



July 16, 2020



Please note [ALA's Personal Data Notification \(PDN\)](#) and [Opt-Out options](#).

This month, ODLOS provides ALA statements, new opportunities, upcoming webinars, and more.

If you'd like to stay in touch with the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS), please consider [subscribing to our monthly newsletter](#).

ALA statement affirming the rights of transgender people

ALA Welcomes New Spectrum Scholars

The American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services awarded 2020 Spectrum Scholarships to 61 exceptional students pursuing graduate degrees in library and information studies. Since 1997, the ALA has awarded more than 1,240 Spectrum Scholarships.



In the 2020 application cycle, the Spectrum Scholarship Program received four times as many applications as there were available scholarships, and the majority of this year's applicants were deemed highly fundable.

A prestigious committee of 22 jurors selected this year's Spectrum Scholars based on their commitment to community building, leadership potential and planned contributions to making social justice part of everybody's everyday work in

LIS.

Learn more about the new Spectrum Scholars in the [press release](#).

COMPLETE THE VOLUNTEER FORM



Libraries Respond: Protecting and Supporting Transgender Staff and Patrons



#LibrariesRespond

Protecting and Supporting
Transgender Staff and Patrons

In recent years, the transgender community has been under attack and has been threatened with the violation of their human rights. From the 2016 bathroom bill to the 2020 reversal of transgender health protections from the Federal government, the trans community and allies have been tirelessly fighting against bigotry.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are embedded within the work of ALA. Discrimination based on gender identity or expression is damaging to the

health of children, families, and society. Libraries must actively affirm and support the safety and rights of transgender people.

[Libraries Respond: Protecting and Supporting Transgender Staff and Patrons](#) includes guidance on providing a safe environment for trans staff and patrons along with additional readings.

Food Literacy: Providing Access and Knowledge for Your Community

A dark, textured rectangular graphic with the words "UPCOMING WEBINAR" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

UPCOMING WEBINAR

Title: Food Literacy: Providing Access and Knowledge for Your Community

Date: July 22, 2020

Time: 1 p.m CT - 2 p.m. CT.

[Register here](#)

Description: Please join ALA's Committee on Literacy and Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services for a webinar on food literacy and access.

Though not an exhaustive definition, we can think of food literacy, from the individual to the community level, as knowledge, skills, and behaviors that contribute to balanced diets and take into account structural factors such as access, security, and sustainability.

In this webinar, experts will speak on bringing food literacy to their communities, including addressing food insecurity, using food to teach other literacies, and establishing partnerships with local food banks.

A horizontal banner with a blue and purple bokeh background. The text "#LibrariesRespond" is in a large, dark blue, sans-serif font.

#LibrariesRespond

Black Lives Matter

Sign Up for the EDI Assembly by July 24

A graphic with a light gray, crumpled paper texture. The words "EDI ASSEMBLY" are written in bold, blue, sans-serif capital letters.

EDI ASSEMBLY

At the 2020 Midwinter Meeting, the ALA Executive Board charged the ODLOS Advisory Committee with creating an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Assembly. The purpose of this EDI Assembly is to provide a forum for all groups within ALA and ALA-affiliated organizations working on initiatives related to equity, diversity, and inclusion to discuss their activities, identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination, and explore new initiatives related to the association's strategic direction for equity, diversity, and inclusion.

All groups within ALA and ALA-affiliated organizations working on initiatives related to equity, diversity, and inclusion are invited to send representatives. Individuals interested in equity, diversity, and inclusion are also welcomed to attend and participate. Volunteers will serve two-year terms on the assembly, with flexibility as needed.

The EDI Assembly will meet quarterly, starting with its inaugural meeting on August 4 from 12-1:30 p.m. PDT / 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. MDT / 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. CDT / 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EDT.

[Sign up before July 24.](#)

ON BEING BLACK IN LIBRARIANSHIP

By Twanna Hodge



2020 Coretta Scott King Book Donation Grants Announced



Companions Journeying Together (Illinois), Impact Academy (Indiana) and Marshallville Public Library (Georgia) have been selected to receive books as part of the 2020 [Coretta Scott King Book Awards Donation Grant](#) program.

Awarded each spring by the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, the grant program donates books originally submitted for consideration for the Coretta Scott King Book Awards to organizations demonstrating need and

potential benefit from receiving the collection. All winners will receive copies of titles submitted to the 2020 Coretta Scott King Book Awards, including a full set of the year's winner and honor books.

Learn more in the [press release](#).



COMPLETE THE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL FORM
FOR THE POSITIONS OF COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
AND PRESIDENT-ELECT

deadline: July 31, 2020

Public Library Association Launches 2021 Health Insurance Enrollment project

Through the third cycle of its health insurance enrollment and education initiative, Libraries Connecting You to Coverage, the Public Library Association (PLA) is offering a series of mini-



grants of up to \$2,000 to support up to 30 U.S. public libraries to become Certified Application Counselor Designated Organizations (CDOs), which are able to certify staff and volunteers as Certified Application Counselors ahead of the Open Enrollment period of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The application period opens on July 1 and runs through July 17, 2020.

