Thanks to our members, staff, and partners, the Association for Library Service to Children has made significant strides toward our envisioned future that “Libraries are recognized as vital to all children and the communities that support them.”

ALSC is a member-driven organization comprised of a cohort of professionals who serve children and youth in public and school libraries, experts in the field of children’s literature and literacy, publishers, faculty in library and education-related academia, booksellers, bloggers, teachers, authors, and others. Our members are both rich in and generous with their expertise. Through their committee service, collaboration, and communication via a range of ALSC channels, they provide direction and support for innovation and continued guardianship of established values and commitment to excellence within the profession.

This has been a banner year for awareness of the importance of quality library service and materials to the intellectual and developmental health of children. From recognition of the effects of the language gap on early literacy acquisition and the growing adoption of technology for young children, to the need for reading material and programming that reflect the diversity of our populace, library service to children and their families has been central in the sphere of national conversation and influence. ALSC has risen to support the needs of our membership to address these issues. Through our goal areas of Advocacy, Education, and Access, we have provided resources and opportunities to strengthen our skills and enhance our engagement with our colleagues and our communities.

Starr LaTronica
President, 2013-2014
MEMBERSHIP

ALSC has been extremely resilient this year. While ALA membership dipped by an average of 2.5% over the past five years, ALSC has been successful in attracting new members and reducing drops. Through August 2014, total ALSC membership is about 2.5% ahead of 12 months previous. By finding new ways of engaging members, ALSC is creating a better environment for discussion and collaboration. New opportunities, such as the mentoring program and the Roadshow, have helped the division achieve renewals.

Dues Restructuring

In September 2013, ALSC implemented changes to the dues structure that were approved by members in the spring 2013 elections. The changes included an increase in the number of dues categories from two (regular and student) to five (regular, support staff, non-salaried, retired, advocate, student). ALSC also increased membership rates for organizational and corporate members, the first ALSC dues increase in 17 years.

Mentoring Program

In September 2013, the ALSC Mentoring Program was launched. Administered by the Membership and Managing Children's Services Committees, the program offers two application periods each year – spring and fall. Mentor/mentee pairs work together for a one-year period. The program, in its first year, attracted more than 100 participants.

Road Show

Through the new ALSC Roadshow program, members represent ALSC at state and local conferences. ALSC provides limited funding to members who commit to staffing a booth, presenting a program, or coordinating a social event. During the roadshow's first year, four proposals were funded and ALSC was represented at conferences hosted by the California Library Association, International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), Louisiana Library Association, and Texas Library Association.

INITIATIVES

ALSC is home to four major national initiatives, each with a unique focus. Several ALSC committees, including Public Awareness, Every Child Ready to Read Oversight, Early Childhood Programs and Services, School Age Programs and Services, and Quicklists Consulting, help develop and implement the initiatives, with the ALSC Board of Directors providing oversight.

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Día) – Children’s Day/Book Day

As the National Home of Día, ALSC has continued work to expand its reach by providing libraries with tools needed to incorporate this multicultural initiative into daily programming. Dia had a very successful year in which 594 libraries, schools, and community organizations registered their programs in the National Día Program Registry, representing more than 105,000 expected Día program attendees across the country. This is more than 11 percent above registered programs last year. Over 21 percent of the registered programs were from libraries or schools holding a Día program for the first time.
ALSC distributed complimentary stickers, bookmarks, and buttons (in English and Spanish) to all libraries that registered events. The 2014 book list was updated by the Quicklists Consulting Committee and contains over 100 multicultural and bilingual titles for children from birth to age 14. English/Spanish and English/Chinese versions are on the website (http://dia.ala.org). The site also offers: English and Spanish Dia event posters, a digital Publicity Toolkit, coloring and activity sheets, and more. All materials are free to download.


Día was included in the publication, *Library of Congress Literacy Awards, 2013: Best Practices*, cited as an example under the best practice of including culturally relevant materials and services in literacy programs. The publication is available at Read.gov.

In September 2013, ALSC and YALSA received a fourth year of the Everyone Reads @ your library® Grant in the amount of $246,806, funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. Through this grant, 15 Día mini-grants of $2,000 each were awarded to public libraries. Libraries used the funds to host Día Family Book Club Programs designed to engage children and their families in shared reading and discussion of contemporary children’s literature that reflects our common plurality.

