



# GRAPHIC NOVELS & COMICS ROUND TABLE

American Library Association Graphic Novels & Comics Roundtable (GNCRT) / <http://www.ala.org/rt/gncrt> / @libcomix

## 2024-2025 Presidential Priorities

Developed by Shira Pilarski

The GNCRT has accomplished so much in its short lifespan, and my main goal is to ensure that we sustain our ongoing work, sunset work that is no longer needed, and explore opportunities for new GNCRT initiatives. We will continue to document and organize our projects to ensure institutional knowledge carries on year after year. We will continue to uplift marginalized and underrepresented voices in comics in multiple avenues, such as affirming expectations of diverse representation in committee appointments and on GNCRT presentations. We will bear this in mind as we prepare for and implement our new comics and graphic novel awards in their inaugural year.

### Engage and Reach Out

- Utilize and support the new Communications Committee to ensure GNCRT communications are streamlined; ensure each communication tool is used with best practices for that tool in mind. Work with the Communications Committee on engaging GNCRT members, particularly new members.
- Continue to solicit feedback from GNCRT Committee members, at least twice per year, to improve the volunteer experience; implement changes based on the feedback
- Share volunteer opportunities and encourage member contributions and participation
- Appoint Vice-Chairs to each Committee with the understanding that they will Chair in the following year, to ensure each Committee can benefit from their institutional knowledge
- Solicit feedback to understand the needs and expectations for the GNCRT from all library workers; consider polls or other metrics for gathering this information

### Increase Opportunities

- Expand donations to support the GNCRT Travel Grant and consider expansions of the grant's scope; outline and implement a fundraising plan
- Finish creating a database of GNCRT members willing and able to aid in all aspects of presenting events online and in person; explore the possibilities for this database
- Support the new Programming Committee in their combined efforts to streamline GNCRT's events at conventions and via Libcomix Online
- Promote and offer opportunities for student GNCRT members and early/mid level career library workers

### Document, Archive, and Share

- Establish a consistent and transparent workflow for proposals submitted, discussed, and voted on by the Board; track annual press releases and establish a workflow for future press releases
- Create or update guidelines, templates, and forms to document tasks and record best practices
- Appoint Administrative Assistants to each Committee who will ensure all documents that outline Committee work and structure are recorded via ALA Connect and other GNCRT online platforms

### Support Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility

- Continue and expand targeted partnerships with ALA Affiliate groups such as the Collaboration Core List Committee; explore methods of collaboration with National Associations of Librarians of Color (NALCo) and other groups to incentivize diversifying GNCRT membership and to get more perspectives on this work
- Continue to work with diverse and inclusive partners to collaborate on panels, presentations, resources, and articles
- Continue to operate outside paywalls, outside paid events like ALA conferences, and make content free, when possible
- Continue to include new, self-published, and small press creators and publishers within GNCRT's lists and resources
- Ensure GNCRT's online presence utilizes best practices for accessibility

## Expand & Evaluate Resources

- Provide support to the Awards Implementation Task Force to address implementation needs for the GNCRT Outstanding Comics Awards
- Create and implement a blog to enable GNCRT to publish and share additional resources
- Continue and expand professional resource creation through committees and projects such as the Addressing Comics Censorship Committee
- Continue marketing our selection lists including Best Graphic Novels for Children, Best Graphic Novels for Adults, and the Collaboration Core Lists; consider new approaches to ensure they reach a wide audience
- Consider a timeline for future Collaboration Core List Committees; reach out to potential collaboration partners