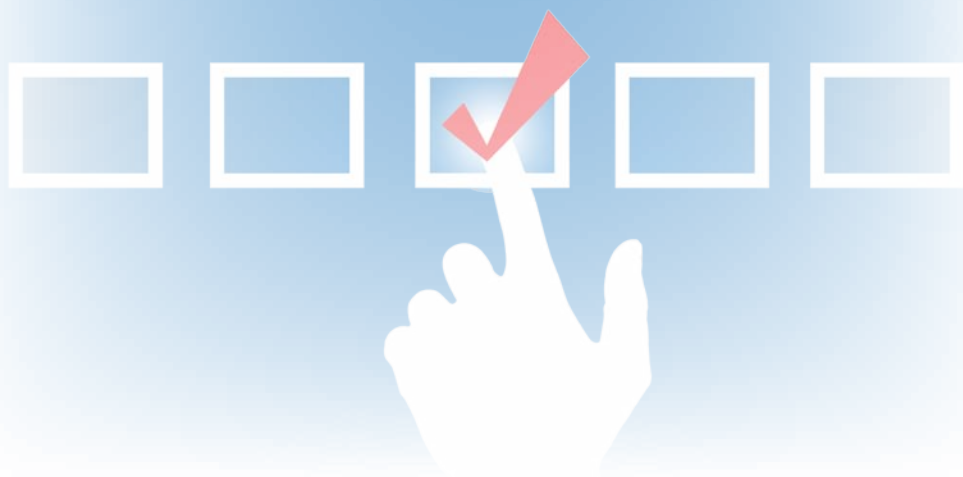
ALA American Library Association

YOUR GUIDE TO THE 2012 ELECTIONS



Contents

1 | Message from ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels
3 | The ALA President
3 | Presidential Initiatives
5 | This Year's Candidates
7 | ALA Council
7 | What is Council?
7 | Council Composition
7 | Council Responsibilities
8 | Council "Mythbusters"
12 | The 2012 Council Ballot
13 | How Do I Vote?
14 | Interested in Running for Office?
14 | About the Nominations Process
14 | Petition Candidates
15 | Further Information

Message from ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels

Voting is one of the most important things you can do as a member of the American Library Association. This is because the officers you elect will make a real difference:

The President of the Association will serve as the public voice of the Association, of libraries of all types and all across the nation, and of American libraries around the world. The president represents us as members and the library users we serve, doing hundreds of media interviews and speaking with dozens of groups each year.

The Treasurer helps chart the financial future of the Association, and makes sure that our dues dollars get the maximum "bang for the buck." They work closely with member advisory groups and staff to guide the Association through financial ups and financial downs, and help support our work for libraries and the public by sustaining a strong Association.

The 186 Councilors are responsible for setting the broad policies that shape our Association's public positions and direction. Whether we're

talking about intellectual freedom, the privatization of libraries or e-books, Councilors weigh all of the factors and make make sure that the Association takes stands that are important to libraries and to the public we serve.

All of these elected officers represent you and your interests. The good news—You get to pick them!

So your vote is very, very important.

This new Online Election "Booklet" is designed to provide:

- Some insights about the Presidency and Council (note that there is not an election for Treasurer this year; that occurs every three years).
- Some Council "myth busters" and some examples of Council's recent resolutions relating to libraries.
- Easy-to-find information about the candidates (there are 107 names on the ballot for Councilors-at-large—the largest and most diverse slate in history).
- Voting instructions and timeline.

Reviewing candidate information and voting does take some time, but we hope that you will join the members who understand that their vote really does shape the future.

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director
American Library Association

The ALA President

The individual elected to the position of ALA President serves three years on the ALA Executive Board: One year as President-elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

The role of the ALA President is to be the Association's chief spokesperson and to work closely with the ALA's Executive Director in identifying and promoting library issues nationwide and internationally. The ALA President is recognized as the Association's leader by its members. He/she is also vital to the governance of the Association and serves as presiding officer at Executive Board, Council, and Membership meetings.

The ALA President is also a member, ex officio with vote, of the Board of Trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation. They also serve as the President of the ALA-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

Throughout this three-year term, the individual promotes ALA's programs, priorities, and key messages through attendance at various state, national, and international library association meetings, as well as with the media. They lead the Association in planning for the future and work closely with members to ensure that their ideas and concerns help drive the overall direction of the Association.

Based on the experience of successful past ALA presidents, this position is equal to at least a half-time job.

During the year as President-elect, this individual serves as spokesperson for the Association in the absence of the president or when asked to do so. They also represent the Association at meetings, conferences, receptions, legislative hearings, and other events.

PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

The President develops presidential initiatives in keeping with the prevailing ALA messages and Strategic Plan. Here are some recent presidential accomplishments:

2011–2012 President Molly Raphael recently led an ALA delegation to New York to meet separately with representatives from Penguin, Macmillan, Random House, Simon & Schuster, and Perseus to discuss the issue of library ebook lending. The focus of these meetings was to maintain and strengthen relationships with publishers who already sell ebooks to libraries and to clarify misconceptions about libraries' usage of ebooks with publishers who currently do not sell ebooks to libraries.

Plans are currently in the works to develop a series of webinars on "Empowering Voices" that will help ALA members better engage their community leaders to become advocates for libraries. Look for these in the months to come.

2010–2011 President Roberta Stevens' Frontline Fundraising initiative was designed to provide tools that can be used by everyone, regardless of the size or type of library, who need to supplement the budget from their jurisdiction or institution with additional support. With this goal in mind, an online toolkit was developed that covers the basics of annual funds, memorials and tributes, online giving and planned giving. It also teaches users how to deepen relationships with donors and move donors from being one-time givers to long-term library supporters. Check out the toolkit at **WWW.ALA.ORG/FRONTLINEFUNDRAISING**.

2009–2010 President Camila Alire's initiative "Libraries: The Heart of All Communities," focused in part on Frontline Advocacy to get frontline librarians and other library staff engaged and empowered to articulate the value of their respective libraries. Advocacy Toolkits were created for each type of library: Academic, Public, School, and Special. An on-line tutorial for frontline library employees was developed and resides on ALA's Advocacy University Website (**WWW.ALA.ORG/FRONTLINEADVOCACY**).

2008–2009 ALA President Jim Rettig focused his presidential activities around "Creating Connections." Among various issues, Member Participation played an important role. Rettig initiated the "Unconference" at the 2009 Annual Conference in which participants were able to set their own agenda for the day and simultaneously play the roles of teacher and learner. The "Grassroots Programs" was also initiated by President Rettig. For these juried programs, members submit program proposals to be presented throughout ALA conferences. Both the Unconference and Grassroots Programs (now known as "Conversation Starters") have become a regular feature of ALA conference programming.

THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES

This year's candidates for ALA President-elect are Gina A. Millsap and Barbara K. Stripling.

Millsap is the Chief Executive Officer of the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library in Topeka, Kansas. She is nationally known for presenting on cutting edge issues, including 21st century librarianship, process improvement, the use of market segmentation to grow and develop library services and the changes necessary for libraries to thrive in the 21st century.

Millsap has been a continuous member of ALA since 1995 serving as the 2009–2010 president of the Library Leadership & Management Association (LLAMA). She has served on several committees within LLAMA. She also served on ALA's Advocacy Coordinating Group, 2007–08 and as chair of the Elizabeth J. Futas Catalyst for Change Award Jury, 2002.

She served as president of the Iowa Library Association (2002) and has held leadership positions in the Kansas Library Association (Secretary 2007–2008), the Missouri Library Association (Secretary 1985–1986), the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, the Ames (Iowa) Chamber of Commerce, and the Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau. From 2004–2009, she participated in the American Bulgarian Library Exchange. She has been a Rotarian for 15 years and a United Way volunteer in both Ames and Topeka. Current community leadership includes serving on the United Way On-Grade Achievement Council and as the co-chair of Heartland Visioning, a community-wide strategic planning process for Topeka and Shawnee County.

Millsap's honors include Library Journal Mover and Shaker (2007); Zonta Club, Topeka Chapter, honoree for International Women's Day (2007); and the State of Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award (2000).

She has a B.A. in library science from the University of Missouri (1976), and an M.A. in library science also from the University of Missouri (1977). "ALA will be relevant to all generations of librarians by making value to its members its top priority," Millsap said. "The bottom line is - to create a 21st century library we need 21st century librarians."

Visit Millap's website at: **HTTP://GINAJMILLSAP.COM**.

Stripling recently assumed the position of assistant professor of practice at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York after serving as the director of School Library Services for the New York City Department of Education for seven years.

Stripling has been a member of ALA since 1977, serving as a member-at-large of ALA Council from 1992–1996 and 1998-present. She also served on the ALA Executive Board (2001–2005). She chaired the American Libraries Advisory Committee (1995–1996) and served as

a member of the ALA Policy Monitoring Committee, 2010-present, Intellectual Freedom Committee (2006-present), Conference Committee (2002–2005), Committee on Education (1998–2002), Nominating Committee (1999–2000).

