

**ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan  
Implementation Progress**

The ALSC 2017- 2020 Strategic Implementation Progress report is a quarterly representation of the most recent projects and activities that are underway by ALSC committees and staff in support of ALSC's 2017-2020 Strategic Plan Objectives: Advocacy, Diversity & Inclusion and Learning & Development. A full outline of the strategic plan and past progress reports can be accessed on the ALSC website at <http://www.ala.org/alsc/aboutalsc/stratplan>.

**Advocacy**

ALSC will champion the value of library service to children and the resources necessary to deliver on our vision.

1. Establish an accessible content stream of valuation tools and research updates, including customizable content for members, by September 2018. *Transforming ALSC*
  - Media Mentorship - Young Children, New Media and Libraries – The ALSC staff are working to update the 2014 Young Children, New Media, and Libraries survey to collect new data that will inform research on media mentorship.
2. Articulate a prioritized research agenda, including but not limited to summer learning/out- of-school time, by September 2018, and pursue avenues for conducting and/or supporting the research by September 2020. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
  - Research Agenda Task Force - All three pieces of the strategic plan, which include Diversity and Inclusion, Advocacy, and Learning and Development, will be addressed in the final product of the research agenda.
  - Erikson Institute - Technology and Children (TEC) Center- The TEC Center was invited to submit a full proposal for an IMLS National Leadership Grant as a National Forum Grant application in collaboration with several partner organizations including, ALSC, Association of Children's Museums (ACM), Chicago Children's Museum (CCM), and National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE). Notification of awards are expected in September 2018. If awarded, the TEC Center, ALSC and additional partners will lead their stakeholders in forming an alliance for media literacy in early childhood at a leadership forum and a consensus building forum with practitioners. These two forums will enable organizations and leaders, individually and collectively, to identify and implement promising practices in media literacy for young children and families in libraries, museums, community programs and other beyond the classroom settings.
3. Amplify librarians' essential role as information literacy experts through advocacy outputs, including communications, webinars, and establishing collaborations, by September 2018. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*

- Advocacy & Legislation Committee - The committee is now working with Sharon Verbeten, editor of Children and Libraries to produce pieces for the column. This is in addition to the current regular blog posts to ALSC blog.
  - Advocacy & Legislation Committee - The committee is offering a workshop at the ALSC Institute. The committee is developing a webinar about advocacy. The committee has identified committee members and members of the Managing Children's Services committee who are interested in planning the webinar. There is a plan to propose the webinar for spring 2018.
  - Summer/Out of School Time Learning Task Force- The TF is in the process of developing a talking points handout for National Library Legislative Day focusing on summer learning.
  - Managing Children's Services Committee – The committee is collaborating with the Advocacy and Legislation committee to deliver a webinar about doing advocacy work on the clock and getting support for your library administration to engage in advocacy as a piece of your job.
  - Building Partnerships - Building Partnerships is considering options to assist with distributing advocacy materials to the partnership organizations on their targeted list.
  - Public Awareness Committee – The committee is fully engaged with the first draft of the toolkit and look forward to meeting their first target of one print item for NLLD 2018. PAC presented its first Board Action Request at MW to resource the second year of the toolkit project. ALSC Board provided positive and important feedback. PAC is meeting with the ALA Public Awareness Office to continue the conversation, seek additional alignment with Libraries Transform campaign and pitch to Dr. Carla Hayden to provide a public service announcement recording.
  - Designing Youth Spaces White Paper – The ALSC staff are drafting next steps to develop a white paper on Designing Youth Spaces. The paper is an opportunity to fill a need for guidelines on designing children's spaces in libraries.
  - Everyday Advocacy -The Everyday Advocacy website and newsletter continue to serve as resource for librarians that includes advocacy support, updates on current issues and campaigns impacting libraries and the communities they serve. Everyday Advocacy will be coordinating with ALSC's Advocacy and Legislation Committee to ensure that members receive timely information about advocacy issues that will be front and center for the 2018 National Library Legislative Day.
  - National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) – In addition to committee projects for NLLD, ALSC staff are working with the ALA Washington office to set up visits with legislators for NLLD.
4. Increase targeted messaging to the wider library profession and the public about the expertise of ALSC and our members to demonstrate the purpose and value of strong and meaningful children's librarianship by September 2019. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*
- Intellectual Freedom Committee – The Kids Know Your Rights comic with the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund producing a fourteen-page comic illustrated by Mathew Loux, will not be ready for Free

Comic Books Day in May, as originally anticipated, but may be ready by this summer. It will also be posted online for libraries to download, or available to purchase from the CDLF.