The grant also funded a user-friendly redesign of the Día website and the creation of the Día Family Book Club Curriculum, which is made up of twelve ready to go lesson plans, six for children ages 4 to 8 and six for children ages 8 to 12. The year four grant also funded a white paper, “The Importance of Diversity in Library Programs and Material Collections for Children,” written for ALSC by Jamie Campbell Naidoo, PhD, and adopted by the ALSC Board of Directors in April 2014. The paper explores the critical role libraries play in helping children make cross-cultural connections and develop skills necessary to function in a culturally pluralistic society.

**Every Child Ready to Read**

ALSC and the Public Library Association (PLA) continue to administer the early literacy initiative, Every Child Ready to Read® @ your library® 2nd Edition (ECRR2), which launched in 2010 and continues on a successful path. In March, the ECRR2 Toolkit for Spanish-Speaking Communities, a digital download, was released and made available through the ALA Store.

ALSC and PLA were awarded a 2013 National Leadership Grant, from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the amount of $499,741, to fund “Bringing Home Early Literacy: Determining the Impact of Library Programs on Parent Behavior,” a multi-year project to evaluate the effect of the ECRR2 program on parent behavior.

ECRR2 was awarded the Opening Minds Innovation Award, sponsored by Follett Early Learning, which recognizes innovations that advance the field of early childhood education to better the lives of young children and their families. ALSC member Jenna Nemec-Loise submitted the award application and accepted the honor on behalf of ALSC and PLA last spring.

The ECRR Oversight Committee presented several programs at the PLA National Conference in March 2014 in Indianapolis:

- Discover New Ideas about Early Learning Environments
- Put It into Practice: Implement Every Child Ready to Read
- ECRR2 – Does it Really Work? Evaluating the Program
- ECRR 2.0 – Using Apps and eBooks in Early Literacy Programs
The committee also presented programs at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas:

- ECRR2 – Does it Really Work? Evaluating the Program
- ECRR 2.0 – Using Apps and eBooks in Early Literacy Programs

Everyday Advocacy

In May 2014, the Everyday Advocacy (EA) website (www.ala.org/everyday-advocacy) celebrated its one-year anniversary. The site, managed by member content editor Jenna Nemec-Loise, provides straightforward, effective ways librarians and others can advocate for children and libraries. EA features resources and tips for engaging community supporters, legislators, and stakeholders and for effectively communicating the value of libraries and librarians, with emphasis on librarians serving youth. “Take Action Tuesday,” featured on the EA homepage and distributed via the ALSC-L electronic discussion list, provides one easy, focused advocacy activity each week to inspire all takers—expert and novice.

The inaugural issue of the Everyday Advocacy Matters newsletter emailed to ALSC members in October 2013. The newsletter complements the EA website. Each issue delivers a profile of an everyday advocate, news, resources, inspiration for getting started, and a calendar of upcoming advocacy-related events.

Read! Build! Play!

ALSC’s partnership with LEGO® DUPLO® on the Read! Build! Play! (RBP) initiative has continued to grow. Last fall, ALSC and LEGO DUPLO announced a “Thank You Public Library for Making Summer Reading Fun” giveaway. The public was invited to “thank” their local public library for great summer programming for children by entering their zip code through a Facebook contest. Avon-Washington Township Library in Indiana was the winner. They received $5,000 to be used for children’s programming. An estimated 17,000 votes were cast during the promotion.

ALSC has continued to promote RBP to members and beyond through the distribution of RBP materials. ALSC hosted a booth with RBP information at the following national events:

- National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference (November 2013, Washington, DC)
- Public Library Association Conference (March 2014, Indianapolis, Ind.)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children National Institute (June 2014, Minneapolis, Minn.)

ALSC’s partnership with LEGO Systems® continues to grow with the late summer announcement of the Junior Maker Space Project. ALSC and LEGO will work together to bring Maker Space resources aimed at children ages 4 to 7 to libraries, along with physical LEGO toolkits to over 750 libraries across the U.S.

PROJECTS, PARTNERSHIPS, & LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The Lunar and Planetary Institute

ALSC continues to partner with the Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI), collaborating on their Explore program. ALSC passed along several opportunities for members to participate in free in-person or electronic training sessions, focused on providing librarians with tools and information about incorporating STEM into programming. Last October, ALSC encouraged members to complete a NASA Survey for Public Library staff aimed at determining the current needs of public libraries in incorporating STEM into their activities.
New Media, Children & Libraries

ALSC wrote a letter of support for an IMLS Grant to fund the National Forum on Young Children, New Media & Libraries. Spearheaded by ALSC member Cen Campbell and in partnership with the New Orleans Library Foundation, the forum, if accepted, will bring together in Spring 2015 approximately 40 experts in media literacy, librarianship, child development, and early childhood education to develop recommendations to support children's librarians in assuming a role as media mentors in their communities, especially in at-risk communities.

