

**Committee on Library Advocacy (COLA)  
Report to Council  
January 2025**

Below is a brief summary of COLA's work since July 1, 2025.

- The committee completed a PowerPoint template of an Advocacy 101 presentation born from the Advocacy Action Plan Workbook.
  - Committee chair Eboni Henry presented at the District of Columbia Library Association Executive Board meeting in August 2024
  - Staff Liaison Amelia Aldred introduced and provided copies of the workbook during advocacy workshops for members at the Arizona Library Association Conference in October 2024, the Chapter Leaders Advocacy Workshop in December 2024, and during a virtual workshop for the New England Library Association in August 2024.
- The committee submitted a proposal to sponsor a screening of the documentary Banned Together at ALA Annual Conference in 2025, including a moderated discussion between ALA member leaders and the filmmakers.
- The Committee is continuing its work to develop a script to accompany a PPT template of an advocacy 101 presentation born from the Advocacy Action Plan Workbook.
  - Enables COLA members to share at state, regional, local conferences and professional development.

**Ecosystem subcommittee update:**

- Under the leadership of new co-chairs Dorcas Hand and Nanette Donohue, the subcommittee and its members established a robust work plan for the new year.
- Work continues on reaching the academic library community. A subgroup will present a program hosted by ACRL Chapters Council entitled "Leveraging our Library Ecosystem to Communicate Our Value" in February. A "100 Things Academic Libraries Do list" one-pager is also in development.
- The subcommittee is working to bring more awareness of Ecosystem thinking to PLA members and welcomed a new public librarian to the group.
- The group established an Ecosystem website re-imagine project, to be completed before ALA Annual conference.
- The members will establish a working team to conduct outreach and possibly provide a recorded training to the Policy Corps, Emerging Leaders, or Council.
- The group will monitor and submit program proposals as needed. We review calls for proposals to determine where we might expand our reach.

COLA Ecosystem subcommittee members: Dorcas Hand (co-chair, [handd51@tekkmail.com](mailto:handd51@tekkmail.com)), Nanette Donohue (co-chair, [nanette.donohue@gmail.com](mailto:nanette.donohue@gmail.com)), Jen Alvino Wood, Sara Kelly Johns, Delandrus Seales, Chris Rosser, Janet T. O'Keefe, Michael Lambert, Jazzy Celindro (ALA staff liaison)

Contact COLA chair Eboni Henry ([ebonihenry@hotmail.com](mailto:ebonihenry@hotmail.com)) or COLA staff liaison Amelia Aldred ([aaldred@ala.org](mailto:aaldred@ala.org)) for more information on the work mentioned here.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the 2024-2025 Committee on Library Advocacy: Eboni Henry, Brooke Corso, Virginia Cononie, Cynthia Wolff, Nicanor Diaz, Maura Deedy, Jen Baxter, Joe Kohlburn, Megan Maurer, Jamie Elizabeth Mercer, Janet T. O'Keefe, Lola Edwards Gomez.