

Report to Council and Executive Board

October 14, 2019

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Executive Director

ALA OFFICES

Communications and Marketing Office (CMO)

Public Awareness Activity Overview

Library Card Sign-up Month

Disney and Pixar's "Toy Story 4" characters Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Bo Peep and friends served as Honorary Chairs for Library Card Sign-up Month 2019 and proved to be quite popular. Posts from ALA social media accounts garnered 1.5 million impressions and almost 50,000 engagements, an increase of 61% and 107% respectively, over 2018. The #GetLibraryCarded social media promotion was extremely successful in 2019 (the hashtag was used more than 2,700 times on Twitter), thanks in great part to a collaboration with the Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table. GNCRT enlisted 36 comic creators to share selfies with their library cards, which were posted to the ALA Twitter account and GNCRT Instagram account daily during Library Card Sign-up Month. Many notable personalities from the comics industry participated, including Kelly Sue DeConnick, Mariko Tamaki, Cristina "Steenz" Stewart, Chip Zdarsky, Jimmy Palmiotti, and Dav Pilkey.

Libraries Transform Book Pick

In early October, CMO launched the [Libraries Transform Book Pick](#), a new digital reading program that connects readers nationwide by offering free simultaneous access to the same ebook through local public libraries. The first ebook selection is "After the Flood" by Kassandra Montag, and it is available for download at U.S. public libraries October 7-21, 2019, without any waitlists or holds. To help libraries promote the program and encourage ebook checkouts, CMO developed a suite of marketing tools, including a template flyer, digital graphics and a sample press release. The Libraries Transform Book Pick program was developed in collaboration with *Booklist* and OverDrive.

Libraries Transform

As of October, more than 15,000 libraries and library supporters have signed up to be part of Libraries Transform, with representation in all 50 states, more than 100 countries, and all six inhabited continents. Resources include dozens of downloadable *Because* statement graphics for print and digital media, templates and instructions for creating your own public awareness

materials, and celebrity PSA videos for sharing on social media. Recent Libraries Transform highlights include a collaboration with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to create new materials for showcasing how libraries promote health literacy in their communities.

I Love My Librarian

CMO is accepting nominations for the *I Love My Librarian* Award through Monday, October 21. Library users will nominate exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians who have gone above and beyond to serve their communities. Later this fall, 10 winners will be selected by ALA leaders to receive \$5000 and a plaque in their honor. Awardees will be honored at an event at ALA's 2020 Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia on January 25. Thus far, CMO has received more than 1300 nominations for the award.

Media Activity Overview

The following is a snapshot of Communications and Marketing Office (CMO) publicity activities that took place from September 1 - 30, 2019. During this timeframe more than 4,691 articles mentioning the American Library Association (ALA) were captured by ALA's new monitoring service Cision, resulting in a circulation rate of more than 4.8 billion and a publicity value of more than \$7.5 million. (Please note that circulation rate is calculated using the number of articles/mentions multiplied by the monthly unique visitors for each media outlet's website.) During this reporting period roughly 89 percent (4,176 clips) of coverage was positive and focused on ALA initiatives like Banned Books Week, eBooksForAll, and Library Card Sign-up Month. Approximately 10.5 percent (494 clips) recovered clips were neutral and consisted of brief ALA mentions, initiative event calendar notices, or mentions within author references. Only 0.5 percent (21 clips) recovered, positioned ALA negatively and were fueled by the association's position on intellectual freedom and Drag Queen Story Hour events. Per the News Media Alliance (formally the Newspaper Association of America), there are more than 1,300 daily newspapers and 5,700 weekly newspapers in the United States, so the following placements should be viewed as a snapshot of coverage.

Chicago Public Libraries Going Fine Free

On Monday, September 30, 2019 the Chicago Public Library announced its new Fine Free Policy and invited the ALA to be part of the big announcement. The majority of the event's messaging mirrored the ALA's [Resolution on Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity](#) which encourages libraries to adopt policies that eliminate economic barriers. Chicago Public Library communications staff contacted CMO after hours on the Friday before the event to extend an invitation to participate. CMO worked with ALA Executive Director Mary Ghikas to coordinate participation efforts, developed talking points, a brief [quote](#) and secured coverage with [American Libraries](#). CMO also coordinated an interview with Ghikas and the [Chicago Tribune](#) while her press release quote appeared in publications like [Governing](#).

Banned Books Week, September 22 – 28, 2019

Now more than ever, it is important to shine a light on censorship. Libraries, bookstores and schools did just that by placing a national spotlight on the freedom to read during Banned Books Week, September 22 – 28, a time when the ALA works to draw attention to the harms of

ensorship. This year's Banned Books Week theme was "Censorship Leaves Us in the Dark. Keep the Light On!" Media relations support efforts included developing a [web press kit](#), press release and various pitches to print, radio and TV media targets. ALA's monitoring service captured more than 1,200 Banned Books Week articles/mentions. CMO secured national and international coverage resulting in a circulation rate of more than 1.4 billion and a publicity value of more than \$2 million. Most of the coverage was positive and featured ALA's Top Ten List of Challenged Books and quotes from ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom Interim Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone. Banned Books Week Coverage highlights include several in-studio interviews, such as on [Chicago Tonight](#) (WTTW), Ben Joravsky Show (Chicago *Sun-Times* Podcast), Illinois Public Radio's [First Light](#), [Out Chicago](#) (WCPT), and the [Joan Esposito Show](#) (WCPT). National Highlights include [CNN.com](#), [New York Times](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Post](#), [Seattle Times](#), and [Book Riot](#) among hundreds of others.

eBooks For All Press Event, September 11, Nashville, Tennessee

CMO worked with the Public Library Association (PLA) and Public Policy and Advocacy (PPA) to assist with the coordination of a national press conference to announce a public action in protest of Macmillan Publishers' proposed embargo on eBooks sold to libraries. The event took place at Nashville Public Library during the 2019 Digital Book World conference, which was the perfect backdrop for the debut of ALA's [eBooksForAll.org](#) online petition. CMO produced an event rundown, a [Web press kit](#) and [bookmarks](#) to support onsite efforts. Onsite banners and podium signs and [American Libraries blog Post](#) were also added to the mix. CMO created press lists and led press release distribution efforts. Media relations support resulted in a coverage snapshot of more than 600 mentions/articles resulting in a circulation rate of more than 700 million and a publicity value of more than \$950 thousand. Coverage highlights include the [Associated Press](#), [Slate](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Associations Now](#), [American Libraries](#), [Publishers Weekly](#), [Good eReader](#). CMO also created an eBooksForAll news feed that highlights all earned [coverage](#).

