

# american libraries DIRECT

American Library Association • April 13, 2018



New Orleans  
ALA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION  
JUNE 21–26, 2018

Don't miss the  
World's #1 Library  
Event of the year!

REGISTER NOW

For daily ALA and library news, check the *American Libraries* [website](#) or subscribe to our [RSS feed](#).



## Wanda Brown wins 2019–2020 ALA presidency

Wanda Brown (right), director of library services at the C. G. O'Kelly Library, Winston-Salem (N.C.) State University, has been elected ALA president-elect. Brown received 6,066 votes, while her opponent, Peter Hepburn, head librarian of College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, California, received 4,066 votes. An ALA member for 30 years, Brown is an active member of ACRL, ALCTS, and LLAMA. She will step into her role as president at the close of the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Members also voted on [ballot measures](#) requiring an MLS for the ALA executive director and dues increases, and elected [34 councilors-at-large](#) for three-year terms. Complete election results are available [online](#)....



*AL: The Scoop, Apr. 11; Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 11*

## Newsmaker: Jason Reynolds

Bestselling author Jason Reynolds has been writing poetry since he was 8 years old. Reynolds has written several YA and middle-grade novels that have earned the Newbery Honor, NAACP Image Award, and Coretta Scott King Author Honors. He's also the 2018 spokesperson for AASL's [School Library Month](#). *American Libraries* caught up with Reynolds to talk about what he hopes to accomplish as this year's spokesperson, misconceptions about teenagers, and why school librarians should be showered with love....



*American Libraries Trend, Apr. 12*

## Preservation in Action project in New Orleans

On June 22, the ALCTS Preservation and Reformatting Section will hold its third Preservation in Action program at [Preservation Hall](#) in New Orleans. Designed to promote an understanding of the importance of preservation while engaging with cultural heritage collections during the 2018 ALA Annual Conference, this program will provide attendees with a hands-on opportunity to help preserve the culture and traditions of New Orleans. For more information about the 2018 PiA program, visit the [ALCTS website](#)...



*ALCTS, Apr. 11*

## House committee approves depository library modernization

The Committee on House Administration approved the bipartisan [Federal Depository Library Program \(FDLP\) Modernization Act of 2018 \(H.R. 5305\)](#). The bill would modernize the [FDLP](#) and related programs that provide public access to government information. The bill was introduced on March 15 following months of effort by the Committee on House Administration, which included [public hearings](#) with testimony from librarians. ALA President Jim Neal issued a [statement](#) about the legislation....



*District Dispatch, Mar. 16, Apr. 13; Sept. 27, 2017; ALA Washington Office, Apr. 12*



## Senate hearing on Marrakesh Treaty, April 18

Carrie Russell writes: "There was a time when I thought that the Marrakesh Treaty to increase access to information for people with print disabilities would never make its way to the Senate. Congress tends to shy away from treaty ratifications. We will get a good idea when the Senate Foreign Relations Committee holds a hearing on the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act ([S.2559](#)) on April 18 at 10 a.m. Eastern time. You can [watch](#) the live proceedings and hear the testimony from the Library Copyright Alliance."...



*District Dispatch, Apr. 11*

## A librarian's open letter to Jacqueline Laurita

Renee Grassi writes: “To Jacqueline Laurita: When I read the story of you and your son’s [experience getting kicked out of your public library](#) my heart broke into a million pieces. For you. For your son. For other children and individuals with autism who read this story. What you experienced does not uphold the [core values of librarianship](#). What we librarians can and should focus on is how to improve our service and do better going forward. So, thank you, Jacqueline, for using your voice and sharing your family’s experience with your local public library, as difficult as it may have been.”...