ALSC worked with New Media, Children & Libraries partners from LittleeLit.com and the University of Washington iSchool to create and disseminate a survey of the field to measure current trends in new media usage by young children at libraries.

Space and Science Institute

Last September, the ALSC Board approved a Letter of Support for the National Science Foundation, backing the Space and Science Institute's proposal for a National Conference on STEM programming in libraries. If accepted, the conference will forge connections among public libraries, science centers, and federal science organizations.

Take Your Child to the Library Day

The ALSC Board voted to support the Take Your Child to the Library Day initiative in 2015 and 2016. ALSC will assist in promotion of the program and will be listed as a partner on the initiative’s website.

United States Board on Books for Young People

ALSC continues to partner with the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY) on the International Children’s Book Day (ICBD) Celebration and Dia. The Quicklists Consulting Committee created a reading list for the 2014 ICBD event in February. The list included titles for children from birth through 8th grade that evoke the 2014 theme, Imagine Nations through Story.

Last September, the ALSC Board voted to recommend Robyn Mutnick as the ALSC representative on the USBBY Board. ALSC participated in the IBBY Regional Conference, hosted by USBBY, last fall.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

2014 ALSC Programs @ ALA Annual Conference (Las Vegas)

- Children's Librarians in the Lead: Managing Change, Inspiring Innovation & Empowering the Next Generation
- Dynamic Digital Dia: Promoting Cultural Competence in Digital Storytimes
- Every Child Ready to Read 2 – Does it Really Work? Evaluating the Program
- So Long, Drive-By Storytimes; Hello, Focus and Impact!
- The Apps are All Right! Exploring the Role of Apps in Children’s and Teen Services
- What No Tschotskes? Creating an Experience-Based Summer Program
- Whet Your APPetite: Rapid Reviews of Apps for Children from Preschool to Tweens
Charlemae Rollins President’s Program

The 2014 program, “The Ripple Effect: Library Partnerships that Positively Impact Children, Families, Communities, and Beyond,” was held on Monday, June 30, during Annual Conference. The program explored how library and community collaborations can be the nexus of support for children and families. Amy Dickinson, syndicated advice columnist, spoke about her collaboration with the Family Reading Partnership of Ithaca, N.Y. to launch the campaign “A Book in Every Bed,” which sparked a national movement. Anna McQuinn, author of “Lola at the Library,” spoke on her work in the United Kingdom with young children and their families. The program culminated with a panel of librarians from across the country discussing their innovative partnerships that support children and families.

The Quicklists Consulting and Great Websites Committees contributed a list of resources, books, articles, websites, and blogs pertaining to the topic of compelling library partnerships that support children and their families, for the program.

National Library Legislative Day

ALSC President Starr LaTronica, Vice-President Ellen Riordan, Executive Director Aimee Strittmatter, and Program Officer Joanna Ison participated in the 2014 National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. They met with staff and advisors to key members of House and Senate committees charged with education and library issues to impress upon them the critical role of children’s librarians and public libraries in early learning development.

They also met with leaders from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Office of Child Care/Department of Health and Human Services, making connections and discussing possible partnerships for the future.

Community Forums

ALSC held four Community Forums, featuring news and information from the Board of Directors, hosted on Adobe Connect. Transcripts of the discussions are available online. Topics included:

- July 2014 – Demonstrating the Value of Youth Library Service
- April 2014 – Adding STEAM to Summer Reading
- March 2014 – The Impact of Poverty on Library Use by Children
- December 2013 – Partnerships

Pinkney Delivers Spring Arbuthnot Lecture

Andrea Davis Pinkney, vice president and editor at large of Scholastic’s Trade Books and award-winning children’s book author, delivered the 2014 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture in May. The lecture, titled “Rejoice the Legacy,” was hosted by the Children’s Literature Research Collection (CLRC), University of Minnesota Libraries, Minneapolis. In conjunction with the lecture, the University presented an exhibit, live at the Elmer L. Andersen Library and online, displaying original manuscript pages, artist dummies, picture book proofs, and original art and sketches selected from among Pinkney’s many titles. The archived webcast is available on the University’s website.
ONLINE LEARNING