Library Card Sign-up Month (September)

During this reporting period more than 870 Library Card Sign-up Month media mentions/articles were captured for Library Card Sign-up Month. Media outreach efforts resulted in a circulation rate of 580 million and a publicity value of more than \$1.7 million. Highlights include a successful radio PSA campaign featuring *American Libraries* Senior Editor Phil Morehart. CMO secured placement with Westwood One radio network broadcasting over more than 434 owned-and-operated stations in 89 US media markets (including eight of the Top 10), reaching more than 245 million listeners each week. Also radio stations in nine states and more than 20 cities downloaded PSAs from our [Library Card Sign-up Month audio PSAs](#) page. CMO also worked with ALA's Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table (GNCRT) to secure coverage of Comic Creators #GetLibraryCarded in Support of #LibraryCardSignUp Month. For the month of September, the GNCRT will be featuring a new creator each day posing with a library card. Coverage highlights include [The Beat](#), [Graphic Policy](#), [SKTCHD](#), [Newsarama](#), [Comic Book Legal Defense Fund](#), [Multiversity Comics](#), and [American Libraries](#). CMO also secured an interview for GNCRT Chair Anne Wright with [Sci-Fi Talk](#) podcast.

Future Publicity Efforts

CMO is currently working on publicity efforts to support the following initiatives:

- Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction & Nonfiction, October 2019 (Date TBD)
- I Love My Librarian Award winners, December 2019
- ALA Midwinter, January 24 – 28, 2020
 - I Love My Librarian Award event
 - BAM Awards, January 26
 - ALA Youth Media Awards, January 27, 2020

Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS)

EDI Implementation Working Group Final Report

The ALA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Implementation Working Group (EDI-IWG) submitted its final report at ALA Annual 2019 to the Executive Board. With the approval from the Executive Board, ALA ODLOS shared this final report with ALA staff members with the recommendation that staff look at how their units can incorporate these guiding principles and recommendations into their work going forward. The report can be found at the bottom of this page: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/diversity/edi>

EDIcon with the New Jersey Library Association

In September, Jody Gray and Kristin Lahurd facilitated two sessions of “EDIcon” for the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA). The first day was for NJLA leadership (35 people), and the second day was open to any interested library workers; approximately 100 people participated.

Mount Prospect Public Library Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategic Planning Pilot

In September, Jody Gray and Kristin Lahurd concluded an EDI strategic planning project with Mount Prospect Public Library in Mount Prospect, Illinois. The consulting process involved several in-person meetings with library leadership, including asset-based assessment and other foundational work, such as support in defining equity, diversity, and inclusion at the library. Kristin and Jody also facilitated a full-day in-service in May for the library’s staff of 135, on “Cultural Competency and Implicit Bias.” This in-service launched the library’s Cultural Competencies Initiative. Finally, they concluded our strategic planning consultation by submitting an “Assessment and Capacity Building” report, which includes reflections and recommendations to assist the library in creating an EDI action plan, and meeting with the library’s Executive Director to discuss the report and next steps.

ALA ODLOS Interim Director

Kristin Lahurd, the Assistant Director for Literacy and Continuing Education, has been appointed Interim Director until the position is filled. Kristin Lahurd joined the American Library Association five years ago as the Literacy Officer. She works with members to create resources across the lifespan and coordinates ODLOS' continuing education efforts, including workshops and webinars on topics surrounding equity, diversity, inclusion, literacy, and outreach.

ODLOS at ALISE Conference

From September 23-26, Briana Jarnagin traveled to the Association of Library and Information Science Educators (ALISE) conference in Knoxville, Tennessee. The conference was widely attended by LIS faculty, doctoral students, and LIS program administrators. Briana attended a variety of diversity-related juried panel and paper sessions, the works-in-progress poster session, and the doctoral student research poster session, and spoke to attendees about the Spectrum Scholarship Program, the ODLOS webinar series, and the ODLOS Intersections blog.

ODLOS at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference

From September 4-6, Amber Hayes traveled to the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference in Burlington, Vermont. The ARSL conference drew a large gathering of small and rural library workers, and Amber was able to speak with both ARSL leadership and members about opportunities offered through ALA ODLOS and opportunities for collaboration.

ODLOS at ProLiteracy Conference

Kristin Lahurd attended the ProLiteracy Conference on Adult Education, September 25-28, in San Diego, California. Kristin presented at three sessions: "American Dream Literacy Initiative: Lessons from 10 Years Serving Adult English Language Learners," "The Power of Partnerships: Adult Literacy and Libraries," and "How Does the 2020 Census Impact Adult Education?"

AEFL Week

September 22-28 marked Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. As a partner of the National Coalition for Literacy (NCL), ODLOS provided resources surrounding the week's theme: the 2020 Census.

ODLOS Exhibiting at the Association for Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference

Amber Hayes will travel to Omaha, Nebraska to attend the Association for Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS) conference, October 22-25. ABOS is an affiliate with which ODLOS works closely, and Amber will work with ABOS members to understand how they can engage with ODLOS and meet with members.

How to Talk about Race Webinar

On October 29, Amrita Patel and Denise LaForce will facilitate "How to talk about Race," a brief but insightful introduction to moderating discussions relating to race. Conversations about race are deeply personal and can be polarizing; the content they have created serves as a guide to

navigate these discussions while maintaining a respectful environment. The purpose of this webinar is to walk away with applicable tools to utilize in book discussions and community conversations, learn how to establish ground rules for a group discussion, understand an identity wheel and its purpose, and develop strategies for disruptive participants. Register here: https://ala-events.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Fn9O1tJ4QiaBI4B2VNUjuw

Reimagining the Public: Library Services to People in Jails and Prisons webinar

This October 31 webinar presented by Dr. Melissa Villa-Nicholas and Jeanie Austin will equip public librarians and library and information science instructors with the information they need to reimagine the publics they serve to include people in local jails and prisons. The webinar will cover a variety of service models and best practices that can be modified to fit the library contexts of webinar participants, and participants will leave with the tools needed to advocate for library services to people in jails and prisons as an aspect of increasing equity, diversity, and creating more inclusive library practices. Register here: https://ala-events.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EOfc0OqDQHuCzAhybtSioA

Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)

Activities

- OIF Interim Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone attended the annual meeting of the Idaho Library Association on October 3-4, 2019. She met with the ILA's intellectual freedom roundtable and presented a briefing on current intellectual freedom controversies to conference attendees.
- OIF Assistant Director Kristin Pekoll attended CALCon, the annual meeting of the Colorado Association of Libraries, September 19-21, where she spoke on "Censorship Beyond the Books."