- Intellectual Freedom – The committee reviewed the final draft of a revised “Kids Know Your Rights,” document to replace the existing document on the ALSC website.
- Intellectual Freedom – The committee discussed and edited a draft of “Know Your Kid’s Rights,” designed to present the same concepts to parents, caregivers, and interested adults, stressing the importance of discussing the issues with their children. The committee will continue to work on this document between now and Annual Conference.
- Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers - The Committee is currently in discussion with Project LOCAL (an academic project addressing outreach to underserved library communities) to partner or utilize their blog platform to support and publicize their project findings. The committee is awaiting word from Project LOCAL regarding potential collaboration to present an ALSC Hot Topic program at ALA Annual in New Orleans. Project LOCAL is exploring how libraries are offering programs and services outside of the library walls to reach and support children and caregivers in underserved communities.
- Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers - An advocacy and outreach program offered to underserved communities was highlighted in a committee-sponsored January post by guest blogger, Diana Price, the Youth Services Manager at Alexandria Library’s Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library in Alexandria, Virginia. This very informative post provided details about the library’s bilingual outreach program at the doctor’s office.
- Notable Children’s Digital Media - 2018 represents the first year of the Notable Children’s Digital Media Committee. The Committee is in the process of selecting, annotating, and presenting for publication, a bi-annual list of notable children’s digital media, including websites and Apps of interest to young people and their families, from birth through age 14.
- Summer Reading/Summer Learning - The National Summer Learning Association invited ALSC to work with them on supporting their upcoming [Summer Learning Day](#) on July 12<sup>th</sup>. They will be inviting a children’s author/illustrator to do a read-aloud at libraries. ALSC is developing a marketing plan to promote the Summer Learning Day related activities.

*Other activities in support of the Advocacy strategic action area:*

*No additional activities to report at this time.*

### **Diversity & Inclusion**

ALSC will become more diverse and inclusive, acting to promote these values in all aspects of library service to children.

1. Increase diversity in ALSC membership and reduce barriers to participation as measured against the Diversity in ALSC baseline survey by September 2019. *Transforming ALSC*

- Membership Committee – The committee would like to use the membership video to reach out to college students and other division/roundtables: REFORMA, NMRT, GLBTRT, EMIERT, etc.
  - Student Gift Membership Committee - The mid-point survey administered to student gift membership recipients included one question asking for race/ethnicity to help determine if the program reached a diverse audience. The results will inform decisions on program implementation, if the program continues.
2. Expand opportunities for existing members from underrepresented experiences to serve in ALSC activities, as measured by longitudinal studies and/or focus groups, by September 2020. *Transforming ALSC*
- Friends of ALSC will award two scholarships for National Institute attendance. They will also sponsor an additional scholarship for a North Carolina resident who identifies as part of the LGBTQ community. This in continued support of the decision to cancel the 2016 ALSC Institute in North Carolina.
3. Increase the cultural competency of library staff serving youth by developing an accessible online cultural competency training series by September 2018. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
- Education Committee and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Task Force - The committee chairs have connected in order to align their work with the cultural competency webinar recommendation.
  - ALSC Emerging Leader Team – The 2018 team is developing a script addressing microaggressions that can be developed into a video for the cultural competency training webinars. The team has shared a survey to learn more about members understanding of microaggressions and cultural competency.

