

TO: ALA Executive Board

RE: Report of the Nominating Committee for the 2022 ALA Election

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:

For information purposes; no action required

ACTION REQUESTED BY:

Madeline Peña Feliz, Chair, Nominating Committee for the 2022 ALA Election

Kathy Carroll

Tyler Dzuba

George Gottschalk

Janice Greenberg

Kirby McCurtis

Ray Pun

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Paula Singer

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DATE: October 20, 2021

Executive Summary

The Nominating Committee for the 2022 American Library Association Election completed its charge of developing a slate of candidates to stand for the positions of ALA President-elect, ALA Treasurer, and ALA Councilor at Large during the ALA 2022 election. (See Appendix A). All members of the American Library Association were provided the opportunity to be considered for nomination through a targeted marketing campaign intended to develop a diverse pool of candidates. The call for nominations was greatly assisted by social media materials previously developed by ALA Marketing (See Appendix B). Candidates for the ALA President-elect and Treasurer were identified through the Committee's recruitment efforts that garnered self-nominations. Additionally, we had a number of ALA members self-nominate for the Councilor-at-large positions. The 2022 Nominating Committee is honored to put forward a final slate of highly qualified candidates composed of two (2) candidates for ALA President-elect, two (2) candidates for Treasurer and sixty-eight (68) Councilor-at-Large candidates (51 needed).

Background

The committee began its work virtually via Zoom on February 2, 2021, after the 2021 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits that took place online January 22-26, 2021. We were joined by members of the Nominating Committee for the 2020 ALA Election—Candice Wing-ye Mack (Chair), Ann Ewbank, Ray James, Amy Lappin, and Deimosa Webber-Bey—who provided a general overview of the process the 2021 Nominating Committee undertook, and key takeaways and lessons learned. In addition, Sheryl Reyes, Director, ALA Governance Office provided a thorough and highly informative overview of the nomination and election process and introduced us to the comprehensive manual that was developed.

The committee was informed of the Direct Nominations website, the platform used to capture information from potential candidates in a confidential manner. The committee also discussed the use of ALA Connect as the virtual communication space for the committee, and the use of a shared folder in Google Drive to keep all the committee files in one place.

The committee discussed how to proceed with our work to leverage our professional affiliations and best utilize our networks to develop a broad representation of the association with special considerations for representation from national and state library organizations, interest groups, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and breadth of experience.

Work of the Committee

The committee met on a bimonthly basis for one hour February 2021 thru September 2021. In addition to the kickoff meeting and the meetings held with potential presidential candidates, the committee met a total of 14 times. All meetings were held virtually via Zoom. Each meeting was scheduled via Doodle poll and the Zoom meetings were set up with support from Sheryl Reyes, ALA Nominating Committee staff liaison.

During our first meeting on February 16, 2021, we reviewed the manual (timeline, committee charge, and position descriptions for President-Elect, Treasurer and Councilor-at-Large), discussed how the committee would conduct its work, and decided to focus first on seeking nominations for the President-elect and Treasurer. We created a list of potential groups we wanted to approach in order to seek nominations for President-Elect and Treasurer including past and present ALA Executive Board members, division presidents, BARC members, and NALCOs presidents and treasurers. We created a spreadsheet to collect the names of the potential nominees suggested by committee members, and combined it with the list of potential nominees compiled by previous committees. We agreed to discuss each potential candidate as a committee before approaching them to solicit self nominations.

During our March meetings the committee started discussing potential nominees and deciding who to approach to solicit self nominations. The committee also recommended a new step in the nomination process: NALCOs verification of membership of those potential candidates who state membership in their biographical forms. We are thankful for Sheryl Reyes leadership and ALA and NALCOs' support in establishing this new step in the process. The committee also discussed the possibility of highlighting on the ballot when a councilor-at-large candidate is seeking reelection and providing a link to see attendance and voting records to make it easier for voters to make informed decisions when voting. In March we also finalized the nominations press release.