She is past president (1996–1997) of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and has held numerous committee positions within AASL. She also served as a member and chair of the ALA-APA Certification Committee (2002–2007). Other ALA activities include work as co-chair of ALA President Molly Raphael's initiative, Empowering Voices, 2010-present, and trustee of the Merritt Fund (2011–present).

Stripling was presented with the Retta Patrick Award by the Arkansas Library Association in 1989 and the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media named her Arkansas School Library Media Specialist of the Year in 1990.

Stripling received a B.A. in speech and drama from Stanford University (1968), an M.A. in Communication and Theatre from the University of Colorado (1974), an M.Ed. in Instructional Resources from the University of Arkansas (1991), an Ed.S. in Educational Administration from the University of Arkansas (2003), and a Doctorate of Professional Studies, Information Management from Syracuse University (2011).

"I am honored to be nominated to lead the American Library Association at this exciting time, when we are coming together as a library community to champion equitable access to information, intellectual freedom, lifelong learning and community engagement. Individually, we all have a passion for serving our communities through our libraries. Collectively, through ALA, we can translate that passion into a national voice. We can transform our libraries and empower all of our community members to discover their own opportunities to thrive."

Visit Stripling's website:
HTTP://WWW.BARBARASTRIPLING.ORG.

Video of the Presidential Candidates' Forum at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed at:
HTTP://AMERICANLIBRARIESMAGAZINE.ORG/AL_FOCUS/2012-ALA-PRESIDENTIAL-CANDIDATES-FORUM.

ALA Council

WHAT IS COUNCIL?

The Council is the governing body of ALA. It delegates to the divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities with policy established by Council. Council determines all policies of the Association and its decisions are binding unless set aside by a majority vote in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted.

COUNCIL COMPOSITION

Council is comprised of 100 councilors-at-large who are elected by the Association membership as provided in Bylaw Article III, Sec. 1(c) and Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(e). The slate of councilor-at-large candidates is determined by the ALA Nominating Committee.

Each division of the Association is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the divisions as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(c).

Each state, provincial, and territorial chapter is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the chapter as provided by Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(b). Chapter representation is through state chapters unless chapters in a region choose to take representation through that regional chapter. In such case, the regional chapter shall elect one representative from each state or provincial chapter within that regional association. There is no current regional chapter representation.

Round tables with personal membership equal to or greater than one percent of ALA's total personal membership shall be entitled to elect one councilor each, and the remaining round tables jointly shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of three years by the members of the respective round tables. The membership of the round tables, for purposes of this section, shall be fixed as of August 31st of each year. A councilor elected under this Article shall continue to serve without prejudice to any change that might occur in the size of the membership of their round table as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(d).

Councilors serve three-year terms and may run for subsequent terms by filing a petition which must be signed by at least 25 ALA members in good standing. Petition candidates are placed on the ballot along with candidates selected by the Nominating Committee.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council meets four times at both the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. At these meetings, Council may perform any or all of the following duties (this is a partial list):

- Review actions of the ALA Executive Board;

- Receive reports from the ALA President, Executive Director, Treasurer, the Freedom to Read Foundation, the Endowment Trustees, and the Policy Monitoring Committee;
- Originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote;
- Establish dues for chapter, organization and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board;
- Establish or discontinue divisions or round tables;
- Determine all Association policies;
- Authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee.

COUNCIL "MYTHBUSTERS"

Myth: Once you're on Council, you're on for life, so what's the point of voting if the same people keep getting re-elected?

Actually, based on an unofficial census, approximately 26.9% of councilors have served more than four (4) years; and only 6.6% of all councilors between 1992 and the present have served more than nine (9) years. In fact, of the 35 councilors whose terms expire in 2012, only 7 are running for re-election.

Myth: You have to be an ALA member for many many years before you can be elected to Council.

In the past three elections, the average length of ALA membership of those elected to Council was 16 years, with the shortest being one year of membership and the longest being 40 years.

Myth: Councilors get a "free-ride" to Midwinter and Annual Conference.

Not true! ALA does not pay for councilors to attend conferences; in fact, many councilors receive no financial support from their home institutions and have to pay out-of-pocket to attend conferences and serve on the ALA Council.

Myth: Council does not address topics that are pertinent to libraries or the profession.

While it is true that the ALA Council occasionally discusses such matters as the war in Iraq or the crisis in Kenya, most Council actions relate directly to library issues. Following is a partial list of actions taken by ALA Council in recent years.