*ALSC Blog, Apr. 13; WNBC-TV, New York City, Apr. 10*

## 11 essential reads for Autism Awareness Month

Jessica Mizzi writes: “April is [National Autism Awareness Month](#). Books play a significant role in introducing us to the lives of others, because reading connects us to what we don’t understand and offers us a path to learning more about what we don’t know. When it comes to autism, I believe that it’s highly important to read books about the condition—they provide an inside look at the thoughts, actions, and feelings of people on the spectrum. These 11 titles are informative, enlightening, and compelling.” ASCLA also has a [useful autism toolkit](#)...



*Signature, Apr. 2*



## Uncovering the many meanings of slave narratives

Wendi Maloney writes: “Carley Reinhard (right) first encountered stories of slave capture in early 2017 in Stephanie Shaw’s African-American history course at Ohio State University. Reinhard became fascinated by one narrative that tells of red cloth used to entice Africans onto ships bound for North America.



Reinhard and Shaw put together a winning grant proposal that funded Reinhard’s trip to the Library of Congress last summer to research the [Slave Narratives Collection](#) in the Manuscript Division.”...

*Library of Congress Blog, Apr. 11*

## Intellectual freedom and youth

Loretta Gaffney writes: “When it comes to intellectual freedom, most people would agree that adults should have the right to read what pleases them. Many would also agree that teenagers need some freedom to explore their own reading tastes and choices. But what about children, specifically



school-aged children? Does it make sense to talk about intellectual freedom for a population that generally exercises little freedom at home or at school?"...

*Knowledge Quest blog, Apr. 12*



## Shakespeare's Twitter account

Kate Dwyer writes: "[Daily Kerouac](#) is one of several literary-tribute Twitter accounts devoted to tweeting quotes from authors. Sometimes these quotes are consecutive sentences from longer works; other times they're non-sequitur snippets chopped off mid-sentence. Shakespeare has at least three tribute accounts, the largest of which, [@Wwm\\_Shakespeare](#), boasts 158,000 followers. The most popular [Oscar Wilde account](#) has upward of 160,000 followers, while [Sylvia Plath](#) has nearly 200,000 and [@\\_harukimurakami](#) clocks in at 235,000."...



*The Paris Review, Apr. 2*

## King County to open a regional makerspace

The King County (Wash.) Library System is opening its first makerspace April 14 with the help of a \$100,000 grant from Google. The new [ideaX Makerspace](#) stakes out 3,000 square feet on the first floor of the Bellevue branch. Patrons can explore making robots, building electronic circuits, creating digital music, and learning to code. The grant will also allow expansion of mobile services to deliver ideaX STEAM education programs across the county to underserved populations....



*GeekWire, Apr. 12*

## How to upgrade or replace almost any PC component

Michael Crider writes: "Upgrading and replacing PC components can be a little tricky, but it's something anyone can learn to do. We've spent the last few weeks systematically going through our How-To Geek test PC and swapping out every single part you might want to upgrade, replace, or improve. Most of it's simple, if somewhat tedious, but beginners might have a little trouble getting oriented. Follow the steps in these guides, and you'll be cruising along with your upgraded PC in no time."...



*How-To Geek, Apr. 13*

*AL Direct* is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Tuesday and Friday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

**Editor, *AL Direct*:** George M. Eberhart, [geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Send news and feedback: [aldirect@ala.org](mailto:aldirect@ala.org)

Direct ad inquiries to: Michael Stack, [mstack@ala.org](mailto:mstack@ala.org)

AL Direct FAQ: [americanlibrariesmagazine.org/al-direct](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/al-direct)

All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

*AL Direct* will not sell your email to outside parties, but your email may be shared with advertisers in this newsletter should you express interest in their products by clicking on their ads or content. If the advertisers choose to communicate with you by email, they are obligated to provide you with an opportunity to opt-out from future emails in compliance with the CAN-SPAM act of 2003. Read the [ALA privacy policy](#).

[American Libraries](#)

50 E. Huron St.  
Chicago, IL 60611  
800-545-2433, ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

**ALA PUBLISHING** | AmericanLibraryAssociation