In April, we finalized our review of potential nominees and started soliciting self nominations. We divided the lists of potential nominees based on our individual relationships or professional affiliations we might have with them. As we made contact we updated the lists based on the nominees' interest in serving now, in the future, or not at all. These lists were very useful in our work and the committee encourages continued maintenance and use of these lists. In April we also continued discussing how to best publicize the nomination process and the importance of utilizing different communication modes including listservs and social media. Sheryl shared high-quality promotional graphics previously developed by ALA's marketing office.

In May and June, we continued to make contact with potential President-elect and Councilor-at-Large nominees from our list and reviewed those individuals who had completed the candidate forms in the Nominations System. We continued our marketing efforts by sharing reminders on ALA Connect, listservs,

social media, and ALA’s email platform. We also emailed each member with incomplete biographical forms to encourage them to complete their submission.

In July, we reviewed and discussed the submitted biographical forms for President-elect and Treasurer. We also discussed the traits and attributes for these positions. Ray Pun developed a survey/feedback form using GoogleForms based on attributes defined in the Nominating Committee Manual for the President and Treasurer positions.

In August, we emailed all potential candidates on Direct Nominations to let them know that their completed biographical forms were received, or that their incomplete forms were not to be considered. We also discussed ways to learn more about the President-elect candidates than what was provided in the biographical form and decided to request 30 minute interviews with each potential candidate. The interviews were conducted in early September and led by committee chair, Madeline Peña Feliz. The candidates were all asked the same 9 questions; all 5 interviews were attended by the majority of committee members.

Our final meeting on September 21 was spent reviewing the surveys/reports and robustly deliberating before making our final decisions as to whom to stand as candidates for President-elect and Treasurer. The committee also reviewed the candidates for Council and decided that all completed applications would be placed before the membership to vote upon.

By late September, all nominees for President-elect and Treasurer had accepted their candidacy and the individuals who will be running for council had been notified of their candidacy.

The Nominating Committee for the 2022 election was a very effective and thoughtful group of professionals. All worked collaboratively to develop a slate of qualified candidates to stand for the 2022 ALA Election for President-elect, Treasurer, and Councilor-at-Large. We wish to thank Patty Wong, ALA President, for bringing this diverse array of ALA membership together for this once in a lifetime opportunity to serve in this important capacity. We also wish to share our deep gratitude for the hard work and support of Sheryl Reyes and thank her for her knowledge and responsiveness to the needs of this committee.

Profile of the Final Slate of Candidates (Councilor at Large)

Type of Library	2022 (68 candidates)	2021 (49 candidates)	2020 (66 candidates)	2019 (75 candidates)
Academic Libraries	32	15	37	37
Public Libraries	29	25	24	21
School Libraries	4	3	3	6
Other (special, government, trustees, etc.)	3	6	2	11

Geographic Distribution	2022	2021	2020	2019
Northeast	25	14	30	24
Southeast	17	13	16	19
Midwest	7	13	10	17
West	19	9	9	15

Observations and Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for future consideration:

- Continue to refine and utilize the ALA Nominating Committee manual and the running list of potential nominees
- Develop a strategic marketing plan to help foster greater participation of membership in the nominating/elections process
- Utilize the marketing materials developed by ALA (Appendix B)
- Work with AASL and chapters to encourage more school librarians to run for office
- Assess and address possible structural barriers (fiscal, organizational support, scheduling, etc.) to memberships' service in our governance structure
- Continue and refine NALCOs membership verification process and expand to include all ALA elections
- Add links to attendance and voting records to the ballot, for Councilors-at-Large seeking reelection
- Consider adding interviews with potential president-elect and treasurer candidates as a formal step of the nomination process

Appendix A: Nominated Candidates of ALA President, ALA Treasurer, and ALA Councilor-at-Large

- Emily Drabinski, interim chief librarian at The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), and Kelvin Watson, executive director of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, are the candidates for the 2023-24 presidency of the American Library Association (ALA).
Press release for [Nominated ALA President Candidates](#)
- Peter Hepburn, head librarian at the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, California, and Oscar Lanza-Galindo, associate dean, Library and Learning Commons, Bunker Hill Community College, Boston, are the candidates for the treasurer of the American Library Association (ALA) for 2022-25.
Press release for [Nominated ALA Treasurer Candidates](#)
- The following candidates were accepted by the Nominating Committee (listed alphabetically by last name):

