

April 12, 2018

To: ALSC Board of Directors

From: Aimee Strittmatter, Executive Director

Re: Management Report, February 2018 – April 2018

Hello Board! This report offers a summary of activities happening in the office since the 2018 Midwinter Meeting. I will be glad to answer any questions about the items below.

OFFICE

- Alena and I attended the Chicagoland Association Forum's Women's Executive Forum on March 7.
- Angela Hubbard returned from maternity leave on 3/12/2018.
- Kristen Figliulo went on maternity leave on 3/22/2018.
- I met with Mary Ghikas, ALA Conference Director Paul Graller, and other Division representatives with national conferences and events to discuss a centralized process to manage harassment claims at events.
- I attended an early literacy summit hosted by the LaundryCares Foundation, Too Small to Fail, and Libraries Without Borders to discuss community outreach through coin laundry and literacy programs, the possibility to establish a national coalition around this work to scale up and discuss possible next steps.
- I attended the American Society of Association Executive's Great Ideas! Conference from March 11-13, 2018. The sessions I attended focused on [aligning programs with fundraising](#), [motivating staff behavior to drive strategic growth](#), [utilizing principles of improv and problem-solving to think faster and lead smarter](#), [strategies around managing intellectual property](#), [utilizing the Baldrige Excellence Framework to maximize association performance](#), [discussion on website strategy](#), [digital marketing and journey mapping](#), and [a session on thinking deeper on association governing](#).
- I had my annual meeting with Bound to Stay Bound President Robert L. Sibert on March 19 to discuss sponsorship of the Bound to Stay Bound Scholarships and Sibert Medal. We discussed aspects around his 30 years of scholarship sponsorship, the future of the sponsorship, and I provided an overview of the Awards Program Review Task Force's work.
- Elly and I attended the PLA National Conference in Philadelphia from March 20-23. We co-hosted a social with ALA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table at the Free Library of Philadelphia's Skyline Room and Terrace. ALSC had a presence at the ALA membership booth. Nina was available to meet with members at the booth on Wednesday from 3-6 p.m. I used the time at the conference to meet with Gillian Engbert to discuss freelance consulting projects, ALSC member Christopher Brown who provided a tour the Children's Literature Research Collection at the Free Library of Philadelphia, ALSC Board member Christine Caputo to discuss ALSC's work with the National Summer Learning Association, and was able to also meet with ALA PAO Deputy

Director Macey Morales. I also had the opportunity to have a lengthy discussion with PLA staff member Samantha Lopez around potential training activities for ALSC members and Project Outcome.

- I submitted the preliminary fiscal year 2019 ALSC budget to ALA on March 19.
- I am serving as a member of the YALSA Executive Director search committee. Have attended a few conference calls and the tentative timeline is to hold interviews prior to Annual Conference.
- On March 29, I met with Jody Gray, ODLIS, YALSA, ALA, and PAO to discuss next steps in coordinating with the ethnic affiliates to plan for the inclusion of their awards in the YMA press conference at Midwinter.

ALA

- Kathi Kromer, ALA Washington Director, reported on March 23 that the federal 2018 budget included big wins for libraries. IMLS received a \$9 million increase to \$240 million and the Library Services and Technology Act received an increase of \$5.7 million to \$189.2 million. Innovative Approaches to Literacy received level funding of \$27 million.
- ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment Director Lorelle Swader was appointed as ALA Associate Executive Director, ALA Offices and Member Relations and ALA-Allied Professional Association on March 26. She will provide leadership and management for the ALA Office for Accreditation; Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach; Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment; Office for Intellectual Freedom; ALA Library and Research Center; ALA Public Programs Office; ALA Member Services, including Membership recruitment and retention and the ALA Member and Customer Service Center; and, coordination and liaison for ALA Round Tables. She will also continue her leadership and management of the ALA-Allied Professional Association, a separate (501)(c)(6) organization focused on the needs of library workers.
- ALA Public Awareness Office Director Jeff Julian resigned effective April 6, 2018. There has been no communication regarding replacing his position.
- Macey Morales, PAO Deputy Director, created a Flipboard Magazine that highlights YMA coverage. 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. Flipboard is not supported by Internet Explorer, so please access the following link through Chrome, Firefox, or your mobile device. <http://flip.it/YqTdPs>
- Voting in the 2018 elections began on March 12, 2018 and closed on April 4. Results were announced on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The press release with ALSC's election results is available and results are also available on the website at: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/aboutalsc/governance/election/2018-election-results>
- It's [National Library Week \(April 8-14\)!](#) The theme for 2018 is "Libraries Lead". Misty Copeland, principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre, is the 2018 honorary chair.

- The total ALA membership roster at the end of February 2018 stood at 58,826 compared to 56,637 members in February 2017 (increase of 3.86%). Student memberships are up 9.79%.
- ALA Youth Media Award staff met to discuss next steps and plan documentation for integrating ALA affiliate youth awards into the press conference.

