



GNCRT Newsletter, September 2020

Welcome!

Welcome again to the monthly newsletter for members of ALA's Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table, featuring updates on various round table projects, highlights from board meetings, and much more. **Want to contribute?** In future editions we want to feature content from you, our members! Watch for more announcements on what kinds of things we're looking for, how to submit, and ways to suggest other additions to the newsletter's offerings. We can't wait to hear from you!



Seeking Nominations!

Nominations for the Graphic Novels for Adults list are open until **September 30**, so nominate today! [Find complete information](#) on eligibility and the nomination process, and check to make sure your suggested title hasn't [already been nominated](#).



Save the Date for Banned Books Week!

[Banned Books Week](#) 2020 is September 27 - October 3, and GNCRT and the [Intellectual Freedom Round Table](#) (IFRT) will be hosting a webinar series in collaboration with comics publishers. Here's the slate of session - all are now open for registration, so save your seat today:

- Mon 9/28: [Censorship: The Comics Code Authority & Rating Systems](#)
- Tue 9/29: [Banned through Comics Metadata!?](#)
- Wed 9/30: [Black People in Comics](#)
- Thu 10/1: [\(Un\)Welcome to the Comics Industry](#)
- Fri 10/2: [Comics: "Are These Real Books?"](#)

#LibcomixOnline

In the midst of cancelled conventions, closures, and many other rapid changes to the way libraries and library staff work, the Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table is going virtual! The GNCRT will spotlight online comic reading and recommendations, resources and toolkits, and other #libcomix content virtually through #LibcomixOnline. These series of events and spotlighted resources will feature live streamed webinars, recorded interviews and discussions with some of our favorite comic creators, stores, and libraries plus virtual brainstorming sessions, and maybe even a few live draws or virtual art drops. Learn more about the project on the [Libcomix Online page](#) on the GNCRT website, and volunteer to help out by filling out the [volunteer form](#).

Seeking Jurors!

GNCRT's [Best Graphic Novels for Adults](#) list and Best Graphic Novels for Children list (coming soon) are in need of round table members to serve as jurors for the final selection process. Visit the [GNCRT Committee Volunteer Form](#) to submit your juror application!

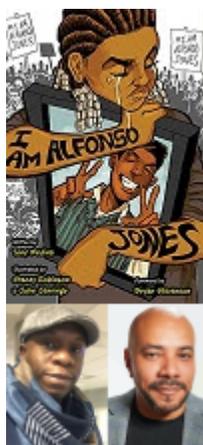
[Find more ways to get involved!](#)



GNCRT & IFRT Team-up: Let everyone know you support intellectual freedom - get your [I Read Banned Comics](#) tech decals!

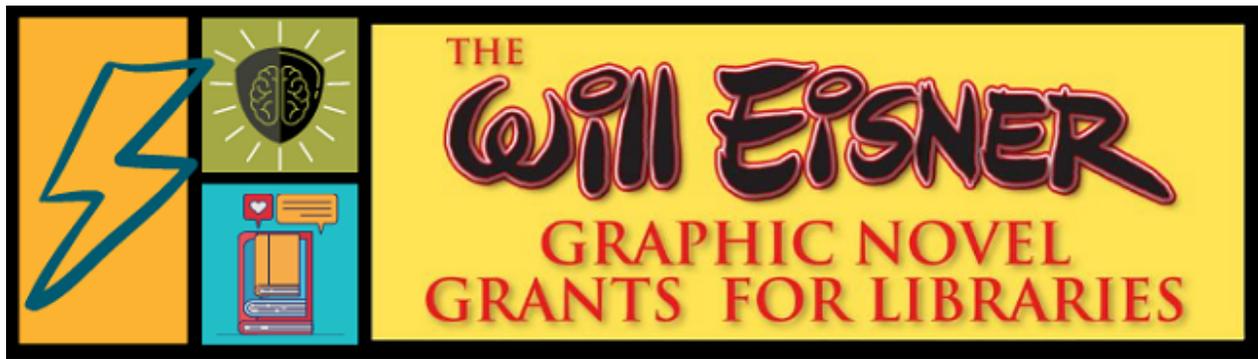
Current Round Table Projects

Here's what your fellow GNCRT-ers are up to these days. **Have a project to propose or share?** Watch for announcements on how to make and share that info, coming soon!



