



Welcome to ALSC! Committees are the heart of ALSC. They are rich and varied. Each committee performs a distinct function within the organization. Some create resources, some give awards, and others help spread the word of ALSC.

To choose which committee is right for you, please use this document as a guide. When you have found a committee that suits your needs, fill out the Committee Volunteer Form inside.

Priority Groups

Each committee falls under a priority group that classifies the committee into seven larger categories within ALSC. The seven priority groups are:

Priority Group I: Child Advocacy

To identify, evaluate and make recommendations on issues, legislation and services concerning children on the local, state and national levels.

Priority Group II: Evaluation of Media

To evaluate, to establish standards for, and to encourage the availability of materials for children. Priority group consultant, committee chairpersons, and discussion group leaders will review annually the functions of each of the committees and discussion groups and make any recommendations necessary to meet the responsibilities of this priority group. To maintain liaison with ALA committees, divisions, round tables, and other ALSC priority groups with common concerns.

Priority Group III: Professional Awards & Scholarships

To identify and recognize professional achievement and foster excellence in youth services through scholarships and awards.

Priority Group IV: Organizational Support

To review, recommend and prepare policies and budgets and to advise on issues affecting the organizational structure of the division.

Priority Group V: Awards

To nominate or select recipients of the awards based on the award criteria. Priority group consultant and committee chair will review annually the procedures of each of the committees and make any recommendations necessary to meet the responsibilities of this group. To maintain liaison with ALA committees, divisions, round tables and other ALSC priority groups with common concerns.

Priority Group VI: Partnerships

To open and maintain lines of communication with other organizations which share common interests. To encourage

partnerships with these organizations which serve to promote the delivery of library services to children. To identify, evaluate, and recommend ways of working with other organizations and groups concerned with children on local, state, and national levels.

Priority Group VII: Professional Development

To identify and investigate issues relating to children's services and to recommend and initiate action to improve those services.

Committee Descriptions

Priority Group I: Child Advocacy

Early Childhood Programs and Services To identify and disseminate information on effective, cooperative, or innovative programs for young children to libraries, childcare providers, and community agencies serving young children (birth to 5); to develop training workshops on early childhood programs and services and present them at conferences and institutes and for other institutions serving youth; to update and develop ALSC resources with early literacy information; to cooperate as appropriate with other ALSC committees and other associations working with the young child to initiate activities and projects.

Intellectual Freedom To serve as a liaison between the division and the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee and all other groups within the association concerned with intellectual freedom; to advise the division on matters before the Office for Intellectual Freedom and their implication for library service to children and to make recommendations to the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee for changes in policies involving library service to children; and to promote in-service and continuing education programs in the area of intellectual freedom for those who select library material for children.

Advocacy and Legislation To serve as a channel of communication on legislative matters between the ALA Legislation Committee and the Division, recommending to the ALSC Board changes as necessary in federal, state, and local legislation proposed by the ALA Legislation Committee. To call to the

attention of the ALA Legislation Committee and to recommend to the ALSC Board endorsement or revision of legislation affecting children that might be proposed or supported by the ALA Legislation Committee.

Library Service to Special Population Children and their Caregivers To speak for special populations children and their caregivers; these may include those who have learning and physical differences, those who are speaking English as a second language, those who are in a non-traditional school environment, those who are in non-traditional family settings (such as teen parents, foster children, children in the juvenile justice system, and children in gay and lesbian families), and those who need accommodation service to meet their needs. To offer leadership in discovering developing and disseminating information about library materials, programs and facilities for special population children and their caregivers; to develop and maintain guidelines for selection of useful and relevant materials; to discuss develop and suggest ways in which library education programs can prepare librarians to serve these children and their caregivers; and to choose the winner of the Candlewick Light the Way Grant.

Public Awareness To promote awareness of the value of excellent library service for all children. To plan, execute, coordinate, and disseminate public awareness campaigns about the importance of library service for youth. To provide public awareness learning opportunities for library staff and other stakeholders.

School Age Programs and Services To identify and disseminate information on effective, cooperative or innovative programming for school age children to libraries, schools, and community agencies serving youth. To develop training workshops on school age programs and services and present them at conferences, institutes and for other institutions serving youth. To cooperate appropriate with other ALSC committees and other associations working with the school age child to initiate activities and projects.

Priority Group II: Evaluation of Media

Carnegie Medal/Notable Children's Videos To select, annotate, and present for publication annually a list of notable videotapes and video-discs of interest to children, available for use in homes and libraries, produced in the two calendar years prior to the date of their selection. To re-evaluate and to recommend changes as needed in the ALSC criteria for selection of notable videotapes and videodiscs of interest to children. To identify titles for consideration by other committees evaluating for specific clientele or purpose. To carry on other video evaluation projects as assigned by the ALSC Board. To implement the Video Recommendation Policy and Procedures.