Banned Books Week 2019

From September 22 through September 28, 2019 the Office for Intellectual Freedom observed Banned Books Week, the annual event that celebrates the freedom to read and draws attention to the harms of censorship. This year, OIF promoted and celebrated Banned Books Week under the banner theme of "Censorship Leaves Us in the Dark. Keep the Light On."

- This year's [Banned Book Week graphics](#) had strong sales and included infographic shareables, coloring sheets, cover photos, word clouds, crosswords, and a downloadable list of titles banned or challenged in 2018. The OIF [Free Downloads](#) webpage received more than 18,000 pageviews during the week. Many items sold out, and OIF and ALA Graphics created digital downloads to offer through the ALA store for those libraries and schools that could not order the sold-out materials.
- To kick off Banned Books Week at ALA, OIF partnered with City Lit Theater to host a [Books on the Chopping Block](#) performance at ALA headquarters. OIF also launched a new "Celebrating Banned Books Week" Facebook group. OIF's [Dear Banned Author letter-writing campaign](#) encouraged readers to reach out to banned and challenged authors during Banned Books Week, sharing what their words mean to them. OIF also

partnered with the nonprofit organization “Every Child a Reader” to publish a list of 100 Frequently Challenged Children’s Books, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Children’s Book Week. Titles include the *Junie B Jones* series, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963*, *Matilda*, and *Daddy’s Roommate*. The list is available on the [Every Child A Reader website](#).

- Deborah Caldwell-Stone, OIF’s Interim Director, discussed [the history of Banned Books Week, the right to read, and challenged books](#) during an appearance on “Chicago Tonight,” broadcast by Chicago’s PBS station, WTTW. “Ask Me Anything About Censorship,” a Zoom webinar led by OIF Assistant Director Kristin Pekoll, reviewed the history of Banned Books Week and current censorship trends. A second webinar, “Banned Books 101,” featured Caldwell-Stone and Pekoll discussing popular banned books, stories of students who stood up for the freedom to read, and the different ways a book can be censored. Both webinars were successfully live streamed on Facebook.

Public Policy and Advocacy Office (PPAO)

ADVOCACY OUTREACH

ALA Leads Library Response to Macmillan eBook Embargo

In the wake of Macmillan Publishers’ announcement that it was changing its licensing terms for libraries to limit them to only one eBook copy for the first two months of a new release, PPA has been coordinating the response from the library community, working closely with PLA, the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) and Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA). Staff from PPA, PLA and ALA’s Communications and Marketing Office coordinated a short-term communications plan to engage the public via an online petition and online resources to rapidly scale up activity before the embargo is scheduled to go into effect on November 1. State library associations and local public libraries continue to issue their own statements and conduct mini-campaigns as well, including executive op-eds in local news outlets, emails to patrons, and more. On [ebooksforall.org](#), ALA has developed a video, news release templates and featured examples of advocacy tactics from several library leaders across the country.

PPA Hosts Library Leaders, Information Professionals to Discuss Policy Priorities:

ALA staff in Washington have hosted several gatherings to educate, update and strategize with library stakeholders and public policy experts on core issues:

- **Contract Override**

ALA hosted a contract override workshop in Washington, September 19-20. With the leadership of Jim Neal, 24 participants investigated the challenges that licenses in the digital age pose for libraries of all types. The expert invitees included library practitioners from across the country as well as representatives from the Association of College & Research Libraries, American Association of Law Libraries, Association of Research Libraries, International Federation of Library Associations and the R Street Institute. Based on these discussions, a detailed articulation of the challenges and opportunities posed by licenses will be developed along with a policy agenda and plans.

- **Advocacy for School Libraries**

The Public Policy and Advocacy Unit hosted a strategic planning and brainstorming session on September 6 for American Association of School Libraries leadership, PPA staff and other library stakeholders to explore how to advance school library priorities in Washington. ALA's education consultants from the Penn Hill Group also participated in the event.

- **Communications with Library Friends, Trustees**

United for Libraries (UFL) President Peter Pearson and Immediate Past President Skip Dye, along with UFL staff, met with PPA staff in September to discuss ways to collaborate on advocacy efforts at the local, state and federal levels.

ALA Receives \$2 Million from Google.org to Expand Small Businesses and Entrepreneurship Programming in Libraries

ALA received a \$2 million grant from Google.org to develop library entrepreneurship centers and enable libraries across the country to double down on their support for people looking to start a new business. Beginning in 2020, ALA will fund 10 public libraries up to \$130 thousand each to establish new or extend existing partnerships with community-based organizations and further develop innovative models to bring the library's resources out into the community. Participating libraries will commit to focusing on outreach to low-income and underrepresented groups and develop models for inclusive programming. The grant will also support ALA in designing a "playbook" accessible to all libraries on what makes a successful library entrepreneurship program and in building a peer-learning network for librarians interested in developing entrepreneurship programs of their own.

ALA Expands Outreach to State and Local Decisionmakers

Along with CRO, PLA, AASL and ALA's Chapter Relations Office, PPA launched an initiative to reach state and local decision makers through participation at non-library conferences. In partnership with the Tennessee Library Association, Tennessee State Library, and Nashville Public Library, staff will exhibit at the International City and County Managers Association Conference in Nashville in late October. Also in partnership with CRO, PPA introduced a new season of Chapter Advocacy Exchanges, a webinar series for library leaders to hear best practices and engage in discussion. This season's inaugural webinar in early October, "Planning Your State's Legislative Strategy," featured Lucinda Nord of Indiana Library Federation and Wendy Woodland of Texas Library Association.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND POLICY UPDATES

U.S. Court of Appeals Provides Mixed Decision on Net Neutrality

On October 1, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit upheld the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) authority to issue its 2018 Order eliminating network neutrality protections while also vacating parts of the order and remanding other parts. Importantly, the court vacated the portion of the Order in which the FCC attempted to preempt state or local efforts to protect an open internet. In the case—*Mozilla et al v. Federal Communications Commission (FCC)*—consumer groups and some companies sought to restore net neutrality protections that the FCC passed in 2015 but eliminated in 2017. ALA President

Wanda Brown issued a statement the [same day](#). ALA will continue to work with open internet advocates to plan next steps for action.

