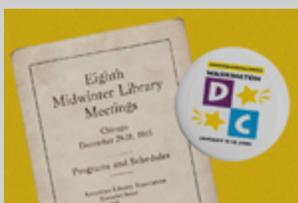





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By the Numbers: Midwinter



How many times has ALA held Midwinter Meetings? What year was the ALA Code of Ethics adopted? When are this year's Youth Media Awards? We've got the stats on the history and happenings of ALA's Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in *By the Numbers*....

American Libraries Trend, Jan./Feb.

Newsmaker: Ziggy Marley



When eight-time Grammy Award-winning reggae artist and philanthropist Ziggy Marley released *Family Time*, a well-received children's album, in 2009, he didn't plan to do more projects geared toward youth. But when the COVID-19 pandemic hit last year, he found himself at home full-time with his own kids and a new puppy. Marley spoke to *American Libraries* ahead of [his appearance at ALA's 2021 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits](#)

[Virtual](#) about his creative process during a lockdown, oral traditions, and voting for the first time....

American Libraries Trend, Jan./Feb.

Newsmaker: Emmanuel Acho

After the killing of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police in May 2020, Fox Sports analyst and former NFL linebacker Emmanuel Acho felt compelled to do something. By June, Acho decided to channel this discourse into a YouTube series called



Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man. American Libraries caught up with Acho ahead of [his January 24 appearance at the American Library Association's 2021 Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits Virtual](#) to discuss his series and book, as well as equity in professional sports and the power of libraries....
American Libraries Trend, Jan. 20

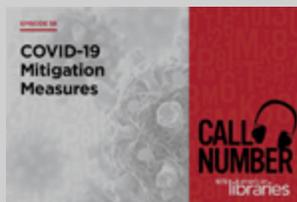
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[Call Number podcast: COVID-19 mitigation measures](#)



In [Episode 58](#), *Call Number with American Libraries* looks at library efforts to prevent COVID-19 contamination with OCLC's Sharon Streams, director of the REALM project, which is [studying](#) how long the virus that causes COVID-19 survives on common library materials, and Stephen Territo, head of library operations at Vernon Area Public Library in Lincolnshire, Illinois, about how the library installed UV lights and enhanced HVAC filtration solutions in its air handling units to kill airborne pathogens, including SARS-CoV-2....

AL: The Scoop, Jan. 19; American Libraries feature, Jan./Feb.

[ALA creates Business Advisory Group](#)



On January 15, ALA announced that Executive Director Tracie D. Hall has appointed 13 members to the newly revived ALA Business Advisory Group. Well recognized for their individual achievements, this group of advisors comes from libraries, civic life, technology, and academia and brings the power of its collective expertise to supporting ALA's business development....

AL: The Scoop, Jan. 15

[Mitigating implicit bias in librarianship](#)



Molly Higgins and Rachel Keiko Stark write: "Without understanding how bias operates in the systems in which we work, our individual efforts can be overtaken by how bias acts on librarians and library patrons. For example, the Dewey Decimal Classification has been criticized for reinforcing bias through its structure, its treatment of queer subjects, and its treatment of race. Like other knowledge-organization systems, the Dewey Decimal Classification reflects the biases of the people who created it."...

American Libraries feature, Jan./Feb.

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ALA's financial future



ALA Treasurer Maggie Farrell writes: "Last year started off as a productive but worrisome one for ALA finances, as evidenced by critical conversations held at the 2020 Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Since then, additional circumstances—including the pandemic—have aggravated ALA finances as libraries struggle with their own budget declines. Despite everything, member leaders remain committed to addressing ALA's ongoing budget concerns and to creating a path toward a healthy financial future."...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

Amazon hit with ebook price fixing suit



Andrew Albanese writes: "The law firm that successfully sued Apple and five major publishers for colluding to fix ebook prices in 2011 has now filed a class action suit against Amazon, accusing the company of colluding with the Big Five publishers to restrain price competition in the ebook market. The suit, filed in the Southern District of New York on January 14 by Seattle-based firm Hagens Berman, comes a day after a *Wall Street Journal* article disclosed that Amazon was under investigation in Connecticut for potentially anticompetitive behavior in the ebook market."...

Publishers Weekly, Jan. 14

71% of Americans get news from social platforms

About half of Americans get news on social media at least sometimes

% of U.S. adults who get news from social media ...



According to the latest data from [Pew Research](#), which incorporates responses from more than 9,200 Americans, around 71% of people now get at least some of their news input from social media platforms. That's up from 68% in 2018—though Pew does note that [changes in their methodology](#) do make direct comparison between the 2018 and 2020 numbers difficult....

Social Media Today, Jan. 12; Pew Research Center, Jan. 12

[20 years of Wikipedia: An oral history](#)



Tom Roston writes: “It’s hard to imagine the internet without Wikipedia. Just like the air we breathe, the definitive digital encyclopedia is the default resource for everything and everyone—from Google’s search bar to undergrad students embarking on research papers. It has more than 6 million entries in English, it is visited hundreds of millions of times per day, and it reflects whatever the world has on its mind. It was also never meant to

exist—at least, not like this.”...

OneZero, Jan. 14

[Food Timeline website saved by Virginia Tech](#)



The [Food Timeline](#) is an obsessively catalogued, exhaustively comprehensive resource on the history of what humans have been eating from from 17,000 B.C. onward. The site was the life’s work of reference librarian Lynne Olver, and it languished after her death in 2015. A [profile in Eater](#) last summer revived interest in the site from archivists, and now Virginia Tech’s Special Collections and University Archives have acquired Olver’s 2,300 books (left)

and management of the site....

Eater, Jan. 12; July 8, 2020

[Kids’ books to read for Inauguration Day](#)



Sarah Mangiola writes: “On January 20, Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris will be sworn in as president and vice president, respectively, of the United States. It’s a historic moment for the country, as Kamala Harris will be the first female, first Black, and first Indian American vice president. The kids in your life can join in the celebrations with these stories, including books written by Kamala Harris, a new picture book about White House dogs Champ and Major, and more.”...

Brightly, Jan. 16

[American Library Association](#).

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