

Report to Council and Executive Board

October 13, 2016

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director

Hayden Swearing-In Makes National and ALA History

With the September 14 swearing-in of former ALA president Dr. Carla Hayden as the nation's 14th Librarian of Congress, national and ALA history were made. According to key Hill staff involved, the thousands of grassroots contacts with Senators' offices by ALA members and other supporters –mobilized by the Office for Government Relations (OGR) over many months – contributed substantially to Dr. Hayden's confirmation. Having also been quietly but intensively involved for months behind the scenes to overcome heavy and coordinated opposition to Dr. Hayden's confirmation by many members of the Senate Republican "Steering Committee" and powerful outside interests like the Heritage Foundation, the OGR shares the profession's deep pride in her success. Dr. Hayden's swearing-in by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts was conducted in the Great Hall of the Library of Congress' historic Jefferson Building. The ceremony was attended by hundreds of well-wishers and dignitaries, including: ALA President-elect Jim Neal (also representing ALA president Julie Todaro), and ALA past Presidents Sari Feldman, Courtney Young and Maureen Sullivan (among many other ALA notables).

Banned Books Week

During Banned Books Week (September 25 - October 1), the Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) collaborated with SAGE Publishing to host "[Battling Bannings](#)," a webinar on censorship from an author's perspective. During the webinar, challenged authors Jessica Herthel ("I Am Jazz"), Christine Baldacchino ("Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress") and Wendy Doniger ("The Hindus") discussed what readers and librarians can do to support banned writers. OIF also launched an events page on the Banned Books Week Coalition website, where librarians and booksellers logged 90 events to attract patrons to their programs. OIF's annual Banned Books Week Virtual Read-Out inspired nearly 200 readers from across the U.S. to read from their favorite challenged book, with an additional 236 videos from the Read-Out, co-sponsored with SAGE Publishing during the 2016 Annual Conference. Authors such as Alex Gino, Miranda Paul and Gwendolyn Hooks participated.

Library Card Sign-up Month (September)

Library Card Sign-up Month served as a national platform for Libraries Transform messaging. The Public Awareness Office (PAO) worked closely with Peanuts on multiple promotions centered on Snoopy as the honorary “spokesdog” for the Library Card Sign-up Month, including a Facebook profile frame, digital public service announcement (PSA), and customizable campaign billboards for libraries to use at the local level. Additional efforts included a partnership with Overdrive featuring downloadable lists of ebooks to correspond with events such as Hispanic Heritage Month and Banned Books Week. Deliverables included a [web press kit](#), audio [PSAs](#) and press releases in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). *(For more information on Library Card sign up media activity, see the PAO section of this report.)*

45-115 Initiative: Gearing Up for the Next Presidential Administration

In collaboration with ALA President Julie Todaro, the Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) ramped up work in preparation for the next presidential administration as part of the [45-115 Initiative](#) (45th President, 115th Congress). Background research was initiated to culminate in the writing of three-page reports on key topics. Also, the Washington Office is beginning specific outreach to coalitions and D.C. allies to coordinate respective efforts. On the topic of veterans, Alan S. Inouye visited the Los Angeles Public Library to learn about its meritorious efforts, which will inform OITP’s policy work. This visit was reported in an article published in [American Libraries](#). Finally, ALA joined some other major policy advocacy groups to request that debate moderators ask about ubiquitous [broadband adoption](#) across the country.

First Advocacy Bootcamp and Programs in Denver

On September 27, Office for Library Advocacy Director Marci Merola and Office for Intellectual Freedom Director James (Jamie) LaRue conducted their first [Advocacy Bootcamp](#) for the Minnesota Library Association preconference. Jamie LaRue also presented three programs at the second IMLS funded *Research Institute for Public Libraries* conference in Denver. The programs addressed community-centered reference, using data for strategic management, and communication and library advocacy.

Six States Participate in Every Student Succeeds Act Workshops

School librarians and educational stakeholders in Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Massachusetts attended workshops dedicated to unpacking the provisions for school libraries in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Presented by AASL in collaboration with the ALA Office for Library Advocacy and the ALA Washington Office, the complimentary workshops are part of an outreach effort to AASL state affiliates to highlight opportunities within ESSA language for school librarians and school libraries to be addressed in state and local plans. To date, 35 states have committed to holding ESSA workshops. For a list of dates, please visit essa.aasl.org.

