

Contributing to HS

HS has so much to offer...and so do you! Your expertise in HS's areas of specialty can be used informally in a discussion group setting, or more formally as a committee member or chairperson. HS membership is a prerequisite for participation in HS committees.

Discussion Groups HS's Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group and History Librarians Discussion Group provide a forum for informal dialogue, an exchange of ideas and an opportunity for problem solving among those interested in these areas of work from all types of libraries. Participation in this dialogue is open to all those who may be interested.

Committees HS committees address a large variety of pertinent topics and issues in the field. In addition to producing documentation and guidelines for the field, committees also participate in HS section business decision-making and select winners for a variety of awards.

Most committee meetings are open to conference participants. Those HS members interested in the committee topic are encouraged to attend their meetings at ALA's Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. Current membership in HS is required for all individuals appointed to a committee.

Committees addressing issues: Historical Materials, Genealogy, Genealogy Preconference Planning, Instruction and Research Services, Local History, Nominating.

Awards committees: Each year the ABC-CLIO Online History Award Committee selects a person or group of people who have produced a freely available online historical collection, an online search aid for historical materials, or an online teaching aid that stimulates historical scholarship. The Genealogical Publishing Company Award, also presented annually, encourages, recognizes and commends professional achievement in historical reference and research librarianship.

Join HS

Membership in HS is free as a part of your RUSA membership. Simply select the section or sections of your choice when joining or renewing your membership.

Not a RUSA member? Become one today and start participating in the exciting events our association and section have to offer. Membership in RUSA not only enriches your work and elevates your value as a librarian, your membership dues enhance our ability to provide you with the services and resources you need to succeed.



There are three easy ways to join HS or RUSA, add HS and RUSA to your ALA membership or renew your commitment to our section and association:

- Online at www.ala.org/membership
- By phone at (800) 545-2433, option 5
- By mail or fax using the personal membership application

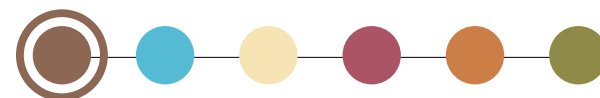
Interested in organizational or corporate membership? Contact RUSA at rusa@ala.org.

Learn more about what's happening at RUSA today by visiting our website,

www.ala.org/rusa

HS :: History Section

>> A special interest section of the Reference and User Services Association



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Who is HS?

The **History Section** is a special interest section of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA). HS represents the subject interests of reference librarians, archivists, bibliographers, genealogists, historians and others engaged in historical reference or research. Its members work with history collections in all formats from all types of libraries, archives and historical societies.

RUSA's special interest sections cultivate more closely-knit professional communities surrounding an area of work or expertise. They also provide a more refined selection of resources and professional development tools, as well as additional opportunities to become involved in peer groups and advisory committees.



Learning from HS

Participating in HS not only enhances your knowledge as a library professional, it enriches your membership experience. HS events, resources and colleagues have lots of information to share with you that improves your on-the-job performance and increases your value as a library employee.

Programs, Pre-Conferences and Special Events

Each year HS sponsors a number of programs and pre-conferences at ALA's Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting. Annual pre-conferences and midwinter institutes go in-depth on timely topics, with recent events focused on the local genealogy resources in Denver, Colo., Southern California, and New Orleans, La. Conference programming tackles a broad scope of issues relevant to your day-to-day work. Recent programs have addressed the value of genealogy resources for public libraries, content and usability of new online genealogy resources and future trends for history bibliographies in the online environment. As a RUSA and HS member, your membership entitles you to reduced registration rates for both of these learning opportunities.

Professional Development and Online Learning

RUSA's "Genealogy 101" online course covers the basics of genealogy for librarians and reference staff in all types of libraries. The course is open to all interested students, but only RUSA members can register with significant savings over the non-member price. Members also have the opportunity to shape the future of RUSA professional development, its course topics and formats by submitting ideas to RUSA staff or the RUSA Professional Development committee.



Guidance and Expertise in Your Field

Each year HS's Bibliography and Indexes Committee selects the Best Bibliographies in History, a list of outstanding book-length English-language bibliographies that honors the best work in the field and also serves as a resource for other professionals. HS also maintains two listservs, History-L and H-HistBibl, where members may engage in a discipline-wide electronic discussion of history librarianship issues, or seek assistance from colleagues.