PARTNERSHIPS/OPPORTUNITIES

- ALSC staff have been in conversations with the National Summer Learning Association to collaborate on promoting National Summer Learning Day on July 12, 2018. I've consulted with ALSC Board member Christine Caputo and Summer/Out of School Time Learning Task Force member Elizabeth McChesney on this project. The Association of Children's Museums have also agreed to promote NSLD.
- Friends of ALSC are offering [two scholarships to the ALSC National Institute](#) September 27 – 29, 2018 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Scholarship recipients must be ALSC members who work directly with children in a library setting. The scholarships will include Institute registration (at the early bird rate) and a \$1,000 travel stipend to cover airfare and hotel lodging. Applications are due by May 9, 2018.
- **National Día Program Registry**
Día program coordinators have started entering programs that will take place nationwide in 2018. Día—El día de los libros, El día de los niños/Children's Day, Book Day—will culminate on April 30, as it does each year. [The National Día Program Registry](#) is available for use by librarians and community partners. Additionally, beautiful and customizable web badges and a new booklist are now available for free download. [Learn more about Día and all its free resources!](#)
- **Tickets Available for 2018 Arbuthnot Lecture featuring Naomi Shihab Nye**
The 2018 May Hill Arbuthnot lecture, titled "REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED - Our Lives of Reading & Writing" will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at the Western Washington University Performing Arts Center. Required tickets are free for the lecture and must be obtained through the [Whatcom County Library System website](#). To learn more about acquiring tickets and event details, please visit the [2018 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture website](#).
- **Host Site Application for 2019 Arbuthnot Lecture are Open**
The 2019 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Committee is [accepting applications](#) to host the 50th May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture featuring Blogger, educator, and founder of American Indians in Children's Literature (AICL) blog, Dr. Debbie Reese. Host site applications are due May 15, 2018.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Community Forum

On April, 12 ALSC hosted a Community Forum titled, [Doing ALA Differently: An ALSC Conversation](#). Led by ALSC's Division Councilor, Jenna Nemec-Loise, it was an opportunity for members to learn more about ALA's current organizational structure, hear the latest on current

efforts to move ALA forward, and share feedback on next steps. The community forum topic was developed in response to ALA President Jim Neal's [call on members of the association](#) to consider the 21st century effectiveness and agility of an organization whose constitution, bylaws, and policies date back over 140 years. This forum asked ALSC members to consider what it would take to align ALA's organizational structure, policies, and rules with the Association's 21st century values, key action areas, and strategic directions.

2018 Bechtel Fellowship Applications Open

The ALSC Special Collections and [Bechtel Fellowship committee has opened applications](#) for the Louise Seaman Bechtel fellowship. Applications and supporting materials are due by November 1, 2018. The Fellowship provides a \$4,000 grant to a qualified children's librarian to spend a total of four weeks or more reading and studying at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature of the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville.

2018 ALSC Distinguished Service Award Applications Open

[The ALSC Distinguished Service Award committee is now accepting online nominations](#) for the 2019 Distinguished Service Award! Nominations and supporting materials will be due by December 1, 2017. This award honors an individual member of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) who has made significant contributions to, and an impact on, library service to children and/or ALSC. The recipient receives \$2,000 and an engraved pin at the ALSC Membership Meeting during ALA Annual Conference.

Webinars

ALSC is currently offering a webinar titled [Firing on All Cylinders: Making Reading Matter](#) which will take place on June 5. In August, two webinars will be offered including, *New Media and Preschool Services* and *Out-of-School Time: How to Plan STEAM Programming in Your Library*. Additionally, webinar proposals on advocacy and cultural competency in youth services were approved and will be offered by the fall.

Spring Online Courses

ALSC's Spring online courses began April 2. Students had the choice of three different course offerings: [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\) Programs Made Easy](#), [Storytelling with Puppets](#), or a newly offered ALSC course, [Postmodern Picture Books: Changing Minds for Life](#). Course offerings run four to five weeks in length.

Continuing Education Proposals

The ALSC Education Committee is always considering new courses and webinars to add to ALSC's growing online education offerings. The committee recently put out an RFP for webinars involving topics on cultural competency in youth services. 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.

2018 ALSC Professional Award Winners Announced

ALSC Distinguished Service Award

[Dr. Steven L. Herb is the 2018 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.](#) This prestigious award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to library service to children and to ALSC. Dr. Herb is Librarian Emeritus from The Pennsylvania State University and Director Emeritus of the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, and a long-time advocate of early literacy services in libraries. “Steven Herb exemplifies deep, sustained, and impactful service to our profession,” said chair Mary Fellows. “During his 35 years of ALSC membership Steven has always focused on contributing. Whether on process committees or in the spotlight of the ALSC presidency, through his public library work, teaching or research, Steven has consistently shown us how to be more and do greater things. We have all created a better future for children through libraries thanks to Steven’s example and sheer output.”