Great Websites for Kids To administer and evaluate ALSC's Great Sites within the criteria and procedures established for selection and reconsideration. To complete other Web site selection tasks as appropriate. To maintain communication with the Children and

Technology Committee. To work closely with the ALSC staff liaison and the director of the ALA Public Information Office.

Notable Children's Books To select, annotate, and present for publication annually the list of Notable Children's book of the preceding year.

Notable Children's Recordings To select, annotate, and present for publication an annual list of notable audio recordings, disc or tape form, of interest to children. To reevaluate and recommend change as needed in the ALSC Criteria for Selection of Recordings of Interest to Children. To identify titles for consideration by other committees evaluating for a specific clientele or purpose. To carry on other audio recording evaluation projects as assigned by the ALSC Board.

Priority Group III: Professional Awards and Scholarships

(May Hill) Arbuthnot Honor Lecture [v] To choose annually an individual of distinction who shall prepare and present a paper which shall be a significant contribution to the field of children's literature; to select a host institution and make appropriate arrangements for the presentation of the lecture; to arrange for publication of lecture in "Journal of Youth Services in Libraries."

Distinguished Service Award [v] To administer annually an award to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to children's services and ALSC.

Grant Administration [v] To select annually the recipient of the ALSC/BWI Summer Reading Program Grant for an outstanding summer reading program for children; the recipient of the Maureen Hayes Award, given to an ALSC member library to fund a visit from an author and/or illustrator who will speak to children who have never before had the opportunity to hear a nationally-known author or illustrator; the recipient(s) of the Penguin Young Readers Group Award, given to children's librarians to attend their first ALA Annual Conference; the libraries that will receive a Bookapalooza collection of materials to be used in a way that creatively enhances their library service to children and families. To prepare and disseminate to the membership information about each grant and the recipients.

Scholarships: Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound [v] To select recipients and alternates for the annual ALSC scholarships: Frederic G. Melcher and Bound to Stay Bound for professional education of librarians to work with children;



to publicize the scholarships to potential candidates; and to advise the ALSC Board on needed changes in terms or administration of the scholarships.

Priority Group IV: Organizational Support

Budget To advise the ALSC Executive Director in preparation of annual budget based on the priorities established by the Board; to submit the budget to the ALSC Board for approval; to review for the ALSC Board division activities for fiscal implications; to review for the ALSC Board, on a regular basis, the dues structure and to prepare and submit to the ALSC Board periodic analysis of the finances of the division; to review ALSC's fiscal relationship to ALA and other divisions and to act as liaisons for the ALSC Board to the Planning and Budget Assembly.

Local Arrangements To work with the President and Executive Director in performing the tasks necessary to make ALSC Annual Conference functions run smoothly. Tasks delegated to the committee vary from year to year but generally include: providing monitors for ALSC program meetings; distribution of programs or other materials at such meetings.

Membership To plan campaigns for recruiting and securing new members for ALSC at the national, state, regional, and local level. To serve as a channel for communication on membership matters between the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force and the division. To plan and assume responsibility for conference orientation sessions and to welcome and introduce new members to ALSC purposes and procedures.



candidates to fill any occurring vacancies.

Oral History [v] To continue to collect audio taped interviews and individual recollections of leaders in the Association for Library Service to Children for the ALSC Oral History Collection; to report annually to the Board on the status of the Collection; to participate actively and to engage the participation of others in the further development of the Collection through interviewing, reviewing individual tapes, preserving and reformatting, working to improve access to the Collection, and calling the Collection to the attention of researchers and others who would find it useful.

National Institute Planning Task Force To work with the ALSC staff on the National Institute planning, including refinement of chosen strands, logistical arrangements, and implementation of the upcoming National Institute.

Nominating To select candidates for election for the following year. To select

Organization and Bylaws To develop for presentation to the Board of Directors a plan for the structure and function of each new committee or discussion group. To study, review and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Board for revision of structure or function, addition, or discontinuation of committees and discussion groups. To make recommendations to the Board on organizational matters affecting ALSC as a whole, and to serve as liaison with the ALA Committee on Organization upon request of the Board. To serve, upon request, in an advisory capacity to priority group consultants, committee, and discussion groups on organizational matters in ALSC or between ALSC and other ALA divisions. To consider, develop, and present to the Board and subsequently to membership, suggested amendments to the Bylaws. To assist in interpretation of the Bylaws to the Board, the membership, and the ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Preconference Planning To plan the ALSC Preconference to be held during the ALA Annual Conference.