In 2009, Council passed the following resolutions:

- Resolution on the Reauthorization of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT, read: "That the American Library Association asks that

Congress to include in the reauthorization of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT the following provisions:

- ❑ Require law enforcement officials to show individualized suspicion that records or other items being sought pertain to a foreign power or agent, a person in contact with a suspected agent, or a suspected agent who is the subject of the investigation;
- ❑ Require records or other items being sought to be described with sufficient particularity to allow them to be identified – reducing the danger that the FBI will engage in fishing expeditions into personally identifiable information in library or bookstore records;
- ❑ Require the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Court to make a finding that these facts have been sufficiently demonstrated;
- ❑ Show cause for a FISA court to approve a gag order; gag orders will expire at the end of six months unless cause is shown cause to reauthorize them;
- ❑ Allow a recipient of a FISA Section 215 records-search order to consult with an attorney or others for help responding to the request;
- ❑ Guarantee a recipient the right to challenge any gag order;
- ❑ Ensure due process for any recipient challenging a search or gag order;
- ❑ Set a sunset date for Section 215 of no more than four years, to insure ongoing oversight and assessment of the impact of this provision on civil liberties; and
- ❑ Intensify oversight of the Section 215 provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act that limit the privacy rights of library users, library employees, and the general public."

■ An Action Plan to Remedy Current Library Budget Crisis, as amended to read: "That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. Immediately address the severe national erosion of budgetary support to all libraries with deliberate, concerted and unyielding effort by developing and instituting a critical crisis management approach to remedy library budgetary losses through the creation of an action plan to alert legislators, stake holders, and constituents to action through all media and interpersonal channels available; and

2. Communicates to the President of the U.S., all members of Congress, and all state governors that during tough economic times when people more than ever need the resources available in American libraries that those libraries more than ever need continued and increased government support."

Council actions in 2010 included:

- Resolution on Universal Access to Broadband, which read:

  That the American Library Association (ALA) urges federal, state and local governments to recognize that universal access to broadband is essential to support the basic right of unfettered access to information in order for the public to participate in the digital world and the global information economy; and asks that federal, state and local governments, as well as the public, supports libraries as essential providers of broadband access for communities across America.

- Resolution on Rebuilding Libraries and Archives Damaged or Destroyed by the Earthquake in Haiti, as amended to read:

  That the American Library Association expresses its deepest sympathy to the National Library and Archives and the library community in Haiti; works in coordination with other U.S. Associations, IFLA and its members, and UNESCO on the international response to this disaster; publicizes and provides information to the international library community and the public on the importance of rebuilding damaged libraries and their collections; publicizes and provides information on how and where the library community and the public can contribute to these rebuilding efforts; urges the U.S. Government and Non Government Organizations (NGOs) to provide funding for the reconstruction and rebuilding of libraries and other cultural institutions in Haiti; acts as a conduit for the receipt of funds to assist in the rebuilding of libraries in Haiti; and urges libraries to provide up-to-date information about social and communication services available in the communities for the Haitian diaspora and links to donation and other relief services.

- A Resolution to Ensure Equitable Access to Library Services for All People Regardless of Immigration Status, which read: "The American Library Association (ALA):

  1. Calls on Congress to quickly enact comprehensive immigration reform legislation. Such reform should result in ensuring equitable access to library services for all people-regardless of their immigration status.

  2. Strongly encourages other library organizations to proactively engage their legislators at every level; local, state and federal, about the importance of equal and ready access to library services for all people regardless of their immigration status.

- Resolution Concerning the Proposed Closing of the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. Strongly opposes the elimination of the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University.

2. Urges the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors and the Louisiana Board of Regents to continue to support the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University."

In 2011, Council passed:

- Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights.

  The American Library Association asserts a compelling public interest in the preservation of intellectual freedom for individuals of any age held in jails, prisons, detention facilities, juvenile facilities, immigration facilities, prison work camps and segregated units within any facility. Those who cherish their full freedom and rights should work to guarantee that the right to intellectual freedom is extended to all incarcerated individuals.

- Resolution to Continue Opposition to the Use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Use of National Security Letters to Violate Reader Privacy, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA):

  - Continues to support reforms that protect reader privacy and civil liberties, especially the freedom to read without fear of government surveillance.

  - Continues to oppose the use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the use of National Security Letters to violate reader privacy.

  - Supports the passage of legislation which includes such reforms as heightened protections for library and bookseller records; judicial review of FISA orders, NSLs and their associated gag orders; and the sunset of the USA PATRIOT Act's NSL authorities, as proposed in S. 1125, the USA PATRIOT Act Improvements Bill.

  - Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the members of Congress who work to protect reader privacy."