Before the Open Enrollment period, which starts November 1 and runs through December 15, 2020, awardees will receive training and support to assist patrons with enrolling in health insurance plans, to disseminate information, and to partner with community health groups to make a positive impact.

[Learn more.](#)

ALA Statement on Institutional Racism

AASL Shares EDI Resources for Educators



The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has released Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) resources created by the 2019-2020 Presidential Initiative Task Force. Advised by AASL President Mary Keeling, the committee, hosted office hours, designed informative bookmarks, and presented a webinar on EDI in the school library. The resources can be found at www.ala.org/aasl/all/EDI.

The EDI resources include archives of live office hours held throughout Keeling's presidential term where attendees discussed topics such as how to grow a diverse collection, how to engage all students, and how to offer library programming that meets the needs of all students. It also features the webinar "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: The School Library and Me in the Global Learning Community" presented during the AASL Chapters meetings and bookmarks the task force created containing collection and resource recommendations.

Learn more in the [press release](#).

OCLC, IMLS, and Battelle COVID-19 Research Partnership - REALM Project website



Together Wherever Virtual Event



The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) held a free virtual event June 8-12.

Recordings of all sessions are now freely available on their [YouTube channel](#).

JULY 23  2 P.M. CENTRAL

What's on Intersections?



Have you visited Intersections lately? [Intersections](#), ODLOS' blog, highlights the work of library and information science workers as they create safe, responsible, and all-inclusive spaces that serve and represent the entire community, as well as initiatives and projects supported by the office that promotes their work.

This past month, ODLOS has highlighted stories on cataloging, library type transitions, and digital inequity related to COVID-19.

Peruse the blog posts and offer your own thoughts by visiting [Intersections](#).



ODLOS & AFFILIATE COLLABORATIONS



What our Affiliates are Doing

While the American Library Association collaborates with 27 affiliates, the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS) works closely with 8 groups. These affiliate groups are created based on ethnicity, geographical locations, and interests. Affiliate groups are not governed by ALA nor are they within ALA's many divisions, but their mission and work often align with ALA's. ALA staff members attend affiliate meetings, promote their programming, and attend annual conferences if possible.

Learn more about these affiliates [here](#).

Continue reading for their monthly updates.



BOOK BIKE WEEK
August 3 – August 7



SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF BOOKMOBILE AND
OUTREACH SERVICES

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ABOSOUTREACH/](https://www.facebook.com/abosoutreach/)



ABOS Upcoming Conference

Registration for the 2020 ABOS
Conference is now open.

[Register](#) and learn more about [award
nominations](#).



ALA Collaborations and New Leadership

AILA collaborated with SRRT
on June 29 to host the webinar
Native American Treaty Rights
in the Time of COVID-19 during

the Social Justice Afternoon series. The AILA
Executive Board welcomed Cindy Hohl,
President, Melanie Toledo, Vice President,
Rhiannon Sorrell, Secretary, Mary Kunesh-Podein
and Stacy Wells as Member at Large.



APALA Introduces New Members

Congratulations to 2020 Travel Grant recipient,
Jeneanne Ka-makana-lani Len Tai Lock, and to
APALA's 2020 Scholarship recipient, Patricia
Ledesma Villon! Congratulations to newly elected



ARSL Opens Board Elections

The Nominating Committee
invites all current ARSL
members to [run for election](#)!

They specifically extend this
invitation to ARSL members who are people of

Executive Board Members, Raymond “Ray” Pun (Vice President/President-Elect), Jaena Rae Cabrera (Treasurer), and Members at Large Yen Tran and Anu Vedantham! Many thanks to all who applied for awards and/or stood for election and looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!



BCALA Welcomes New Leadership

Shauntee Burns-Simpson has assumed her role as President of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. Nichelle M. Hayes has been elected Vice President.

color, LGBTQIA+, or from other historically underrepresented communities to run for election to serve on the ARSL Board as they grow the association and commit to ideals of anti-racism and equity. Nominations are due July 22.



CALA Hosted Virtual Poster Session

On June 24, The Chinese American Librarians Association hosted a virtual poster session. Posters can be viewed on [CALA's website](#).



JCLC Reveals Next Conference

the 4th National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color will be held October 5-9, 2022, at the TradeWinds Island Grand Resort in St. Pete Beach, Florida. [Save the date!](#)



REFORMA Announces Recipients

The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking (REFORMA) and the REFORMA Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce their 2020 selections for the [REFORMA Scholarships](#). REFORMA is also pleased to announce the winners of their [Día Mini-Grants](#).

That's it from us this month. Take care of yourselves and we'll see you in August.

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