Welcome to the Virtual Membership Meeting

We will do audio checks every few minutes and begin promptly at the top of the hour.
Statement of Appropriate Conduct

• ALA seeks to provide a conference environment in which diverse participants may learn, network and enjoy the company of colleagues in an environment of mutual human respect. We recognize a shared responsibility to create and hold that environment for the benefit of all. Some behaviors are, therefore, specifically prohibited:
  • Harassment or intimidation based on race, religion, language, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, appearance, or other group status.
  • Sexual harassment or intimidation, including unwelcome sexual attention, stalking (physical or virtual), or unsolicited physical contact.
  • Yelling at or threatening speakers (verbally or physically).
Participants may use the Q&A function to type comments and questions, which will be read aloud by a moderator.
Chat Function

Closed Caption
Connect with Fellow Members

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Welcome and Call to Order
Agenda - VMD#1

• Welcome & Call to Order
• ALA Leadership Remarks
  • ALA President, Patty Wong
  • ALA Treasurer, Maggie Farrell
  • ALA Executive Director, Tracie Hall
• ALA Response to Escalating Censorship Efforts
  • Office of Intellectual Freedom Staff
  • Member Stories
• Q&A
• Resolution Calling for Student Loan Cancellation
• Announcements

ala.org/membership/vmm
ALA President
Patty Wong
**Who’s Left Out**

19 million households lack access to fixed broadband service at threshold speeds.

14% of US households (roughly 17 million) don’t have broadband of any kind. Some estimate that number to be as high as 22.5% or 27.6 million households.

**A Broad Look at BROADBAND**

What high-speed internet access and affordability look like around the country

**The Impact on Wallets—and Lives**

$68.38/month

- The average monthly internet price in the United States is higher than the average price for all North America at $61.46 and Europe at $44.71.

- Rural residents pay an average of $60 per month, while those living in urban areas pay $59.

**Potential Opportunities for Libraries**

What households with annual incomes of $50,000 or below trust a lot

- 31% local public libraries
- 20% schools
- 14% community nonprofits
- 8% internet service providers

4% of low- and lower-middle-income people without access to the internet have used a local public library’s broadband or the library’s Wi-Fi connection outdoors.

90% of libraries offer digital skills training. These programs can help inform people about the benefits of the internet and educate them on how to use devices and sign up for broadband discounts and other affordability programs.

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“Quality services should be available at just, reasonable, and affordable rates.”

Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

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americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2022/03/01/a-broad-look-at-broadband/
$7M in Grants for Libraries

ala.org/tools/programming/LTCEG
+Unlimited Connections....
Inclusion As An Imperative

In January 2022, ALA Council approved the adoption of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Scorecard for Library and Information Organizations created by the Committee on Diversity and Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, namely its five suggested scorecard measures:

1. Embeddedness of EDI into the Culture and Climate of the Organization;
2. Training and Education;
3. Recruitment, Hiring, Retention, and Promotion;
4. Budget Priorities for DEI; and
The implementation of this framework across ALA administrative and operational systems by the third quarter of this year will yield the following intended outputs and outcomes. Progress will be assessed at the end of both FY22 and FY23.

I. Beginning this fiscal year, ALA will also adopt a maximum three-year cycle for comprehensive EDI training and education for all staff.

II. Also, in FY22, ALA has begun to implement a policy to ensure the inclusion of BIPOC and/or individuals with disabilities in the candidate pool for posted ALA positions.

III. In keeping with these efforts, ALA has announced that it will hire its first Accessibility Officer by end of FY22.
IV. Working with the Office of Accreditation, the Committee on Accreditation, and ALISE, the Executive Board has directed the Executive Office to support the introduction of EDI as one of the metrics in the accreditation review process by the end of FY23.

V. As well, ALA will launch the Institute for the Study of Race in Libraries and Information Technologies (RLIT) as part of the Center for the Future of Libraries in FY22. This work will be carried out by a designated Center scholar to be announced this Spring.