Symposium on the Future of Libraries at Midwinter

The Center for the Future of Libraries is working to coordinate a [Symposium on the Future of Libraries](#) as part of the 2017 ALA Midwinter Meeting. A [call for proposals](#) was made available in

mid-September. The deadline for proposals is October 18. Special thanks to the [Center's Advisory Group](#) for the help reviewing and promoting this call for proposals.

PPO Receives IMLS Grant to Offer Community Engagement Training to Libraries

The Public Programs Office (PPO) has been awarded \$243,922 by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program for a two-year professional development project that will train library professionals in community leadership techniques like coalition-building and dialogue facilitation. As part of the program, ALA will offer a series of web-based and in-person workshops, all free of charge for participants and specially designed for public and academic libraries. ALA will partner with several change-making leaders – such as the National Coalition on Dialogue and Deliberation (NCDD), Everyday Democracy, National Issues Forum and World Café – to develop and lead the trainings. Courses will be customized to meet the needs of various library types and sizes: small, medium-sized and rural public libraries; large public library systems; and academic libraries. Library professionals serving small and rural communities will be invited to apply for 25 scholarships to defray the cost of travel and lodging for in-person workshops. More information and a training schedule will be released in the coming weeks.

2017 LITA Forum

The hotel block is filling up, so be sure to register and book your room soon. Don't miss keynote speakers [Cecily Walker](#), [Waldo Jaguith](#), and [Tara Robertson](#) and more than 50 programs in Fort Worth (TX) on November 17-20. [The full program for the 2017 LITA Forum is available online.](#)

PLA to Provide Leadership Training in Africa

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries (GL) program identified Africa as a priority geography. GL is funding PLA and AfLIA (African Library & Information Associations & Institutions) to provide leadership training for public library staff, based on PLA's successful [leadership training model](#), for the next three years. This work is separate from but aligned with the GL legacy grant. PLA's project is one component of GL's support to AfLIA. Other grants will support training library staff to develop innovative services, assessing baseline data for African libraries, and strengthening AfLIA's infrastructure.

ALA OFFICES

Center for the Future of Libraries

Library 2.016: Libraries of the Future Mini-Conference.

The Center for the Future of Libraries worked with [San Jose State University's School of Information](#) and [The Learning Revolution](#) on a *Library 2.016: Libraries of the Future Mini-Conference*. The October 6 event brought together over 5,000 registrants, presenters in 15

concurrent programs, as well as an opening and closing session. Special thanks to all of the ALA members who participated as presenters and attendees. Recordings will be available [from the mini-conference's site](#).

Center for the Future of Libraries email Newsletter

The Center's [email newsletter](#) continues to reach new members and library professionals. As of October 7, 2016, over 2,000 people have subscribed to the weekly wrap-up of news and articles to help libraries think about the future of our collections, spaces, services, partners, and roles in the community. The Center is also completing a survey of newsletter readers. While the survey is still open, early analysis indicates that readers have a high interest (47%) or medium interest (47%) in this newsletter; that readers find it useful to very useful (85%) as a resource for professional development and trend awareness; and that readers find the newsletter useful or very useful (60%) in developing or considering new collections, partnerships, programs, services, or spaces. The Center will share additional information from the reader survey once it is completed. Please consider [subscribing](#) or encourage colleagues to subscribe to the newsletter.

Symposium on the Future of Libraries at Midwinter

(See highlights section)

Zocalo Public Square, "Why Libraries Will Shape the Future"

In addition to several recent presentations to libraries, the Center was pleased to participate in a public event hosted by [Zocalo Public Square](#), "[Why Libraries Will Shape the Future](#)." Video of the event, featuring ALA Treasurer Susan Hildreth and Center for the Future of Libraries director Miguel Figueroa, is [available at the Zocalo site](#).

Library and Knowledge Management

Reference Transaction Statistics and Fact Sheet Conversion

The ALA Library continues its work in responding to the information inquiries of staff, members, and library professionals from around the world while also building, or sometimes rebuilding, information resources. Reference transaction statistics for 2016 fiscal year: 3,330 queries answered, with 12% from staff, 15.4% identifiably from members, 7.4% from students, and 5.6% from international inquirers. Three-fourths of the questions come via e-mail; about half of those are answered by return email and the rest forwarded to the appropriate ALA unit. Although some 30% of the questions fit no category and are as varied as the inquirers, the three most common topics continue to be "ALA Events and Programs," "Marketing to Libraries," and career or information about becoming a librarian, including providing the URL for the list of accredited institutions. Beginning shortly before the 2016 Annual Conference, ALA Library staff began converting fact sheets and other pathfinders to [LibGuides](#); this work will continue until all ALA Library informational resources are in that format.