ALA Monitors Lingering Appropriations Decisions in Congress

Congress continues work on FY 2020 funding bills; however, it is unlikely that they will finalize them before November. To keep the government open, Congress approved a short-term Continuing Resolution which funds the government through mid-November. As it currently stands, the House Appropriations Committee bill provides a \$17 million increase for LSTA (raising LSTA from \$189.3 to \$206.3 million) and an additional \$2 million for Innovative Approaches to Literacy (raising IAL to \$29 million), while the draft Senate bill recommends a \$1 million increase for LSTA (\$190.3 million) and frozen funding for IAL.

Public Programs Office (PPO)

Friends of Peggy Barber Create Tribute Fund in Her Name

Margaret “Peggy” Barber, a transformative leader in ALA and the library field, who was behind the creation of National Library Week and the Celebrity READ series, passed away on August 25, 2019. Peggy served as ALA's associate executive director of communications from 1970 to 2000. In that role, she established ALA's Public Information Office, Public Programs Office, and the ALA Graphics department. After leaving ALA, she was a principal consultant with Library Communication Strategies and served as co-president of Friends of Libraries USA, now known as United for Libraries. Friends have established a [Peggy Barber tribute fund](#) within ALA's Cultural Communities Fund, which Peggy was instrumental in creating to support cultural programs in libraries. Thanks to Peggy's amazing network of friends and colleagues, more than \$19,000 has already been contributed. These funds will support the creation of the Peggy Barber Tribute Grant for Libraries, which will recognize and fund outstanding cultural programming in libraries. Details about the award will be announced in the coming months.

50 Libraries Selected to Host Traveling Exhibition from ALA and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

PPO and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum have announced 50 libraries that will host *Americans and the Holocaust*, a traveling exhibition that examines the motives, pressures and fears that shaped Americans' responses to Nazism, war and genocide in Europe during the 1930s and 1940s. The touring library exhibition — based on the special exhibition of the same name at the Museum in Washington, D.C. — will travel to U.S. public and academic libraries from 2020 to 2022. [View the list of selected sites](#). More than 250 libraries applied for the 50 spots; winners were selected through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process that considered community demographics, library outreach plans, and the availability of other Holocaust-related educational opportunities in the library's region, among other factors.

Library Workers Attend Great Stories Club Workshop in Chicago

Thirty-five libraries have been selected to participate in the Great Stories Club series on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT), a thematic reading and discussion program series

that engages underserved teens through literature-based library outreach programs and racial healing work. The program is supported as part of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation effort, a comprehensive, national and community-based process to plan for and bring about transformational and sustainable change and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. The grantees represent 29 public libraries, two academic libraries, three school/K-12 libraries, and one library association. [View a list of the grantees and their partner organizations.](#)

The grantees gathered in Chicago for a two-day project workshop on October 3 and 4. The workshops included dialogue facilitation training led by consultants to Everyday Democracy, a racial healing circle led by consultants to the Kellogg Foundation, and program modeling led by national project scholar Susana Morris. Participants also had the opportunity to discuss the book titles featured in the series and share strategies for working with underserved teen populations.

ALA, Harwood Institute to Host 2019 Public Innovators Lab for Libraries

PPO and The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation will hold a [2.5-day training opportunity](#) to help libraries lead positive change in their communities. The 2019 Public Innovators Lab for Libraries will be held Tuesday, October 15, to Thursday, October 17, 2019, at the Loudermilk Conference Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Librarians, community partners and stakeholders in libraries of all types — public, academic, school and special libraries — are invited to attend. The Harwood Public Innovators Lab is an intensive workshop that explores the practice of Turning Outward – using the community, not your conference room, as the reference point for library choices and action. Participants will leave the Lab as the next class in a group of over 4,000 library professionals who have learned this approach to community engagement. Participants must have [registered online](#) by October 15. The cost is \$995 per person. The Lab is offered as part of PPO's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative.

ALA Releases Findings from NILPPA, a National Study of Library Public Programming

PPO released a report in July outlining the findings of an intensive research study that explored the characteristics, audiences, outcomes and value of U.S. library programming, as well as the competencies required to succeed in the field. The report, [“National Impact of Library Public Programs Assessment: Phase 1: A White Paper on the Dimensions of Library Programs and the Skills and Training for Library Program Professionals.”](#) is the result of a two-year project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). In collaboration with social science think tank New Knowledge Organization Ltd., NILPPA: Phase 1 [researchers](#) studied the current landscape of library public programming, including program types, topics, formats, audiences and partner relationships, and identified the skills required to create effective and excellent programs. The research also explores existing pathways to programming competencies for library workers, as well as opportunities that may exist in formal and informal skills acquisition. Papers have just been accepted for publication in both *Library Quarterly* and the *Journal of Education for Library Information Science*. Library professionals and others are invited to read and share feedback on the white paper at [nilppa.org](#).

ALA Releases Recommendations for Improved Public Library Services to New Americans

As immigration rises to the forefront of public discourse, public libraries continue to be a trusted resource for new Americans seeking to gain familiarity and skills in a new land. To help libraries better serve these populations, PPO released a white paper exploring how U.S. public libraries can provide the services new Americans need to thrive. The report, "[Library Programs and New Americans: A White Paper](#)," is the result of a six-month research project conducted by PPO and a [team](#) of public library workers and partner organizations. Through the New Americans Library Project, PPO worked with social science think tank New Knowledge Organization Ltd. to study offerings for new Americans, identify gaps in service, and develop a set of recommendations. The study was funded by the JPB Foundation.

PPO Announces STAR Net Phase 3 STEM Project Funding for Rural Communities

In January 2020, ALA will begin implementation of "STAR Library Network Phase 3: Enhancing STEAM Equity and Learning Opportunities in Libraries and Their Rural Communities" (or STAR Net: Phase 3), which was selected for funding from the National Science Foundation. The Space Science Institute (SSI) will lead the STAR_Net Phase 3 project team, which includes representatives from ALA PPO and ODLOS, the Institute for Innovative Learning, and Twin Cities Public Television. The project will enhance STEM equity and learning opportunities in rural communities by bringing an exhibition to 12 public libraries and investigating how three learning pathways -- STEAM Learning Spaces, Active Learning Programs, and STEAM Outreach Kits -- can increase gender equity and diverse audience engagement. Libraries will be selected to participate in STAR Net Phase 3 in 2020.