And at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting, ALA Council passed:

- A resolution Opposing Restriction to Materials and Open Inquiry in Arizona Ethnic and Cultural Studies Programs,

  The American Library Association (ALA):

  - Condemns the suppression of open inquiry and free expression caused by closure of ethnic and cultural studies programs on the basis of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

- Condemns the restriction of access to educational materials associated with ethnic and cultural studies programs.

- Urges the Arizona legislature to pass HB 2654, "An Act Repealing Sections 15-111 and 15-112, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating to School Curriculum."

- A resolution on Publishers and Practices Which Discriminate Against Library Users,

  The American Library Association (ALA):

  - Opposes any discriminatory policies of publishers and distributors which adversely impact access to content by library users.

  - Directs that the Working Group on Digital Content in Libraries to review the situation and recommend appropriate action and/or appropriate parties who should be informed of this resolution.

THE 2012 COUNCIL BALLOT

This year, 107 candidates are running to fill 34 vacant Councilor-at-Large seats. You may view candidate biographies at **HTTP://WWW.ALA.ORG/ABOUTALA/SITES/ALA.ORG.ABOUTALA/FILES/CONTENT/GOVERNANCE/OFFICERS/COUNCILORS-AT-LARGE2012.PDF**.

To view the biographies in a searchable Excel spreadsheet format, go here: **HTTP://WWW.ALA.ORG/ABOUTALA/GOVERNANCE/ALAELECTION**.

How Do I Vote?

To be eligible to vote, individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31, 2012. In mid-February, members received notification by email confirming their eligibility to vote.

In 2008, the American Library Association began holding its election exclusively online. The only exception is for members with disabilities and without Internet access. These individuals may obtain a paper ballot by contacting ALA customer service at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5. Those without Internet access at home or at work can easily access the election site by visiting their local public (or in many instances, academic or school) libraries.

The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. CDT on Monday, March 19. Voters will be notified by email and will be provided with a unique passcode and information about how to vote.

The polls close on Friday, April 27 at 11:59 p.m. CDT. On May 4, the Election Committee will meet at the ALA offices to certify the election. Election results will be released following that meeting.

INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

The ALA Nominating Committee nominates candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect (annually), for the position of treasurer (every three years), and for members-at-large of Council (annually). ALA elections are held in the spring of each year with the results announced in early May.

ABOUT THE NOMINATIONS PROCESS

The 2013 Nominating Committee began its work of selecting potential candidates for the 2013 ALA elections for President-elect, Treasurer and Councilor-at-Large at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting. The members of the Nominating Committee for the 2013 ALA Election are:

Nancy Davenport, Director of Library Services, DC Public Library, (202) 727-4919, NANCY.DAVENPORT@DC.GOV (Chair)

Mario Ascencio, Library Director, Corcoran Gallery of Art / College of Art + Design, Washington, DC, (202) 478-1543, MASCENCIO@CORCORAN.ORG

Trevor Dawes, Circulation Services Director , Princeton University Library, (609) 258-3231, TDAWES@PRINCETON.EDU

Jaime Hammond, Reference/Serials Librarian , Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury, CT, (203) 575-8199, JHAMMOND@NVCC.COMMNET.EDU

Ling Hwey Jeng, Director, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX, (940) 898-2602, LINGHWEY@YAHOO.COM

Terri Kirk, School Librarian, Reidland High School, Paducah, KY, (270) 538-4225, TERRI.KIRK@MCCRACKEN.KYSCHOOLS.US

Cynthia Richey , Director, Mount Lebanon Public Library, Mount Lebanon, PA, (412) 531-1912, RICHEYC@EINETWORK.NET

David Schuster, Library Technology Coordinator, Plano ISD, Plano, TX, (469) 752-8850, DAVID.SCHUSTER@PISD.EDU

James Williams, Dean of Libraries, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, (303) 492-7511, JAMES.WILLIAMS@COLORADO.EDU

You may contact any of the committee members if you are interested in being considered for candidacy in the 2013 election.

PETITION CANDIDATES

Individuals wishing to appear on the 2013 ballot as a petition candidate for the office of ALA President-Elect, ALA Treasurer, or ALA Councilor-at-Large must complete a petition form with the signatures of no fewer than 25 ALA current personal members. Petitions may be created

online by going to: **HTTP://WWW.ALA.ORG/ABOUTALA/GOVERNANCE/ALAELECTION**.

All candidates, whether nominated or running by petition, must complete a Candidate Biographical Information form. The information provided on this form provides the basis for the ballot.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about running for office, general election information, and links to press releases and various forms, please go to: **HTTP://WWW.ALA.ORG/ABOUTALA/GOVERNANCE/ALAELECTION**.