*Other activities in support of the Diversity and Inclusion strategic action area:*

- Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee- Recent survey results from a survey administered by the committee noted that many ALSC members indicated that they need guidance on approaching diversity and inclusion with young children. The committee is developing a webinar that will be entirely devoted to this topic.
- Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers Committee- Light the Way grant committee selected a grant recipient from among the many excellent applications. Through the combination of selecting a grant winner and providing a blog platform for publicizing the services and projects designed to reach underserved children and their caregivers the committee has been striving to inform the library community of the opportunities to implement programming that is both inclusive and reaches diverse populations.
- School Age Programs and Services Committee - As the committee drills down into the activity options of the Tween Maker Launch Pad, a tween makerspace toolkit, they continue to discuss how to address equity and access to the programming ideas that will be included in the toolkit. The committee aspires to have a resource that includes maker programming ideas that are majority free or low cost.

- Notable Children's Books – The committee made efforts to include diverse voices and respect the full range of children's books published in 2017. They spoke often about the core work of ALSC, making sure ALL children see themselves in libraries. This year's list will be produced as a pdf so that librarians can easily distribute copies in their libraries.
- Grant Administration Committee – The committee continues to seek award recipients that support the diversity and inclusion objective of the strategic plan.
- Melcher & Bound to Stay Bound Scholarships Committee – The committee updated language in the Committee manual to be inclusive of transgender and gender diverse individuals.
- Quicklists Committee- The committee is working to make sure that the book lists include authors and illustrators from as many backgrounds as possible and represent as many families as possible.
- Local Arrangements Committee – The committee chair with Janet Tom of the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association at Midwinter and began corresponding with her to share local information pertinent to APALA's Annual plans. The committee chair was also virtually introduced to Lucia Gonzales, ALSC member and the REFORMA CAYASC chair to discuss cultural Latino organizations in New Orleans.
- Youth Media Awards & ALA Affiliates – In continuing efforts to celebrate diversity, ALSC staff are working with ALA to add select youth media awards from ALA Ethnic Affiliate groups beginning with the 2019 ALA Youth Media Award announcements.
- El día de los niños/El día de los libros – ALSC staff and committee members are actively promoting El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), commonly known as Día, a celebration every day of children, families, and reading that culminates yearly on April 30. The celebration emphasizes the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds.
- Awards Program Review - At the 2018 Midwinter Meeting, the ALSC Board of Directors took action to establish a task force to review the ALSC awards program, beginning with the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. The Awards Program Review Task Force is now underway, to bring recommendations regarding the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award to the Board at Annual Conference 2018.
- 2018 National Institute Connection Event – ALSC will be hosting a Connection Event at the 2018 ALSC National Institute. The event welcomes ALSC members and colleagues interested in youth librarianship for a free networking reception. This event, funded by the Friends of ALSC, is open to the public and will include networking opportunities with invited, local non-library organizations representing the diversity of the host city, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### **Learning & Development**

ALSC will actively develop new generations of leaders.

1. Build a discernible pathway, along with opportunities for training and mentorship, to develop ALSC members as leaders in their libraries, the profession, and/or the association by September 2020.

*Transforming ALSC*

- Student Gift Membership Task Force – the task force continues to alert gift membership recipients about professional development opportunities in ALSC. Recipients had a chance to win a free ALSC online course by filling out the mid-point survey.
- 2019 Distinguished Service Award - The 2018 DSA winner was named and an article about his contributions was disseminated, providing ALSC members with a strong example of what success looks like within ALSC.
- Intellectual Freedom Committee – The committee is considering options to develop a training module/kit by looking for existing training and information to compile on intellectual freedom training for library staff.
- Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers - An ALSC community forum panel was held in January in which the committee participated and provided the opportunity to share knowledge and learn from members about advances in the field.
- School Age Programs and Services Committee - Renamed the Tween Maker toolkit to Tween Maker Launch Pad because it better reflects the nature of the resource as a springboard for maker programming ideas (rather than a "toolkit" with program plans). Committee is designing this resource to be applicable for librarians working in a diversity of library environments. The name should also help the toolkit stand out against a myriad of resources named "toolkits."
- Summer/Out of School Time Learning Task Force is working with the National Summer Learning Association on an ALSC webinar
- Membership Committee – The committee created, promoted, and hosted an ALSC new member dinner at Midwinter and will try it again for Annual. Committee plans to reach out to the scholarship taskforce and the NMRT for promotion prior to Annual. Additionally, the committee plans to do a monthly blog post about membership, promote the new membership video again, look into re-brainstorming the postcards, and work on ALSC 101.
- Organization and Bylaws Committee - Compiled responses from Committee Chairs on a survey to update the information on the ALSC "What does that ALSC Committee do?" webpage and submitted the compiled responses to the ALSC Office.
- Managing Children's Services – The committee had been working on creating an Ask-A-Manager online form, but due to some concerns about liability from ALSC staff is now discussing how they can change the form to allow for members to submit management questions without the group providing one-on-one responses. Committee may look to solicit questions to answer in blog posts.