ALA DIVISIONS

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

Applications Open for 2020 AASL Awards

Applications for AASL's 2020 awards are now available. AASL members are encouraged to nominate a colleague or themselves to be lauded for their outstanding talent and dedication to the profession as part of this prestigious awards program. AASL awards and grants recognize excellence and showcase best practices in the school library field in categories that include collaboration, leadership and innovation. <http://bit.ly/AASLwards20>

Scholastic Book Fairs Sponsors AASL Collaborative School Library Award

AASL is pleased to announce Scholastic Book Fairs as the new sponsor of the AASL Collaborative School Library Award. The award recognizes and encourages collaboration and partnerships between school librarians and educators. Award recipients receive \$2,500 and are honored at the AASL Awards Ceremony. <http://bit.ly/2nWcFdd>

Edward M. and Helen R. Adams Sponsor AASL Past-Presidents Planning Grant for 'National School Library Standards'

Edward M. and Helen R. Adams have joined Roger and Susan D. Ballard and Cassandra Barnett as sponsors of an AASL Past-Presidents Planning Grant for "National School Library Standards." The award, given each year, is named in honor of an AASL Past President. Adams's 2020 grant honors AASL Past President Sharon Coatney. The AASL Past-Presidents Planning Grant enables AASL Affiliates to plan and execute an event, initiative, or activity focused on the implementation of the AASL Standards. Grant recipients receive \$2,500 and are honored at the AASL Awards Ceremony.

AASL Announces Recipients of 2019 Research Grant

The Educators of School Librarians (ESLS) Section of AASL announces the recipients of the 2019 AASL Research Grant. Sponsored by *School Library Connection*, the grant recognizes excellence in manuscripts addressing a persistent and recurring challenge in the field of school librarianship. The grant consists of a \$350 award and the opportunity to present the paper at the AASL National Conference. View the recipients at: <http://bit.ly/2B1UW7g>

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

ACRL Supports AHA Statement on Domestic Terrorism, Bigotry, and History

The ACRL Board of Directors has endorsed an [American Historical Association \(AHA\) statement on Domestic Terrorism, Bigotry, and History](#). The statement notes that "As the largest organization of professional historians in the world, the AHA condemns the recent deployment of histories invented in the interest of bigotry, violence, and division. Many critics of white nationalism have admirably insisted that 'this is not who we are.' If the statements of white nationalists do not reflect who Americans are or want to be, they do compose an undeniable part of our collective past. Those aspects of the nation's heritage should be exposed and overcome, rather than ignored or celebrated. Knowledge of history can help Americans achieve that goal." ACRL is one of more than 30 organizations to sign on in support of the AHA statement.

New Curriculum Designers/Presenters for OER & Affordability RoadShow

ACRL has selected a team of four curriculum designers/presenters to create a new RoadShow workshop to support librarians in finding, using, and developing open educational resources (OER). Intended for academic librarians and library staff integrating OER into their institutions and developing OER initiatives, this introductory day-long workshop will be available for host institutions worldwide to bring to their campuses beginning in Summer 2020. After an open and competitive call for applications and careful consideration of an excellent candidate pool, the selection committee, made up of representatives from the ACRL New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee, has chosen the following members for the curriculum design and presentation team: Heather Blicher, E-Learning Librarian and Assistant Professor, Southern New Hampshire University; Kathy Essmiller, OER Librarian and Library Liaison to Music and Theatre Departments, Oklahoma State University; Michelle Reed, Director of Open Educational Resources, University of Texas at Arlington; and Ariana E. Santiago, Open Educational

Resources Coordinator, University of Houston. Information about ACRL RoadShows is available on the [ACRL website](#).

ACRL Seeks Nominations for 2020 Awards

Every year, ACRL celebrates the opportunity to honor the outstanding achievements of academic and research librarians across North America. Made possible by generous corporate support, the annual presentation of ACRL's awards, grants, and fellowships enables ACRL to honor the very best in academic librarianship. This year, ACRL once again seeks to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of its peers. Nominations for most awards must be submitted by December 6, 2019. More information, including submission procedures, past winners, criteria and contact information, is available in the [awards section](#) of the ACRL website.

Improving Library Services in Support of International Students and English as a Second Language Learners

ACRL published [Improving Library Services in Support of International Students and English as a Second Language Learners](#), edited by Leila June Rod-Welch, in September. This thorough compilation provides outreach examples, lesson plans, and collection development practices that can help you better support international students and ESL learners. *Improving Library Services in Support of International Students and English as a Second Language Learners* provides librarians with a comprehensive guide to effective practices for serving international students, contributing to their retention and success, increasing campus diversity, and helping the students better enjoy their collegiate experience in the United States.

Libraries Promoting Reflective Dialogue in a Time of Political Polarization

In October, ACRL released [Libraries Promoting Reflective Dialogue in a Time of Political Polarization](#), edited by Andrea Baer, Ellysa Stern Cahoy, and Robert Schroeder. This collection explores the various ways in which librarians experience and respond to political polarization and its effects, both in our everyday work and in our professional communities. Divisive times can spark positive social change with more intentional reflection, listening, and empathy across social groups and identities. *Libraries Promoting Reflective Dialogue in a Time of Political Polarization* can be a catalyst and a resource for reflective and constructive dialogue, and a prompt for asking hard and sometimes uncomfortable questions about what reflective dialogue is, what forms it might take and in what contexts, who it does or does not include, and what its possibilities and limitations are.

ACRL Presents Webcast: Using ACRL's Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications Report in Your Library and Research

ACRL hosted a free ACRL Presents webcast *Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future* on Monday, September 9, 2019. In this free webcast, attendees learned more about the targeted use cases, how to activate the research agenda at your library, and asked questions about preparing an ACRL scholarly communications research grant proposal. The webcast was recorded and posted on the [ACRL YouTube channel](#) after the live event.

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)

Update on Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures, a Proposed New Division of ALA

The new Core Steering Committee met for the first time September 12. Lindsay Cronk was appointed chair of the Communications Working Group, and the group is already making great progress. A new communication plan has been developed, emails were sent to ALCTS, LITA, and LLAMA members with various links, including one to a new part of the Core site that responds to member questions/comments: <https://core.ala.org/we-hear-you/>. Four online town halls have been scheduled for October 9, October 22, November 12, December 13; see the Core web site for access instructions. Anyone interested in the development of Core can attend. The Core Steering Committee decided ALCTS/LITA/LLAMA will not have a regular ballot, but instead will each have a single yes/no vote on the proposed Core bylaws to replace current bylaws. This means no candidates will appear on our ballots, just the single question. It was thought to be too confusing to try to explain the new division and also to run an entire slate of candidates for divisions we are asking to dissolve. Nominating Committees will still need to recruit candidates to stand for office in a special ALCTS-only election if the merge is voted down next spring. The outline of that process is being worked through now, and staff will meet with the division/section nominating committees to discuss further.