Continuing our ongoing collaboration, GNCRT and the Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA) are launching a series of webinars with creators discussing the relevance of comics to the Black Lives Matter movement and beyond.

[Register now](#) for our first webinar in this collaboration "**Black Lives Matter: Comics as a Powerful Lens for Social Justice**" - September 23 at 6pm CT (4pm PT / 7pm ET) featuring Stacey Robinson and John Jennings, co-creators with writer Tony Medina of *I Am Alphonso Jones* among many other undertakings. The accompanying list - [Black Lives Matter Comics Reading List](#) - is already available! If you'd like to participate, email LINK gncrt@ala.org with the subject heading "Black Lives Matter Reading List". [Learn more about BCALA](#).



Celebrate the 2020 Winners of the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries!

On Wednesday, September 30th, from 7-8pm CST, join GNCRT to celebrate the annual Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for libraries! The virtual reception will include remarks by Carl and Nancy Gropper and discussion of the winning recipients' projects. [Register Now!](#) Visit the GNCRT website for more information about the [Eisner Grants](#) and look for the 2021 grant cycle to open in early October.

Coming Soon - the GNCRT Webcomics Reading List, our newest curated “best-of” list for librarians! The list will:

- Recognize the best recently published webcomics in order to increase awareness of the validity of this rich and diverse format.
- Seek diverse voices and experiences through the webcomics format.
- Aid librarians and library workers in the development and promotion of webcomics collections, tools, and resources.
- Promote the growing number of webcomics being published.
- Position the GNCRT as an authority in the field of evaluating webcomics for libraries. Watch your inbox for invitations to join the jury!

Board Meeting Highlights, August 10, 2020

- Discussion of changes in board roster.
- Proposal of a new Student Representative/Liaison office on the to provide a way for students to see a way to become involved with GNCRT, to be further discussed and voted on during the formal Q3 meeting in March.
- Discussion of volunteers for projects such as the BCALA collaboration, Banned Books Week, Creators Get Carded and other ongoing and upcoming projects.

GNCRT Board 2020 - 21 Meeting Schedule

- Mon Oct 12, 2020 6-7pm CT
- Mon Nov 16, 2020 3:30-4:30pm CT
- *Sun Dec 13, 2020 11am-12pm CT
- Sun Jan 10, 2021 11am-12pm CT
- Mon Feb 8, 2021 6-7pm CT
- *Sun Mar 14, 2021 11am-12pm CT
- Mon Apr 12, 2021 3:30-4:30pm CT
- Mon May 10, 2021 6-7pm CT
- *Sun June 13, 2021 11am-12pm CT

**Dates marked with an asterisk require the attendance of all officers.*

GNCRT Officers, July 2020 - June 2021

- Amie Wright, Past President
- Alea Perez, President
- Matthew Noe, President-Elect
- Eva Volin, Treasurer
- Marcela Peres, Member-at-Large
- Moni Barrette, Member-at-Large
- Franco Vitella, Member-at-Large
- Tina Lerno, Member-at-Large
- Emily Drew, GNCRT ALA Councilor
- Tina Coleman, ALA Staff Liaison*

As we continue to face the ongoing challenges and uncertain environment of the last five months, the pull of professional and personal needs has been felt by us all to varying degrees. In mid-July, the Board received resignations from Silence Bourn (President-Elect) and Katie Monnin (Secretary), who was herself filling in for Candice Mack (Secretary), who resigned in April. For updates on GNCRT board appointments, see President Alea Perez' [post on the GNCRT Community](#) in ALA Connect . We wish Silence, Candice, and Katie all the very best going forward.



About GNCRT

The Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table is a collaborative organization dedicated to supporting library staff in all aspects of engaging with graphic novels and comics, including collection development, programming, and advocacy. GNCRT offers support to all types of libraries serving all types of users, whether the library is just beginning to build a collection, growing it, or finding new ways to promote the collection's use and improve its visibility.

Want your very own GNCRT t-shirt?

Wear your love for graphic novels, comics, and libraries where people can see it! Show your support for the American Library Association's Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table by wearing this shirt.

[Get one today!](#) (multiple sizes and colors available.)



The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table is a round table of the American Library Association. Find out more about ALA including how to join at ala.org/membership.



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