- Mentoring Program – Applications for the next round of the ALSC Mentoring Program will open July 2018 and there is already a strong interest in this next program. ALSC will alternate between two types of communication to mentor and mentee matches: newsletters that include a personal note from ALSC Leadership or a mentor match in the program and check-ins from members of the Mentoring Working Group. This added support and attention to the program is expected to increase interest in participation for 2018.
2. Provide at least two educational opportunities in media mentorship and child development, ideally developed and/or presented with collaborative partners from other ALA units, by September 2018. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
- Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee is considering the development of a series of four sixty-minute webinars that will include: Early Childhood Development, Managing Behavior, Diversity & Inclusion and Early Childhood Trends. The series would call upon the expertise of the committee members, as well as non-library subject experts.
3. Organize and promote ALSC activities to position the core competencies as central to library service to children, by September 2018. *Transforming Children's Librarianship*
- National Institute Planning Task Force - Matched program sessions with ALSC Competencies for Librarians Serving Children in Public Libraries.
4. Develop a toolkit of research-based best practices for out-of-school time learning and disseminate the toolkit and practices to members by September 2019. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*
- Dollar General Literacy Fund (DGLF) – Everybody Reads – Strengthening Communities Through Libraries - The DGLF grant will help libraries provide STEAM-focused learning for children during breaks and in after-school programs. ALSC awarded fourteen \$5,000 Strengthening Communities Through Libraries minigrants to members in public libraries and will develop supplemental resources, including a webinar for librarians who have implemented SCTL or similar out of school time programs to share their experiences and tips. The outcomes of these grants will inform the development of a research-based best practices toolkit in service to ALSC's Strategic Plan.

*Other activities in support of the Learning and Development strategic action area:*

- Digital Media Award Implementation Task Force - At Midwinter the ALA Awards Committee approved the proposals for the Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media Award and the Media Mentorship Leadership Award. Committee will focus on meeting the deadline in the charge to complete the development of Terms & Criteria and a Committee Manual including background information, committee work guidelines, roles & responsibilities, and samples & documents, for each of the three committees in their jurisdiction.

- Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media - the committee worked on a justification statement for the award, built on the outline previously created for the criteria, and started to create measurements for evaluating material.
- Committee discussed how the criteria would apply to digital media resources other than apps such as toys or the Starling; then used the submission list that they had been working on since Annual to test the criteria, basically a mock award process.
- Website Advisory Committee - WAC members completed a comprehensive review of the ALSC website resulting in suggestions for content change and new content proposals.
- Batchelder 2019 – The committee members discussed general awareness of the award by school and public librarians. Because translated books sometimes need contextualizing or additional "selling" to young readers, the committee talked about promotion possibilities such as blog posts, tool kits, etc.
- School and Public Library Collaboration - The toolkit provides informative research and tangible steps that librarians can take toward collaboration.
- Children and Technology - The committee wrote a letter of support for an ALSC Hot Topic program on the research of children and technology use.

ALSC Strategic Plan Implementation Progress – ALSC staff will be providing additional updates on ALSC's Strategic Plan Implementation progress in an upcoming issue of ALSC's journal, *Children & Libraries*.