Online Courses
In 2013-14, ALSC offered 13 online courses, including several that were offered with continuing education units (CEUs), certified with the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Some courses were offered multiple times. Topics included:

- Children with Disabilities in the Library
- Children's Graphic Novels 101: Selection, Evaluation, and Programming for Children
- Getting to the Core: Librarians and Common Core State Standards
- Information Literacy – From Preschool to High School
- Integrating New Technologies into your Collection
- Out of This World Youth Programming
- Reading Instruction and Children's Books
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Programs Made Easy
- Storytime Tools

Webinars
ALSC also offered eight hour-long, live webinars. Topics included:

- Between Storytime and the Prom: Tween Programming Fills the Gap
- Maker Programming for Kids: No Makerspace Required
- What's after Storytime: Programming for Children and Tweens with Autism

Webcasts—webinars that have already taken place—are offered as on-demand video to be viewed any time.

Student Sessions
The Membership Committee continues to host one-hour, “student session” webinars that focus on topics of interest to students and early career professionals. Topics presented were:

- ALSC New Member Forum
- Balancing Social Media: How to Separate Your Library’s Facebook Page from Your Own
- Create a Personal Learning Network that Works for You
- New to the Children's Library: What I Didn’t Learn in Library School
- Youth Library Fundraising: Paying for Your MLIS and Your Library Programs
PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & GRANTS

Bookapalooza Award
A donation program providing select libraries with a collection of recently published books, videos, and recordings
- Talahi Community School, St. Cloud, Minn.
- North Shelby Library, Birmingham, Ala.
- Northwood Elementary School, Crestview, Fla.

Baker & Taylor Summer Reading Program Grant
(Donor: Baker & Taylor)
A $3,000 grant to support an innovative summer reading program in a public library
- Ames (Iowa) Public Library

Bechtel Fellowship
(Donor: University of Florida’s Endowment in memory of Louise Seaman Bechtel and Ruth M. Baldwin)
A $4,000 grant to support four weeks of study at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children’s Literature, University of Florida, Gainesville
- Natalie Ziarnik, Ela Area Public Library District, Lake Zurich, Ill.

Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Visit Award
(Donor: Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing)
Up to $4,000 to provide a visit from a nationally-known author/illustrator with children who have previously not had such an opportunity
- Keene (N.H.) Public Library

Light the Way: Library Outreach to the Underserved Grant
(Donor: Candlewick Press, in honor of Kate DiCamillo)
A $3,000 grant to assist a library in conducting exemplary outreach to an underserved population
- LGBT Center of Raleigh (N.C.) Library

ALSC Distinguished Service Award
Susan Roman, Deerfield, Ill.
Susan Roman received a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where she studied under noted children’s literature authority Zena Sutherland. She earned a master’s of library and information science from Dominican University and a bachelor’s degree from Washington University in St. Louis. She began her career as head of children’s services at the Deerfield (Ill.) Public Library and later became director of youth services at the Northbrook (Ill.) Public Library. She served as director of the Reference Services Department at the American Medical Association Library, before joining the staff of the American Library Association (ALA). While at ALA, Roman served as executive director of ALSC (1986–2000) and as director of the ALA Development Office from 2000-2005. Following her tenure at ALA, she was appointed dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University.

Roman has served as an advisor for PBS Ready to Learn and for the PBS children’s television series “Reading Rainbow.” She has led delegations of children’s literature specialists to Russia, Eastern Europe, Brazil, Cuba, Australia, and China. Roman also is an author and frequent speaker on issues related to fundraising, family literacy, and children’s services, and the interrelationship of each. Roman’s influence on and support of youth services librarians has benefited libraries and the children they serve throughout the world.
Penguin Young Readers Group Award  
(Donor: Penguin Young Readers Group)  
A $600 stipend for a member to attend her first ALA Annual Conference  
  • JoAnna Schofield, Akron-Summit County (Ohio) Public Library  
  • Rikki Unterbrink, Amos Memorial Library, Sidney, Ohio  
  • Amanda Yother, Putnam County Library, Cookeville, Tenn.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship  
(Donor: Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc.)  
  • Sylvia Martin Aguiñaga, Los Angeles, Calif.  
  • Omar Ramirez, Chicago, Ill.  
  • Callen Taylor, San Francisco, Calif.  
  • Elissa Sperling, Dover, Mass.

Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship  
  • Danielle Crickman, Cambridge, Mass.  
  • Sheila Laurence Olson, Des Moines, Iowa

ALSC Spectrum Scholarship  
  • Heather Green: New Orleans, La.  
  • Xochitl Rocha: Seattle, Wash.

This year, ALSC Past President (2005-06) Ellen Fader, Portland, Oregon, made a substantial donation to support a second 2014-2015 ALSC Spectrum Scholar. Her contribution covered a full Spectrum Scholarship, a Spectrum Scholar Follow-Up grant—to support a Spectrum Scholar alumnus entering the final semester of work in the Fall of 2014, an optional grant to attend the 2014 ALSC National Institute, and discretionary funds to be used towards job interviews.

ALSC Institute Scholarships  
(Donor: Friends of ALSC)  
Two members received a scholarship to attend the ALSC National Institute to be held in Oakland this fall. The scholarship covers registration; transportation to and from Oakland; and two nights at the Oakland Marriott; and supports ALSC’s goal of continuing education for children’s librarians.  
  • Nicole Martin, Grafton-Midview (Ohio) Public Library  
  • Gesse Stark-Smith, Multnomah County Library, Fairview, Ore.
LITERARY & RELATED AWARDS

2014 Winners

ALA’s Youth Media Awards (YMA) press conference at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia was Webcast live; the archive presentation is at http://live.webcastinc.com/ala/2014/live/. ALSC winners included:

Newbery Medal – *Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures*, Kate DiCamillo (Candlewick)

Newbery Honor Books – *Doll Bones*, Holly Black (McElderry/Simon & Schuster); *The Year of Billy Miller*, Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow); *One Came Home*, Amy Timberlake (Knopf/Random House); *Paperboy*, Vince Vawter (Delacorte/Random House)

Caldecott Medal – *Locomotive*, Brian Floca (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster)

Caldecott Honor Books – *Journey*, Aaron Becker (Candlewick); *Flora and the Flamingo*, Molly Idle (Chronicle); *Mr. Wuffles!*, David Wiesner (Clarion)

Batchelder Award – Enchanted Lion Books for *Mister Orange* by Truus Matti, translated by Laura Watkinson

Batchelder Honor Books – Enchanted Lion Books for *The Bathing Costume, or the Worst Vacation of My Life*, written by Charlotte Moundlic, illustrated by Olivier Tallec, translated by Claudia Zoe Bedrick; Enchanted Lion Books for *My Father’s Arms Are a Boat*, written by Stein Erik Lunde, illustrated by Øyvind Tørseter, translated by Kari Dickson; Eerdmans Books for Young Readers for *The War within These Walls*, written by Aline Sax, illustrated by Caryl Strzelecki, translated by Laura Watkinson

Belpre Author Award – *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass*, Meg Medina (Candlewick)

Belpre Author Honor Books – *The Lightning Dreamer: Cuba’s Greatest Abolitionist*, Margarita Engle (Harcourt/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt); *The Living*, Matt de la Peña (Delacorte/Random House); *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant’s Tale*, Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Belpre Illustrator Award – *Niño Wrestles the World*, Yuyi Morales (Neal Porter/Roaring Brook)

Belpre Illustrator Honor Books – *Maria Had a Little Llama/María Tenía una Llamita*, Angela Dominguez (Holt); *Tito Puente: Mambo King/Rey del Mambo*, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Monica Brown (Rayo/HarperCollins); *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant’s Tale*, Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Carnegie Medal – Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly Ellard, Weston Woods Studios, for *Bink & Gollie: Two for One*

Geisel Award – *The Watermelon Seed*, Greg Pizzoli (Disney/Hyperion)

Geisel Honor Books – *Ball*, Mary Sullivan (Houghton); *A Big Guy Took My Ball!*, Mo Willems (Disney/Hyperion); *Penny and Her Marble*, Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow)

Odyssey Award – Listening Library for *Scowler*, by Daniel Kraus, narrated by Kirby Heyborne
Odyssey Honor Audiobooks –
Simon & Schuster Audio for Better Nate Than Ever, by Tim Federle, narrated by Tim Federle; Weston Woods for Creepy Carrots! by Aaron Reynolds, narrated by James Naughton; Listening Library for Eleanor & Park, by Rainbow Rowell, narrated by Rebecca Lowman and Sunil Malhotra; Penguin Audio for Matilda, by Roald Dahl, narrated by Kate Winslet

Sibert Medal – Parrots over Puerto Rico, written by Cindy Trumbore and Susan L. Roth, illustrated by Susan L. Roth (Lee & Low)

Sibert Honor Books – A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin, written by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Knopf/Random House); Look Up! Bird-Watching in Your Own Backyard, Annette LeBlanc Cate (Candlewick); Locomotive, Brian Floca (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster); The Mad Potter: George E. Ohr, Eccentric Genius, Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan (Neal Porter/Roaring Brook)

2014 Notable Lists
Also during Midwinter, ALSC’s evaluation committees chose the best of the best books, recordings, and videos released in 2013. The Notable Children’s Books, Recordings, and Videos lists are available on the ALSC website.

