

ACTION REQUESTED BY:

CONTACT PERSON:

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DRAFT OF MOTION:

N/A

DATE: January 26, 2022

BACKGROUND:

2022 LibLearnX - Virtual
2022 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition

ATTACHMENTS:

Annual Conference 2022 Health Protocols

LIBLEARNX 2022 - VIRTUAL

On October 15, 2021, Conference Services launched registration, marketing, and promotion for the annual conference. The official dates are January 21-24, 2022. The conference, produced in a digital format, has a revised (1/22) target of 2,000 paid registrants. In addition to networking opportunities and attendee engagement, the event highlights include:

- Main Stage Thought Leader Sessions
 - Saturday: Opening Main Stage featuring ALA President in Conversation with Special Guest Senator Mazie Hirono
 - Sunday: Innovative Approaches to EDI in Texas Libraries (LIVE from San Antonio, TX)
 - Monday: Voices of Change: Closing Main Stage featuring ALA President Elect Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada and Special Guest Colin Kaepernick

- Content Sessions in four presentation styles with three identified levels of attendee engagement (high, medium, low) – Accelerators, Ideas Exchange, Learning Labs, ShopTalks
 - Books and Authors
 - Career Development & Leadership
 - Center for the Future of Libraries
 - Collection Development
 - Community Outreach & Partnerships
 - Data Collection
 - Digital Equity
 - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
 - Human Resources
 - Library Services
 - Mental Health
 - Reader's Advisory
 - Technology Innovation

- Theater Speakers
 - Angeline Boulley
 - Cicely Lewis
 - Molly Shannon
 - Mariko Tamaki
 - Jaqueline Woodson
 - Kelly Yang
 - Charly Palmer

- I Love My Librarian Awards
- Books & Media Awards including the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction
- Youth Media Awards
- Exhibitor Spotlight Sessions
- LLX Marketplace
- ALA Gives Back (Virtual Community Service Opportunities)
 - Books into e-books
 - Online reference service
 - Transcribing for the Smithsonian
 - Creative, multiple opportunities and San Antonio based

2022 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

Proposed Health Protocols

ALA is actively tracking emerging news regarding COVID-19 and its variants. ALA will continue to monitor guidelines for health and safety measures as recommended by the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Washington, DC. ALA will follow applicable federal, state, and local laws, adapting ALA plans accordingly. We are working closely with Destination DC, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, and contracted ALA Hotels.

- ALA will require all registrants to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination prior to traveling to DC.
- Masks will be required at all ALA events and ALA contracted venues including but not limited to meetings in hotels, the convention center, on the exhibit floor, and on shuttle buses regardless of whether it is required by law at the time of the Conference.

We ask all registrants to:

- Avoid person-to-person contact and maintain a minimum distance of 6-feet from others to allow for “social distancing”.
- Wear a face mask or covering even when not at official ALA events such as the airport, hotel lobby, museums, etc, especially whenever social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Wash hands frequently and use hand sanitizer if hand washing is not readily available.

I agree that:

- I will not attend the Conference if I have knowingly been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19 within the fourteen (14) days prior to the Conference or if I am experiencing or have experienced COVID-19 symptoms within the fourteen (14) days prior to the Conference.
- I will notify ALA at confs@ala.org if I experience symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 at any time during the Conference or within 14 days after participating in the Event. Please note, this information will be held strictly confidential. It will only be used to inform other Event attendees of the possibility of exposure (and such notice will not include your name).

I understand:

- Traveling to and attending the Conference could increase my risk of contracting COVID-19.
- ALA is not responsible for the Venue’s COVID-19 mitigation efforts (or lack thereof) or any negligence by the Venue or its staff relative to such precautions.

I acknowledge and agree that I am attending the Conference voluntarily and at my own risk, and that I release and waive any claim I might have against ALA and its officers, directors, employees, and agents for any and all liability or responsibility for any illness, damages, or injury whatsoever that I may incur in connection with my attendance at the Conference, including, without limitation, as a result of exposure to COVID-19 or the manner in which the Conference is conducted.