



“Embedded” Cultural Communities in Europe and the Americas: Challenges for Librarians

**ALA Annual Conference Las Vegas
Saturday, June 28, 2014, 1:00-2:30 pm
Las Vegas Convention Center, Room S232**

In Europe and the Americas ethnic groups consciously maintain a sense of cultural community when living within or dispersed among other, larger communities. These efforts include a desire to preserve their own languages, literatures and artistic traditions, cultural heritage, social identities, and often political autonomy. What strategies do they use, tangible and intangible? What challenges do libraries and librarians face seeking to collect and preserve the language, literature, and cultural heritage of these cultures? This panel will focus on Basque, Romani, and Native American cultures as examples of embedded communities; we will examine the issues they face from artistic and scholarly perspectives and then address how librarians can build collections and serve their needs.

Panelists:

Oksana Marafioti

Author of *American Gypsy: A Memoir*, BMI-Kluge Fellow, Black Mountain Institute

Pedro J. Oiarzabal

Universidad de Deusto, Instituto de Derechos Humanos Pedro Arrupe

Loriene Roy

Professor, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin

Moderator:

Maira Bundza

Associate Professor of University Libraries, Western Michigan University

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