YMA Winners on YouTube
ALSC worked with ALA’s Public Information Office and publishers to present reaction videos on YouTube from 2014 award winners after the Midwinter announcements. Meg Medina, Yuyi Morales, Aaron Becker, and Mary Sullivan were among the award winners who shared a personal response on the YMA YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/alayouthmediaawards).

2014 Award Ceremonies
The summer award presentations, including the Belpre Celebration, Newbery-Caldecott Banquet, and Awards Program, are the culmination of ALSC’s literary award year. Librarians, educators, publishers, and other children’s book enthusiasts came together to celebrate the winners and their work as the authors and illustrators accepted their honors and delivered acceptance remarks.

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
ALSC reaches its members and delivers information and resources in a variety of ways, including those that allow for two-way exchange, such as the ALSC Blog and Twitter. We also connect via more traditional means, such as the ALSC website, Children and Libraries: The Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children, and various other serial and non-serial publications.

ALSC releases two non-serial titles
Popular Picks for Young Readers, edited by Diane B. Foote for ALSC and published by ALA Editions, was released in print in March. An e-book version also is available through the ALA Store, Kindle, and other major
e-book vendors. Popular Picks highlights high-quality, well-reviewed books that also are popular with kids, chosen and annotated by practicing librarians from around the country. The more than 500 titles included were published within the last four years and range from books for newborns through readers to age 14, and encompass a wide variety of formats and themes to reflect the diversity of contemporary society. The guide is useful for readers’ advisory and collection development.

Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books, 2014, written by ALSC and published by ALA Editions, was released in the spring. The annual guidebook is a resource for quick reference, collection development, and readers’ advisory, and includes author/illustrator and title indices as well as information about the media used to create the art in Caldecott Medal and Honor Books. This year’s edition features an essay by ALSC member Sylvia M. Vardell on the history and development of poetry for young people.

Digital Media Resources
The Digital Content Task Force compiled an online resource page, featuring webpages and articles dedicated to tech news impacting the youth services field. This collection of resources is ideal for children’s librarians navigating their way through the evolving digital landscape.

Great Websites for Kids
The Great Websites for Kids (GWS) Committee reviews and evaluates hundreds of websites annually. This year, committee members selected, annotated, and added 33 sites to the GWS database/resource.

- BBC Primary History – www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/
- CBC Kids – www.cbc.ca/kids/
- CBeebies – www.cbeebies.com/lat-american/
- Classics for Kids – www.classicsforkids.com/
- Creative Kids Central – classicalkusc.org/kids/
- Discovery Kids in Spanish – www.tudiscoverykids.com
- Frontiers for Young Minds – http://kids.frontiersin.org/
- Harry Potter Alliance – http://thehpalliance.org/
- Kidzone with the New York Philharmonic – www.nyphilkids.org
- Latinos in Kid Lit – http://latinosinkidlit.com/about/
- Lawrence Hall of Science – www.lawrencehallofscience.org/kidsite
- Learn. Genetics – http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/
- Mi Héroe – www.miheroe.org
- Mocomi – http://mocomi.com
- Nourish Interactive in Spanish – http://es.nourishinteractive.com/kids
- Ocean Portal – http://ocean.si.edu/
- Optics for Kids – www.optics4kids.org/
- Paka Paka – www.pakapaka.gob.ar/
Great Websites for Kids was selected as a MARS Best Free Reference Website for 2014. “MARS: Emerging Technologies in Reference” is a section of the Reference and User Services Association, a division of the American Library Association. Voted for by members from around the U.S., GWS was one of 14 reference websites recognized as outstanding by MARS in 2014.

Book Lists
ALSC produced a variety of book lists this year, thanks to our member-volunteers. All lists are available to download from the ALSC website.

Summer Reading. These lists, originally compiled and annotated by the Quicklists Consulting (Quicklists) and School-Age Programs & Services Committees in spring 2013, were updated for 2014 by Quicklists. Three lists are available – for readers in K-2nd, 3rd-5th, and 6th-8th grades.

