

**TO:** ALA-APA Council  
**RE:** 2019 Midwinter Report  
**FROM:** Lorelle Swader and Mary W. Ghikas  
**DATE:** January 7, 2019

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

*No action requested.*

**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 **312** enrollees in the program and **99** 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 **594** enrollees in the program and **197** graduates.

### **APA @ JCLC**

Kimberly Redd, MSHTM, APA Program Manager for Certification & Talent Development, attended the 3rd Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), recently held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. APA had a booth presence and she was able to introduce a whole new audience of library workers to the products and services offered by APA.

### **New APA Wellness Resources**

Recently, library workers have experienced several highly publicized challenges due to unfortunate life circumstances. In support of these individuals, Beatrice Calvin, MACMH, CDF, APA Manager of Professional Development, has worked under the leadership of President Loida Garcia-Febo to pull together lists of resources for library workers [coping with grief](#) and [furloughs or job loss](#). All of these materials are now available on the [APA Wellness website](#). As a reminder, APA Wellness also has its own Twitter feed ([@APA\\_Wellness](#)).

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

This year's celebration of **National Library Workers Day (NLWD)** will be held on **April 9, 2019** 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, new 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 **#NLWD19**.

### **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 MPS, Finance, Membership, ITTS 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.***