VI. Finally, by the end of FY2023, ALA will launch a one-year residency program to serve as an ALA workforce pipeline for early to mid-career LIS and association professionals interested in LIS and/or association management. Other internships at the post-secondary level are in consideration,
OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association
OIF Challenge Tracker 2011-2021

2021 data will be released on April 4, 2022 as part of National Library Week.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>ALA adopts the Library Bill of Rights</td>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>ALA joins with publishers, booksellers, and civil liberties groups to issue the Freedom to Read Statement</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>ALA Executive Board votes to create the Office for Intellectual Freedom</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>Librarians opposing book censorship found the Freedom to Read Foundation</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>The Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund established to aid librarians experiencing discrimination or job loss due to the defense of intellectual freedom</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>First Banned Books Week</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>ALA successfully challenges FBI’s “Library Awareness Program,” and initiates campaign to adopt library users’ privacy statutes in the states</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>ALA and FTRF successfully challenge the Communications Decency Act, winning full First Amendment protection for the internet</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>With FTRF’s legal assistance, the Tattered Cover Bookstore quashed a court order demanding bookstore customers’ purchase records</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>ALA and FTRF, joined by library users and librarians, challenge the constitutionality of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) in federal courts.</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>With ALA support and FTRF legal assistance, the “Connecticut Four” of the Library Connection successfully challenge a PATRIOT Act order for library users’ records</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>The librarians of West Bend Community Library successfully fight off attempts to censor and burn LGBTQIA+ YA books with support from ALA</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>The Krug Fund, supporting IF education for LIS students, is established following the death of Judith F. Krug, OIF’s founding director.</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>ALA joins technology firms and other civil liberty organizations in demanding increased transparency about the Obama Administration’s government surveillance efforts.</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>ALA supports Chicago Public School librarians and students who successfully fight to restore “Persepolis” to CPS classrooms and libraries</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>With the support of FTRF, students in the Tucson Unified School District overturn Arizona law banning TUSD Mexican American Studies program.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>ALA, the Nevada Library Association, and United For Libraries support Amy Dodson and the librarians of Douglas County after county officials initiate an investigation of a proposed diversity statement.</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>Jason Reynolds Named Inaugural Honorary Chair of Banned Books Week</td>
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Between 1972 and today, the Merritt Fund has provided more than $100,000 to more than 100 librarians for aid in covering their living, legal, or medical expenses.

To learn more about the fund visit merrittfund.org
Questions?
Resolution Calling for Student Loan Forgiveness - VMD#2

• Whereas student loan debt directly affects library workers;
• Whereas the median pay for librarians and library media specialists is $60,820\(^1\) while the median pay for all master’s degree holders is $80,340\(^2\);
• Whereas 60% of graduates with master’s degrees\(^3\) and 29.34% of all adults under the age of 30\(^4\) have student loan debt;
• Whereas the average student loan debt for master’s degrees is $86,368, adjusted for inflation\(^3\);
• Whereas student loan debt has been shown to negatively affect quality of life with 82% of student loan holders reporting their debt impacting their ability to save for retirement, 51% reporting delaying buying a house, 14% delaying starting families, and 18% struggling to purchase daily necessities\(^5\);
• Whereas the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has called student debt a racial justice issue that widens the racial wealth gap and threatens the financial stability for borrowers of color\(^6\);
• Whereas inflation has grown 7.5% in the last year with food prices growing by 7%, electricity by 10.7%, gas utilities by 23.9%, and housing prices by 4.4%\(^7\);
• Whereas wages are only expected to grow 3.4%\(^8\);
• Whereas student loan forgiveness programs, such as Perkins Loan Forgiveness and Public Service Loan Forgiveness\(^9\), already exist;
• Whereas the Department of Education has already exhibited the ability to cancel the student loan debt of select borrowers\(^10\) while President Biden has exhibited the ability to delay repayment\(^11\);

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members, calls on President Biden to cancel student loan debt for all borrowers.
Resolution Calling for Student Loan Forgiveness - VMD#2

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members, calls on President Biden to cancel student loan debt for all borrowers.

ALA Members Only - VOTE NOW using the zoom poll
Announcements
The biggest library event of the year!

Secure your spot today.

WASHINGTON DC | JUNE 23–28, 2022

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