Staffing Updates

ALCTS CE Program Officer, Megan Dougherty left ALCTS in mid-September. ALCTS has started the search for qualified candidates to fill the position. Julie Reese and Alana Warren have taken over Megan's work, with help from Kerry Ward and Fred Reuland, the LLAMA CE Officer we were already planning to cross train on ALCTS CE. Brooke Morris-Chott will be taking on most of the awards work that Julie did in 2019.

Budget Update

The year-end second financial close has been distributed and for FY19, ALCTS is well over budget. Second Financial Close (of four) Summary: Total revenue is 15% over budget and less than \$1k below FY18. Total expense is 9% under budget and also less than \$1k below FY18. Overall, fiscal year-end performance is \$120,363 better than budget and nearly identical to FY18. Key budget areas – membership, CE, donations, publications, etc., were either near or ahead of budget. The ALCTS journal, *Library Resources and Technical Services* (LRTS), was well below budget and will need additional monitoring in FY20.

New Leaders Orientation

ALCTS held an Online New Leaders Orientation for new committee and Interest Group chairs on September 11.

Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

ALSC Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Statement

ALSC has released its equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) statement along with new resources that support the EDI-related work of the association. These materials, part of an ongoing commitment to EDI within the division and throughout the youth services library profession, further articulate and amplify ALSC's commitment to EDI. The ALSC statement on equity, diversity and inclusion is available on ALSC's newly created [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion webpage](#), which highlights ALSC's current EDI efforts, opportunities for members to get involved with the division's EDI work, as well as links to EDI resources, videos and publications.

ALSC Professional Award Applications

ALSC is now taking applications and nominations for the Professional Awards and Grants. Applications and nominations are open for [The Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Award](#); [ALSC Baker & Taylor Summer Reading Grant](#); [The Light the Way Grant](#); [ALSC Distinguished Service Award](#), and the [Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship](#).

ALSC Bill Morris Seminar

Thirty-two applicants for the [Bill Morris Seminar: Book Evaluation Training](#) have been selected and are preparing to attend the seminar, which will take place at the 2020 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. More information about this exciting event is available on the [ALSC website](#).

ALSC Mentoring Program

Applications for the [Fall ALSC Mentoring Program](#) closed on October 8, 2019. ALSC received over 40 applications and hopes to facilitate at least 20 matches this program year. Matches are expected to be made by November 2019.

ALSC Roadshow

ALSC President, Cecilia P. McGowan, will be attending the [National Summer Learning Association's Summer Changes Everything Conference](#) in Atlanta, Georgia, October 21-23, 2019. Friends of ALSC will be sponsoring an ALSC member meet-up at a local restaurant near the conference.

Winter Online Education Courses

ALSC is pleased to announce its winter course offerings. Courses include [Contemporary Issues in Action: Ethics for Librarians](#), [Full STREAM Ahead: How to take Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\) to the next level with maker kits](#), and [Postmodern Picturebooks: Changing Minds for Life](#). All courses begin January 6 and run between four and six weeks in length.

Upcoming ALSC Webinars

ALSC continues to host webinars each month. This September, ALSC hosted [Early Childhood Expertise Beyond Libraryland: Reading Life Between the Lines: Using Children's Literature for Tough Conversations About Diversity](#).

A three-part series, *Child Care is Everywhere: How Libraries Can Develop, Strengthen, and Support Child Care*, is slated for November, including [Part I: Introduction to Child Care & Bringing Literacy to Child Care](#), [Part II: Programs for Nannies and Informal Providers Child Care](#), and [Part III: Developing and Supporting Child Care Programs](#).

An additional webinar is slated for fall of 2020: [25 Ways to Build the Bridge between your School and Library](#).

Continuing Education Proposals

The ALSC Education Committee is always considering new courses and webinars to add to ALSC's growing online education offerings. Members interested in teaching need to fill out an [online application](#) and provide a copy of their resume, teaching references, and a course syllabus (not needed for webinars). The Education Committee will be selecting proposals on a rolling basis to allow for courses to be added multiple times throughout the year.

ALSC National Institute

The [ALSC National Institute](#) with the theme of "Engage. Amplify. Activate." will be held October 1 – 3, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Featuring quality educational programming and inspirational speakers, event registration is now open. A number of award-winning authors and illustrators will be present at the Institute and a special reception, held at the Hennepin County Library, is a highlight event.

2020 Annual Conference Activities

- *Charlemae Rollins President's Program: Telling Our Authentic Story: Connecting, Sharing and Bridging Divides Through Children's Literature*

On Monday, June 29, 2020, the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program will focus on, "Telling Our Authentic Story: Connecting, Sharing and Bridging Divides Through Children's Literature." What is it about authentic stories, drawn from experience, culture, fears, and joys that draw us in and touch our hearts? Join the ALSC President, members and guests in the 2020 ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's program as we explore the ways stories help young people preserve and learn from the past. Through storytelling, we share our traditions, folkways, language, hopes and fears for the future. The program includes a moderated discussion with three noted children's authors/illustrators who will explore how stories help children prepare, celebrate and connect with our diverse world.

- *Pura Belpré Award Celebración*, will take place on Sunday, June 28, 2020 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Please join winning authors and illustrators in an unforgettable event, una fiesta maravillosa, honoring the 2020 Medal winners and honorees.

Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies

(ASGCLA)

The First Six Weeks of the Fiscal Year

During the first six weeks of the fiscal year, ASGCLA worked on two major projects and spent time on reaching out to members and member groups to ensure that positive interactions with ASGCLA were achieved.

Deaf Culture Forum

A Planning team consisting of Marti Goddard, Carrie Banks, Alice Hagemeyer, and Alec McFarlane began work with executive director Jeannette Smithee to outline a Deaf Culture Forum to be held on January 24, bringing together members of the library community and the deaf community to learn about and discuss areas for collaboration. The initial planning was unproductive. Compromises were reached and a program outline and prospective presenters were identified. The group is currently in the process of inviting and confirming speakers.

Joint Working Group on Digital Content

Invitations for appointments to the Joint Working Group went out from Wanda Brown. The appointments are now mostly complete, and planners are preparing for a virtual meeting in November and a meeting at Midwinter.

Fundraising Trip

ASGCLA is working with a travel agent to develop a spring trip to Scotland and Northern England, featuring locations connected to significant authors.

Activities to Improve Member Engagement

ASGCLA staff contacted all Committee chairs to determine what assistance was needed for the first meetings of the year. ASGCLA held a virtual session of *How to Get Things Done in ASGCLA* on October 2. ASGCLA staff developed a new proposal form for submitting Institute and Preconference proposals in order to encourage sessions in 2020 and 2021.