Building a Home Library. The ALA-Children’s Book Council (CBC) Joint Committee, with cooperation from Quicklists, updated the four Building a Home Library bibliographies, which provide guidance on establishing a high-quality library for children at home. The four lists—for birth to age 3, ages 4-7, 8-11, and 12-14 – include tried-and-true classics; under-the-radar gems; multicultural books; and new, yet notable, reads.

Children’s Graphic Novel Core Collection. Last fall, Quicklists updated this list of titles designed as a collection development tool for public librarians starting or maintaining a children’s (K-8) graphic novel collection.

Tween Recommended Reads. Members of the School Age Programs and Services Committee selected and annotated this list of titles targeted to the tween reader.

Social Media
Facebook. The ALSC Facebook page features rich content and lively images to inform and inspire visitors. ALSC currently has approximately 4,700 Facebook followers.

Twitter. The ALSC Children & Technology Committee moderated monthly Twitter discussions, one-hour chats focused on topics that impact children and technology. The ALSC Twitter account currently has approximately 6,300 followers.
ALSC Blog. The blog continued to increase readership and surpass statistics from previous years. With a regular daily posting schedule, the ALSC Blog saw a 38% increase in visits over 2012. Other 2013 statistics include:

- 33% increase in Unique Visitors over 2012
- 38% increase in Page Views over 2012
- 56 total live blog posts (from ALA Midwinter and Annual Conference)
- total posts just short of 500 for the year

In spring 2014, the Friends of ALSC sponsored an ALSC Blog Photo Contest. Twelve ALSC members submitted photos and more than 480 readers voted for their favorite. Prizes included a choice of tickets to the 2014 Newbery-Caldecott Banquet or a gift certificate to Barnes & Noble.

BOARD ACTIONS

Over the past year, the ALSC Board of Directors took the following actions.

Midwinter – January 2014

Approved, the recommendation of the ALSC Book Award Seals on E-book Versions Task Force to form a Batchelder Pilot concerning e-book eligibility beginning with the 2016 Batchelder Award Committee.

Approved, formation of a new task force to support implementation of the Batchelder pilot project.

Accepted, recommendations, as amended, put forward by the Awards Service and Social Media Task Force to begin with the elected and appointed members of the 2016 award committees.

Accepted, the recommendation of the ALSC/REFORMA Belpé Criteria Questions Task Force to change definition number two in the award committee manual and not to make any changes to definition number 12.

Approved, the Budget Committee’s recommendations for the FY-2015 budget and the revised ALSC Budget Summary spreadsheet.

Approved, proposed changes, with amendments, to the Children & Libraries Policies & Procedures document.

Requested, ALSC staff member Joanna Ison to re-negotiate a possible agreement with Chipotle, through which ALSC would develop age-appropriate reading lists as part of Chipotle’s summer reading program.

Tabled, a motion from the Organization and Bylaws Committee concerning the establishment of a second priority group consultant position for V: Awards, with a request for further clarification.

Annual – June 2014

Accepted, the Emerging Leader Project Report and thanked them for their work.

Established, ALSC Matters! as a public newsletter open to all upon publication with no log-in required, that subscriptions will be offered for those who would like to be notified of publication, and that its policy prohibiting advertising be rescinded.
Supported, a proposal to host a diversity forum pending budget committee review.

Established, that the Wilder Award be given annually.

Endorsed, a memorial resolution honoring Mary Margaret (Maggie) Kimmel.

Endorsed, a memorial resolution honoring Marilyn Lea Miller.

Established, a task force to crowd source member input and explore evolving the Carnegie Award to include new media for children.

Accepted, proposed FY15 budget and additional financial proposals as outlined in Document 32d.

Agreed, to promote “Take Your Child to the Library Day” in 2015 and 2016.

Agreed, to provide a book list to support the Save the Children Tool Kit for the Get Ready. Get Safe. initiative.

Approved, in concept, participation in the 30 Million Word Gap initiative.

Discontinued, the Children’s Book Discussion Group.

Discontinued, the Collections of Children’s Books for Adult Research Discussion Group.

Approved, a revised function statement for the Local Arrangements Committee.

