

american libraries DIRECT

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2020 VIRTUAL CEREMONY
Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction
Thursday, July 9, 3:00 – 4:00 PM CDT

NATASHA TRETHERWAY
VALERIA LUISELLI
ADAM HIGGINBOTHAM

ALA American Library Association
sponsored by NovelList

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Stacey Abrams will be President's Program speaker

Author and activist Stacey Abrams (right) will join [ALA Virtual](#) as the ALA President's Program speaker. Abrams is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Lead from the Outside*, a serial entrepreneur, nonprofit CEO, and political leader. After serving 11 years in the Georgia House of Representatives, seven as minority leader, Abrams became the 2018 Democratic nominee for governor of Georgia, where she won more votes than any other Democrat in the state's history. This session will take place on Thursday, June 25, 12–1 p.m., CT....



ALA Conference Services, June 12

Virtual celebration for ALA book award winners

ALA is hosting a new 11-hour virtual event to celebrate the winners of several of its major book awards, including the Newbery and Caldecott medals, the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, the Printz Award, and the Stonewall youth and adult book awards. Beginning at 9 a.m. on Sunday, June 28, over [ALA's YouTube channel](#), the ALA Book Award Celebration will showcase the book awards that traditionally take place during the ALA Annual Conference. Participation does not require registration. [See the full schedule](#)....



ALA News, June 12

[Helping Library Patrons Find Job Stability](#)

Join 180+ libraries across the country to offer Free Resume Builder service to your community...



Do online storytimes violate copyright?

Our online column [Letters of the Law](#) explores a wide range of legal issues that arise in libraries. In this column, lawyer-librarian Tomas A. Lipinski explores two topics that have made headlines this year: privacy concerns around the [2020 US Census](#) and copyright issues surrounding traditional and [online programming](#), including storytimes....



American Libraries column, June 16; American Libraries feature, March; AL: The Scoop, March 31

Librarian's Library: Disasters in libraries

Having an emergency response plan is essential. In our June issue, Librarian's Library columnist Anna Gooding-Call recommends books that can help libraries of all kinds ensure that they're prepared for any kind of calamitous event or natural disaster....



American Libraries column, June

Drones for library lending

Carrie Smith writes: "Popular with hobbyists and professionals alike, aerial drones can document the world from new angles and help users gain new skills. FAA rules, however, require registering drones that weigh more than 250 grams (0.55 pounds), which creates a hurdle to offering library services with them. But these rules exclude small drones or those flown indoors, which give libraries the opportunity to provide patrons with drone experiences through programming or lending."...



American Libraries column, June

Black museums to launch new website on Juneteenth

Six black museums and historical institutions in the US will launch [BLKFREEDOM.org](#) on June 19, a digital commemoration of Juneteenth, the day that the Emancipation Proclamation was officially enforced. The website will air an original video featuring appearances by Lonnie G. Bunch III, the first African American and first historian to serve as the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, as well as Dr. Johnetta Betsch Cole, anthropologist, educator, museum director, and the first female African-American president of Spelman College, and the Honorable Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, the first woman and the first African American to lead the national library....



Fox-13 Memphis, June 11

LSU to rename library named for segregationist

A library at Louisiana State University named after a former school president who advocated for segregation will be renamed, school administrators and black student leaders said. The decision to change the name of Middleton Library at the university in Baton Rouge was announced June 10, news outlets reported. The change is pending the approval of the LSU Board of Supervisors, which is scheduled to meet June 19...



AP News, June 11

Pride display removal blamed on miscommunication

The books that started a [Facebook furor](#) over Eckhart (Ind.) Public Library have not been hidden from view, the library's president says. "They remain on display. They're just on a different shelf," said Carolyn Foley, president of the library's board of trustees. Anger at the library exploded on Facebook last week after an employee posted June 9 that she had resigned in protest over what she perceived as censorship in removal of a display about Pride Month."...



DeKalb County (Ind.) Star, June 10



Section 230 explained

Section 230—a 1996 law that provides the legal foundation for social media platforms—has been much in the news and under attack of late, including through a recent [executive order](#). At Ars Technica, Timothy B. Lee explains the law's history, scope, and limitations in detail....



Ars Technica, May 29, June 10

Tackling library signage in a pandemic

Angela Hursh writes: “When COVID-19 forced libraries to close, library marketing abruptly shifted to digital tactics. But now, as libraries move toward reopening, the debate over signage has returned to professional groups and library staff discussions. Signage is now crucial for communicating new rules about mask-wearing, social distancing, and time limits within physical library spaces. Here are some tips for planning your signage as your library moves toward reopening physical spaces.”...



Super Library Marketing, June 15



Library sidewalk obstacle courses

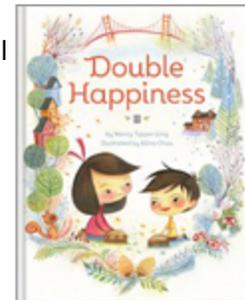
Many libraries are thinking about how they can engage their communities safely by taking programs and services outside, such as through story walks and scavenger hunts. At WebJunction, Noah Lenstra compiled a roundup of more than a dozen sidewalk obstacle courses on library grounds from Alaska to Nebraska to North Carolina...



WebJunction, June 11

8 picture books by librarians

Rachel Rosenberg writes: “These eight picture books by librarians will definitely have you feeling the library love. Many children’s librarians are trained storytellers with a feel for language and a strong understanding of what details make a story immersive and enjoyable. These books are great examples of that skill.”...



Book Riot, June 15

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

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AL Direct FAQ: americanlibrariesmagazine.org/al-direct

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