Tarida Anantachai
Interim Head, Learning and
Academic Engagement
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY
(Academic)

Antonio Apodaca
Education & Outreach Coordinator
Ventura County Library
Ventura, CA
(Public)

Joanna M. Arteaga La Spina
Spanish Translation Coordinator
San Francisco Public Library
San Francisco, CA
(Public)

Richard E. Ashby, Jr
Director, Sto-Rox Public Library
Focus On Renewal - Sto-Rox
Public Library
McKees Rocks, PA
(Public)

Glen Benedict
Access Services Librarian
University of the District of
Columbia
Washington, DC
(Academic)

Erin Berman
Division Director
Alameda County Library
Fremont, CA
(Public)

Adriana Blancarte-Hayward
Manager, Outreach Services
The New York Public Library
New York, NY
(Public)

Jennifer Boettcher
Business Reference Librarian
Georgetown University
Washington, DC
(Academic)

Jennifer Brown
Executive Director
The Field Library
Peekskill, NY
(Public)

Nick Buron
Chief Librarian
Queens Public Library
New York, NY
(Public)

Camille Chesley
Reference Librarian|Subject
Librarian for Journalism,
Newspapers, and Reference
University at Albany
Albany, NY
(Academic)

Sarah Clark
Dean & University Librarian
La Salle University
Philadelphia, PA
(Academic)

John Clexton
Library Director
Gladwin County District Library
Gladwin, MI
(Public)

Kaitlin Crotty
Interim Library Director
Rogers State University
Claremore, OK
(Academic)

Amy Dye-Reeves
Education & History Librarian
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX
(Academic)

Maria Estrella
Dyad Public Services Manager
Cleveland Public Library
Cleveland, OH
(Public)

Maggie Farrell
Dean of Libraries
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Las Vegas, NV
(Academic)

Athanasia Fitos
Librarian 4-Branch Manager
Miami-Dade Public Library System
Miami, FL
(Public)

Tiffeni Fontno
Head Librarian, Educational
Resource Center
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA
(Academic)

Elizabeth Fried
Library Director
Norwood Public Library
Norwood, NJ
(Public)

Kenny Garcia
Research & Instruction Librarian
California State University -
Monterey Bay
Seaside, CA
(Academic)

Calypso Gilstrap
School Librarian
Goochland High School
Goochland, VA
(School)

Eric Gomez
Community Library Manager -
Tyrone Bryant Branch Library
Broward County Library
Fort Lauderdale, FL
(Public)

Africa Hands
Assistant Professor
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC
(Academic)

Vicky Hart
Director of Library Services
Northeast Lakeview College
Universal City, TX
(Academic)

Carrie Herrmann
Executive Director
Boone County Public Library
Burlington, KY
(Public)

Twanna Hodge
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Librarian
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL
(Academic)

Jenn Hooker
Librarian II
Santa Cruz Public Libraries
Santa Cruz CA
(Public)

Martha Hutzell
Library Director
Central Rappahannock Regional
Library
Fredericksburg, VA
(Public)

Judy Jeng
Community Representative
Digital Public Library of America
Woodbridge, CT
(Public)

Qiana Johnson
Interim Associate University
Librarian for Collections Strategies
Northwestern University Libraries
Evanston, IL
(Academic)

kalan Knudson Davis
Special Collections Metadata
Librarian
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
(Academic)

Victoria Kowanetz
Assistant Community Library
Manager
Queens Public Library
Rockaway Park, NY
(Public)

Jamie Kurumaji
Supervising Librarian
Fresno County Public Library
Fresno, CA
(Public)

Bradley Kuykendall
Reference and Instruction
Librarian
Lincoln University
Jefferson City, MO
(Academic)

Tina Lerno
Librarian II, Digital Content Team
Los Angeles Public Library
Los Angeles, CA
(Public)