**Online**

Elected, Lisa Von Drasek to fill the position of ALSC Councilor, vacated by the general election of Andrew Medlar as 2014-2015 ALSC Vice-President/President-Elect, for the remaining one year of the term. (May 2014)

Approved, a Memorial Resolution in honor of Eliza Dresang. (May 2014)

Agreed, to a partnership with Chipotle, as proposed, in support of summer and winter reading. (April 2014)

Adopted, a white paper, “The Importance of Diversity in Library Programs and Material Collections for Children,” by Jamie Campbell Naidoo, Ph.D. (April 2014)

Approved, a recommendation, as amended to provide clarity, from the Organizations and Bylaws Committee to appoint an Awards priority group consultant (Priority Group V) annually to ensure thorough training and consistent support for awards committees. (March 2014)

Approved, a letter of support to Queens (NY) Library for their IMLS National Leadership-National Forum Grant proposal to hold a symposium on Early Childhood Education in Urban Libraries. (February 2014)

Approved, a request for a letter of support for the Access, Content & Engagement: Media Mentors @ Your Library! grant proposal (November 2013)

Approved, the Emerging Leaders proposal – Count It Up: Advocating for Access with the Youth Library Services Calculator. (September 2013)

Approved, providing a letter of support for the Space Science Institute in their bid to the National Science Foundation for support to coordinate a national conference about STEM programming in libraries. (September 2013)

Selected, Robyn Mutnick as nominee to represent ALSC/ALA on the USBBY Board. (September 2013)
ALSC FINANCES

In consultation with the Executive Director, the ALSC Board of Directors and Budget Committee review and monitor ALSC’s budget performance over the course of the year.

ALSC Budgetary Performance – as of August 31, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$1,105,535</td>
<td>$1,566,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures before Overhead &amp; Taxes</td>
<td>$1,036,601</td>
<td>$1,049,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution Margin</td>
<td>$68,934</td>
<td>$516,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overhead to ALA</td>
<td>$97,362</td>
<td>$148,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Revenue for FY14</td>
<td>-$28,668</td>
<td>$368,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Net Asset Balance (as of September 1, 2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,763,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending Net Asset Balance (as of August 31, 2014)</td>
<td>$2,131,987</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Gain</td>
<td>$368,343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Budget Highlights

Total revenue for FY14 was $1,566,191, exceeding the budgeted total revenue by $460,656. The FY14 revenue total was $102,853 higher than in FY13, which ended with total revenue of $1,463,338.

Total expenses, including overhead, for FY14 were $1,197,848; this is $63,645 higher than the total budgeted for expenses, which was $1,134,203. FY14 expenses were $40,499 lower than FY13 total expenses, which were $1,238,347.

Net revenue for FY14 was $368,343, which performed well ahead of the budgeted net expense of -$28,668. Net revenue for FY14 was greater than FY13’s net revenue ($224,991) by $143,352.

Conclusion

ALSC remains in a strong financial position, thanks to diverse revenue sources, managed expenses, and sharp fiscal oversight by the ALSC Board, Executive Director, and Budget Committee. Endowment interest income, Friends of ALSC and grant support, and salary savings from two open staff positions, along with strong seals sales, better than expected Every Child Ready to Read® sales, dues revenue, and online education income, all contributed to a better than expected bottom line for FY14.
ALSC Board of Directors, 2013-2014

President
Starr LaTronica
Four County Library System, Vestal, N.Y.

Vice-President/President-Elect
Ellen M. Riordan
Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.

Past President
Carolyn S. Brodie
Kent State University, Ohio

Division Councillor
Andrew Medlar
Chicago Public Library, Ill.

Fiscal Officer
Diane B. Foote
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Dominican University, River Forest, Ill.

Ex-Officio
Aimee Strittmatter
ALSC Office, Chicago

Directors-at-large
Rita Auerbach
New York, N.Y.

Gretchen Caserotti
Meridian Library District, Idaho

Ernie Cox
Prairie Creek Intermediate School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Jamie Campbell Naidoo
School of Library and Information Studies
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Michael Santangelo
Brooklyn Public Library, N.Y.

Megan Schliesman
Cooperative Children’s Book Center
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Lisa Von Drasek
Children’s Literature Research Collection
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Jan Watkins
Skokie Public Library, Ill.

ALSC Staff
Aimee Strittmatter
Executive Director

Dan Bostrom
Marketing Specialist, Membership

Marsha Burgess
Program Coordinator

Joanna Ison
Program Officer, Projects & Partnerships

Courtney Jones
Awards Coordinator

Laura Schulte-Cooper
Program Officer, Communications

Kristen Sutherland
Program Officer, Continuing Education