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)

Welcoming Chrishelle Thomas to LITA Staff

LITA is excited to announce the addition of Chrishelle Thomas as the other half of LITA staff (pronouns: she/her/hers). She takes over for Mark Beatty, who retired at the end of August. Chrishelle's title is Membership and Marketing Manager, so her focus will be on member engagement, retention, and marketing of our services and products.

- Chrishelle comes to us from C200, a nonprofit that connects women from the highest levels of successful public and private companies, where she was the Member Services and Programs Administrator. Before that, she was with the American Bar Association

for over a decade, serving as Membership & Events Coordinator and then as Membership & Marketing Specialist. She has a wealth of experience supporting recruitment and retention campaigns, online community engagement, and digital marketing communications. High-level customer service with a “can do” spirit is one of the greatest attributes she acquired during her tenure at the American Bar Association.

- Chrishelle is a certified dance coach and a faith and fashion blogger, encouraging people to become the best version of themselves. She enjoys podcasts, roller skating, and hanging out with her yorkipoo, Mr. Mixx Saint Charles. She holds a BA in Merchandise Management from the International Academy of Design & Technology.

Save the Date: November 19-21, 2020

The next Forum will be in Baltimore (MD) on November 19-21, 2020, at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel. More details to come, but expect more topics, more networking, and more learning since this will be a joint event with ALCTS and LLAMA.

LITA Blog Editor

Is content management your specialty? LITA is looking for a Blog Editor to provide strategic direction for the site, coordinate a team of bloggers, and manage the publishing schedule for libtech content focused on current issues, discussions, and trends. [Apply by the Sunday, October 20, deadline.](#)

Bystander Training

Following through on [the Midwinter promise](#) to provide free bystander training for members, LITA is working with ALSC and PLA to hold train-the-trainer sessions for a group of members so that they can, in turn, train members. We hope to start the trainer sessions in November so that we can begin training members in 2020. Members of our Forum Planning Committee will also receive the training to help provide a welcoming, inclusive, and responsive environment at the 2020 Forum.

Core Work

As communications work for member engagement around the proposed new division has ramped up, we've been spending a lot more time working with the Core Steering Committee and Core Communications Working Group. We created [a new website](#) was created to host all the information about Core in one central place, are sending out biweekly updates, and held our first online Town Hall on October 9, with three more scheduled over the next two months. You can [subscribe to updates](#) or [read through them](#) on the new Core website. Moving forward, ALCTS is taking the lead on a joint Virtual Exchange conference, while LITA is taking the lead on the joint, in-person 2020 Forum.

Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA)

Upcoming Webinars

The LLAMA continuing education development committee is currently reviewing more than 20 proposals received in response to its last call for proposals for the 2019/2020 webinar season. Check back here and on ALA Connect for specific titles and dates as they are confirmed.

Public Library Association (PLA)

PLA Helping Lead #eBooksForAll Advocacy Campaign

PLA is working closely with ALA and other allied library organizations to respond to Macmillan Publishers' embargo on library eBook lending, which is scheduled to take effect November 1. PLA released a [statement condemning Macmillan Publishers' library lending model](#) and a [letter was sent from PLA's Board of Directors to Macmillan CEO John Sargent](#). PLA members, including 2019-20 President Ramiro S. Salazar of San Antonio (TX) Public Library, Kent Oliver of Nashville (TN) Public Library, Patrick Losinski of Columbus (OH) Metropolitan Library, spoke at a September 18 press conference in Nashville [announcing the launch of a national campaign](#) against the eBook embargo. Consistent communications including e-newsletter articles, direct emails, social media posts and website updates have motivated PLA members to sign the online petition, submit op-eds to their local newspapers, and inform library patrons about the embargo's impact on eBook availability.

Registration & Housing Now Open for PLA 2020 Conference

Registration and housing are open for the [PLA 2020 Conference](#), February 25-29, 2020 in Nashville. PLA's biennial conference, the nation's largest dedicated to connecting and supporting the educational needs of public library professionals and stakeholders, is expected to attract more than 8,000 attendees and 600 exhibitors. The PLA 2020 schedule is packed with extraordinary educational content, inspiring speakers and memorable entertainment. Networking events, opportunities to mingle with authors, and a bustling exhibit hall along with all that Nashville has to offer, await attendees. Confirmed speakers include [Haben Girma](#), the first Deafblind person to graduate from Harvard Law School. New to downtown is the [National Museum of African American Music](#) (NMAAM). NMAAM is dedicated to preserving and continuing the traditions of black music while educating others on the heavy influence African Americans have had on all genres, including country. [Learn more](#) and join PLA in Nashville.

PLA Now Accepting Applications and Nominations for 2020 Awards

From now through Friday, December 6, 2019, PLA is seeking applications for ten awards and grants. PLA Awards are designed to honor the best in public library service and programming and to highlight innovation, creativity, and dedication to public libraries. The winners and their libraries will be honored during an awards presentation at the 2020 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, IL. [Read about the 2019 PLA Award recipients](#). [Learn more](#).

Fifty-seven Public Libraries Awarded Funding to Encourage Health Insurance Enrollment

Through its health insurance enrollment and education initiative, [Libraries Connecting You to Coverage](#), PLA is [encouraging enrollment](#) in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Health Insurance Marketplace for 2020. PLA announced it will award \$500 mini-grants to 57 public libraries across the U.S. to advance this work. Awardee libraries will disseminate information, provide education, partner with health insurance enrollment and provider groups, and encourage community members to enroll in the Marketplace during the ACA Open Enrollment Period. For consumers in states that utilize the federal marketplace platform, [healthcare.gov](#), open enrollment begins November 1, 2019, and ends December 15, 2019. [Learn more](#).

PLA Announces Regional Workshops on Space Planning for Libraries

PLA is teaming up with Multnomah County (OR) Library, Palo Alto (CA) City Library and Jacksonville (FL) Public Library to offer regional workshops on space-planning for libraries. These full-day workshops, facilitated by New York University Professor David Vinjamuri, will teach best practices for planning library spaces, how to critically assess functionality, and how to make libraries more accessible. PLA's regional workshop, [Space Planning: Reinventing Your Library Space](#), will be offered November 8 in Palo Alto, CA; November 22 in Portland, OR; and December 12 in Jacksonville, FL. [Learn more](#).