Program Coordinating To serve as a liaison between ALSC committees and groups who are developing programs for conferences, institutes and preconferences to ensure quality and eliminate overlap; to work within the organization to encourage and stimulate creative programming that will provide a wide range of themes and topics appealing to a diverse membership; to review program proposals for membership appeal, relevancy, quality and value; to provide support in actual planning and implementation once approved; to submit requests for approval by the ALSC President.

(Charlemae) Rollins President's Program To plan, develop, and execute the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, on a topic to be determined by the ALSC Vice-President/President-Elect, to be held during his/her presidential year at the ALA Annual Conference.

Website Advisory Committee [v] To provide direction, guidance, and support regarding the content, currency and relevance of the ALSC website. The committee works with ALSC staff and committees to ensure that content on the ALSC website addresses ALSC priorities set forth in the Strategic Plan.

Priority Group V: Awards

(Mildred L.) Batchelder Award Selection To select from the books published the preceding year the most outstanding book originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country and subsequently published in English in the United States.

(Pura) Belpré Award Selection To biennially select a children's book published in the United States or Puerto Rico to recognize outstanding original works written or illustrated by a Latino/Latina author or illustrator, that portrays, affirms and celebrates the Latino/Latina cultural experience.

Submit your form electronically: alsccommittees@ala.org
or by mail: ALSC, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611

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(Randolph) Caldecott Award Selection To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished American picture book for children.

(Theodor Seuss) Geisel Award Selection To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished American book for beginning readers.

(John) Newbery Award Selection To select from the books published the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the awards, the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

(ALSC/Booklist/YALSA) Odyssey Award Selection To select annually the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States and, if desired, to also select honor titles.

(Robert F.) Sibert International Book Award To select from the books published in the preceding year within the terms, definitions, and criteria governing the award, the most distinguished American informational book for children.

(Laura Ingalls) Wilder Award Selection To select the recipient of the Wilder Award, established by ALSC to give recognition each two years to an author or illustrator whose books published in the U.S. have, over a period of years, made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children.

Priority Group VI: Partnerships

AASL/ALSC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation To design and conduct a project of mutual interest and benefit to the three participating ALA Divisions, working from a platform identified by the AASL/ALSC/YALSA Presidents-Elect.

Liaison with National Organizations Serving Children and Youth To explore, recommend, initiate and implement ways of working with organizations that serve children or work for their benefit; to promote libraries and reading to these organizations; to promote awareness of these organizations' activities, services and informational materials to ALSC members.

Quicklists Consulting [v] To serve as consultants and to promote books and other resources through recommendations, compilations of lists, and related services for mass media, individuals, and institutions/organizations involved in the production of programs, films, and other materials/services for children, their families, caregivers, and teachers. Requests will be made through the ALSC Office. Quicklists Consulting Committee will function electronically. Attendance at conference will be optional with the exception of the committee chairs.

Priority Group VII: Professional Development

Children and Libraries Editorial Advisory [v] To determine editorial policy for the ALSC journal "Children and Libraries", subject to review by the ALSC Board. To suggest themes for forthcoming issues; to recommend resource people for articles and review; and to review materials for publication upon request by the editor.

Children and Technology [v] To educate and encourage youth librarians to be leaders on technology issues in their institutions, and to identify technology issues impacting youth librarians and to disseminate information to the membership on these issues through programs, training opportunities, and publications both traditional and electronic.

Education [v] To review the elements considered essential to the formal academic continuing education of children's librarians; to inform the ALSC Board of members' needs and concerns regarding continuing education, and to assist in the initiation of programs and new publications to meet these needs and concerns; to be responsible for periodic review of ALSC Competencies; to represent ALSC at appropriate ALA committees, councils, and assemblies, and to serve as a liaison to these bodies as directed by the ALSC Board; and to be responsible for periodic review of ALSC Competencies.

Managing Children's Services [v] To identify issues relating to the management of children's services; to determine if these issues are being addressed by other divisions or committees; to cooperate as appropriate; and to initiate action to address these issues. Issues may be referred to the Committee by the ALSC Board or the Managing Children's Services Discussion Group.

Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship To maintain lists of special collections of children's books and related materials now available in libraries. To encourage the creation of new collections and the strengthening of existing collections. To identify types of collections that need to be established. To establish criteria for defining a special collection. To explore and suggest ways in which special collections can be used locally, nationally, and internationally. To publicize research trends in the field of special collections. To plan and present appropriate programs. To administer the Bechtel Fellowship, a \$4,000 grant to read and study at the Baldwin Library of the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, for a period of at least one month.

Thank you for volunteering!