Adriene Lim
Dean of Libraries
University of Maryland
College Park, MD
(Academic)

Rodney Lippard
Director, Gregg-Graniteville Library
University of South Carolina Alken
Aiken, SC
(Academic)

Amy Little
Librarian
Sacramento Public Library
Sacramento, CA
(Public)

Jennisen Lucas
District Librarian
Park County School District #6
Cody, WY
(School)

Andrea Malone
Coordinator of Research Services
and Liaison to Languages & Ethnic
Studies
University of Houston
Houston, TX
(Academic)

~~Martha Meacham~~
~~Project Director~~
~~National Library of Medicine~~
~~Litchfield, NH~~
~~(Government)~~
*Note: Martha contacted us to
withdraw*

Chulin Meng
Director of Library Technology
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, PA
(Academic)

Ryan Mcginnis
Library Technician II
Cook Memorial Library
La Grande, OR
(Public)

Valeria Molteni
Dean of Library Services
Bowman Library, Menlo College
Atherton, CA
(Academic)

Ophelia Morey
Associate Librarian
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
(Academic)

Marina Morgan
Metadata Librarian
Florida Southern College
Lakeland, FL
(Academic)

Ramin Naderi
Acting Senior Librarian
Venice Branch, Los Angeles Public
Library
Los Angeles, CA
(Public)

Mandy Nasr
Library Director
Camarillo Public Library
Camarillo, CA
(Public)

Muzhgan Nazarova
Turkic Languages Librarian
(Acquisitions and Cataloging)
Library of Congress
LS/ABA/ASME/MESA
Washington, DC
(Government)

James Neal
University Librarian Emeritus
Columbia University
New York, NY
(Academic)

Toni Negro
Retired
Montgomery County Public
Schools, Maryland
Rockville, MD
(School)

Sharaya Olmeda
Librarian at the California Men's
Colony State Prison
California Department of
Corrections and Rehabilitation
San Luis Obispo, CA
(Special)

Anchalee (Joy) Panigabutra-
Roberts
Head, Cataloging
The University of Tennessee
Libraries
Knoxville, TN
(Academic)

Edwin Rodarte
Emerging Technologies
Department Senior Librarian
Los Angeles Public Library
Los Angeles, CA
(Public)

Suzanne Sager
Cataloger
Portland State University
Portland, OR
(Academic)

Sophia Sotilleo
Interim Library Director
Lincoln University
Lincoln University, PA
(Academic)

Wendy Stephens
Associate Professor and School
Library Program Chair
Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville, AL
(Academic)

Eric Suess
Library Director
Marshall Public Library
Pocatello, ID
(Public)

Valerie Tagoe
Media Specialist
Dallas Independent School District
Dallas, TX
(School)

Marliese Thomas
Fine Arts Librarian
University of Alabama at
Birmingham
Birmingham, AL
(Academic)

Joseph Thompson
Director of Public Services
Carroll County Public Library
New Windsor, MD
(Public)

Paul Wartenberg
Reference and Technology
Librarian
Bartow Public Library
Bartow, FL
(Public)

Terry Weech
Retired
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL
(Academic)

Janice Welburn
Dean of Libraries, Raynor
Memorial Libraries

Marquette University
Milwaukee, WI
(Academic)

Amber Williams
Strategic Project Manager
Spokane County Library District
Spokane Valley, WA
(Public)

Hong Yao
Director, Technical Services
Queens Public Library
Jamaica, NY
(Public)

Steven Yates
Assistant Director and School
Library Program Coordinator
University of Alabama SLIS
Tuscaloosa, AL
(Academic)

Press release for [Nominated Councilor-at-Large Candidates](#)

Appendix B: Promotional Materials

BE THE CHANGE.				READY TO LEAD?			
							
							
NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2022 BALLOT! ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councilor-at-large ALA AmericanLibraryAssociation				NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2022 BALLOT! ALA President-elect • Treasurer • Councilor-at-large ALA AmericanLibraryAssociation			