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)

RUSA Annual Achievement Awards

This month RUSA began accepting submissions for its annual Achievement Awards. RUSA and its Sections offer 20 different achievement awards. Promotion has begun, and the individual award committees are doing additional promotion through their own networks. The award winners will be announced in March and then celebrated at the 2020 Annual Conference.

Model Interlibrary Loan License Clause

The RUSA Board recently approved the Model Interlibrary Loan License Clause. This model clause was developed by the RUSA STARS Legislation & Licensing Committee in 2016-2017 to advocate for more standardized, modernized, and permissive license language than what currently exists in many electronic resource vendor licenses. This model clause is recommended to all libraries for their use in negotiating interlibrary loan license terms with electronic resource vendors. This model clause is also offered to electronic resource vendors as suggested text for inclusion in vendor licenses.

Upcoming Educational Offerings

Upcoming contracted educational offerings include

3 courses:

- 10/28/19 – “*Business Reference 101*”;
- 11/4/2019 – “*Inside Interlibrary Loan: Basics for a New Millennium*”
- 1/13/20 – “*Reference Interview 101*”

2 webinars:

- 11/5/2019 – “*Online Learning Resources: Creating Instructional Objects*” and
- 11/13/2019 – “*Demystifying Resource Sharing: ILL Basics for Non-Resource Sharing Staff & Librarians*”.

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

2019 YALSA Symposium Advanced Registration Deadline

Advanced registration for YALSA’s [2019 YA Services Symposium](#), which takes place November 1-3 in Memphis, TN, ends on October 13. Afterwards, registration will only be available on-site. Learn [more](#) and view the list of [programs](#), [participating authors](#), and [more](#).

YALSA’s 2020 Election Slate

YALSA’s Board Development Committee has announced the slate for 2020. To run on the slate as a petition candidate, members can submit a petition form between now and November 4, 2019, via the eForm available in [YALSA’s Handbook](#). To view YALSA’s 2020 slate, visit www.ala.org/yalsa/workingwithyalsa/election

November Webinar: Exploring Computational Thinking Through Puzzles and Games

On November 14, 2:00 p.m. (Eastern), explore how to reinforce computational thinking (CT) among youth through tabletop gaming and logic puzzles. This session will define computational thinking and provide recreational strategies for helping youth understanding and development of CT skills. [Learn](#) more.

Upcoming YALSA Activities & Events

October 20 – November 23: [Connected Learning E-Course](#)
 November 1 – 3: [YALSA’s 2019 YA Services Symposium in Memphis, TN](#)
 November 14: [Exploring Computational Thinking Through Puzzles and Games webinar](#)
 December 1: [Program Proposals for 2020 YA Services Symposium Open](#)
 December 1: [Deadline for YALSA’s Member Awards and Grants](#)
 December 12: [YALSA Webinar; 2:00 p.m. \(Eastern\)](#)

ALA PUBLISHING

ALA Editions

New Books from ALA Editions and ALA Neal-Schuman

New professional development books published include:

- [*Leadership: Strategic Thinking, Decision Making, Communication, and Relationship Building*](#), by Ann M. Martin and Kathleen Riopelle Roberts, a resource published in collaboration with AASL;
- [*Incubating Creativity at Your Library: A Sourcebook for Connecting with Communities*](#), by Erinn Batykefer and Laura Damon-Moore, which shares the experiences of numerous creative library workers and artists;
- the second edition of [*Making Sense of Business Reference: A Guide for Librarians and Research Professionals*](#), by Celia Ross, now revised and updated to tackle even more “bizref” headscratches;
- [*Coaching Copyright*](#), edited by Kevin L. Smith and Erin L. Ellis, which empowers users to take a practical approach to specific situations;
- [*Move, Play, Learn: Interactive Storytimes with Music, Movement, and More*](#), by Alyssa Jewell, presenting 20 ready-to-use storytime plans tailored to specific age groups;
- [*Demystifying Online Instruction in Libraries: People, Process, and Tools*](#), by Dominique Turnbow and Amanda Roth, which sheds light on creating a sustainable portfolio of online instruction (all ALA Editions).

Also published by Facet Publishing, UK and available through the [ALA Store](#) was [*The KM Cookbook: Stories and Strategies for Organisations Exploring Knowledge Management Standard ISO30401*](#), by Chris J. Collison, Paul J. Corney, and Patricia Lee Eng, which thoroughly covers KM in practice.

Direct Mailings

Later in October, direct mailings targeting public librarians and school librarians will be mailed to several thousand recipients.

For a full listing of titles including books, online workshops, and eCourses, visit the ALA Store. www.alastore.ala.org

American Libraries

November/December 2019 Issue

The cover story for *American Libraries* magazine’s November/December 2019 issue is a special report titled “Democracy in Action,” which examines the efforts of libraries undertaking year-round advocacy and preparing for the 2020 elections. Highlights include articles on libraries hosting programs and forums with elected officials, reaching and registering potential voters, keeping civic engagement civil in their communities, and promoting media literacy in an era of fake news. Other stories in this issue include: the work academic libraries are doing to preserve videogames and support videogame scholars; public speaking tips for librarians; an interview with author and *New York Times* contributor Lindy West; libraries helping older adults with online dating apps; and libraries hosting vision and hearing screenings. These stories and more are available at americanlibrariesmagazine.org on November 1.

American Libraries Online and Social Media

Since August 30, 14 original online stories have been published, including coverage from the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL), Digital Book World, Library Futures, and Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) conferences. We also had an exclusive [prepublication excerpt](#) from the *Carnegie Reporter*, written by Vartan Gregorian.

Top stories since August 30:

1. [Automatic for the People](#)
2. [2019 Library Design Showcase](#)
3. [Censorship Beyond Books](#)

There were 90,000 site visits in September—the highest-traffic September ever—and 78,862 Twitter followers.

AL Direct

The top three AL Direct news items between August 20–October 1:

- [A hateful conspiracy book just got harder to buy](#) (1,459)
- [The 10 most awesome librarians in pop culture](#) (1,428)
- [Guess these classic novels from their LC descriptions](#) (1,164)

Number of links published in [Latest Library Links](#): 308

Dewey Decibel Podcast

The [September podcast episode](#) on library architecture and design featured interviews with the project director of Austin (Texas) Public Library's new Central Library on the challenges of undertaking a large-scale construction project; the director of Meridian (Idaho) Library District about its Tiny Library; and the director of the Gioconda and Joseph King Library at the Society of Four Arts in Palm Beach, Florida, about the renovation of its 80-year-old murals and cypress woodwork. The podcast reached a milestone in September when it surpassed 100,000 listens.