Light the Way Grant

New Carrollton Library is the recipient of the [2017-2018 ALSC/Candlewick Press "Light the Way: Outreach to the Underserved" Grant.](#) As the winner of the grant, the library will receive \$3,000 for their “Literacy & Library Skills for Refugee Families” program. With this grant, The New Carrollton Library will reach their goal of expanding outreach and programming offerings for refugee families in a local community apartment housing center. The program is designed to address the needs of both mothers and their children.

Bookapalooza Grant

The Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) has awarded the 2018 Bookapalooza Program to three libraries: [Chilton/Clanton Public Library, Clanton, Alabama; Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach, Florida; and Daviess County Library, Gallatin, Missouri.](#) The award includes a variety of materials from books to DVDs and audiobooks. These materials have been received at the ALSC office from publishers for selection committees to evaluate for awards and notables consideration. To make room for the next year’s publications, Bookapalooza was created to infuse three library collections with new materials for children from birth through age 14.

Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship

The Bechtel Fellowship Committee has awarded the [2018 Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship to Ann Mlod, JoAnna Schofield, and Lisa Von Drasek.](#) Anne Mlod is the school librarian at the Genesee Elementary School in Auburn, NY. In her research, she will explore how slavery has been represented in children’s fiction and non-fiction books over time. JoAnna Schofield is branch services librarian for Cuyahoga County Public Library in Warrensville Heights, OH. Ms. Schofield will examine how typography has contributed to the readability and legibility of historic picture books and early readers. Lisa Von Drasek is curator and associate librarian at the Children’s Literature Research Collections, University of Minnesota Libraries. She will research how ABC books, primers, and tracts have influenced contemporary concept book design and content.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2018 Annual Conference Activities

ALSC Charlemae Rollins President’s Program: Considering All Children: A New Ideal in Evaluating and Engaging around Books for Youth

On Monday, June 25, 2018, the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program will focus on "Considering *All Children: A New Ideal in Evaluating and Engaging around Books for Youth.*" Awards, best-of-the-year lists and reviews focus on "quality" and "excellence" in literature for youth, but what do "quality" and "excellence" really mean in the canon of American literature for children? Who is deciding which books stand out? How are some critics and some children privileged in our field's thinking? How are some dismissed or made invisible? What does "American literature for children" even mean? Join **ALSC President, Nina Lindsay** for a program that will challenge us all to confront our biases as they explore common assumptions and current discourse, and consider what it would look like if we truly considered all children as we evaluate books and single out titles for distinction both within and beyond ALSC. Panelists include current National Young People's Poet Laureate and award-winning author **Margarita Engle**, **Debbie Reese**, PhD, educator and advocate for Native representation, **Jason Reynolds**, 2018 National School Library Month spokesperson and award-winning author, and **Ebony Thomas**, assistant professor, University of Pennsylvania. The session will be moderated by **Edith Campbell**, Associate Librarian, Reference/Instruction, Indiana State University. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with speakers in a question-and-answer.

The Pura Belpré Award Celebración, will take place on Sunday, June 24, 2018 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Please join our family of winning authors and illustrators in an unforgettable event, una fiesta maravillosa, where we will honor the 2018 Medal winners and honorees.

The Newbery-Caldecott-Wilder Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday, June 24 from 6-10 pm at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside.

The ALSC Awards Presentation will take place on Monday, June 25 from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. The Batchelder, Geisel, and Sibert Awards will be presented to awardees. The ALSC membership meeting will follow from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

The Odyssey Award Ceremony will take place on Monday, June 25, 3:30-5:30pm. Celebrate the best in audiobooks produced for children and young adults at the annual presentation of the Odyssey Award. Listen to your favorite narrators perform a piece from their Odyssey Award-winning audiobooks at this engaging event. Please stay afterward for a reception sponsored by the Audio Publisher Association.

Co-sponsored sessions:

APALA President's Program on Saturday June 23, 2018 at 10 am. The session is titled, "Wandering Wonderland: How an Outsider Found Her Way In." The session will feature author and illustrator LeUyen Pham.

2018 National Institute

The [ALSC National Institute](#), with its theme of "All Aboard! Embracing Advocacy and Inclusion", will be held September 27 – 29, 2018 in Cincinnati, Ohio and will feature quality educational programming and inspirational speakers. Event registration is now open and includes a number of award-winning authors and illustrators who will be present at the Institute, such as Grace Lin, Margarita Engle, Raúl Colón, Mike Curato, Brian Selznick, and David Serlin. Special receptions, held at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, are highlight events.

2018 Executive Committee Spring Call
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