Migration to OCLC's WMS

During the 2016 fiscal year, the ALA Library completed its migration to OCLC's WMS (Web-Scale Management Services), including the development of tools for ALA staff to access the [digital resources](#) and initiate interlibrary loan requests independently.

Renovation of Library Space

The Library also renovated its space with extensive assistance from the staff support crew, who moved shelving and painted. The transformation of the Library space includes comfortable chairs for casual meetings – or just a bit of quiet reading – outward facing shelving for new acquisitions, and a display case for some of the gifts to ALA from other library associations and governments.

Rehousing Special Collections

Included in the Library renovations was the rehousing of a special collection of award-winning children's books. The collection, begun by former Children's Services Division Executive Secretary Mildred Batchelder, includes winners and honors for most years for the Youth Media Award recognitions. In September, the EMIERT Coretta Scott King Award Archives and History Committee, chaired by Chrystal Carr-Jeter, visited headquarters to examine the holdings for that award. The ALA Library will be collaborating with ODLOS and the Committee to fill in gaps as possible. (An inventory of all the collections was prepared in March 2016 by students from the University of Michigan School of Information, working at ALA as part of the Alternative Spring Break program.)

Membership Development

Membership Statistics

At the end of August 2016, total ALA membership was 56,976. This is more than 2,800 greater than August of last year. Four divisions: ALSC, ASCLA, PLA, and United for Libraries had membership growth. Seven round tables: EMIERT, GAMERT, GLBTRT, LearnRT, RMRT, SRRT, and SustainRT had increased membership compared to last year. Small and very small library organizational memberships have re-bounded, and there is continued growth in the medium and large library categories. The total of corporate/champion members has increased to 178 compared to 176 last year.

Office for Government Relations (OGR)

Hayden Swearing-In Makes National and ALA History

(See highlights section)

“Connecticut Four” Answer OGR Call to Oppose Late Effort in Senate to Expand FBI’s Warrantless National Security Letter Powers

On September 26, OGR was alerted of an attempt to introduce legislation to expand the FBI's authority to compel without warrant the production of additional kinds of "electronic communication transaction records" through issuance of a National Security Letter and its associated "gag order." OGR contacted the legislative co-chairs of the Connecticut Library Association, both of whom supported the suggestion that a joint op-ed by all the members of the “Connecticut Four” (of Patriot Act resistance fame) opposing such legislation would be extremely influential if run in the *Hartford Courant* quickly. OGR drafted and facilitated [publication early on Wednesday, September 28, of such an op-ed](#). The piece marks the first time in over a decade that “The Four” had reunited publicly in support of all Americans’ civil liberties. CLA Legislative Co-Chairs Mary Etter and Carl Antonucci were instrumental in making the op-ed a reality. The legislation was not introduced prior to the Senate’s adjournment on September 29, but there may be an attempt to do so again in the anticipated December “lame duck” session of this Congress. OGR will remain alert to that possibility.

New LSTA Reauthorization Bill Pushed by Powerful Bipartisan Backers in Current Congress

For the past year, OGR, in active collaboration with the Committee on Legislation’s (COL) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Subcommittee, has worked extremely closely with long-time library champion Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and his senior staff and other key Senators to fashion legislation required to reauthorize LSTA, which expires later this year. The “Museum and Library Services Act of 2016” (S. 3391) was jointly introduced in late-September by Senators Reed, Susan Collins (R-ME), Thad Cochran (R-MS), and Kristen Gillibrand (D-NY). As part of a larger package to reauthorize the Institute of Museum and Library Services and all of the programs it administers, S. 3391 proposes that LSTA be reauthorized at \$230 million annually. That is the same level last authorized in 2010, but the new authority would last through 2022. Efforts were made to update the law to help libraries improve their technology, enhance collaboration and better serve the public and communities. OGR will continue to work aggressively with the bill's bipartisan sponsors in the hopes of having it approved by the end of the current Congress’ expected “lame duck” session in December.

Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP)

45-115 Initiative: Gearing Up for the Next Presidential Administration

(See highlights section)

ALA Submits Two Sets of Comments to the FCC

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) solicits comments for its annual Broadband Progress Report. The basic question is whether “advanced telecommunications capability is being deployed to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion.” ALA provided comments focused on the [E-rate program](#). In addition, the FCC is developing a [digital inclusion plan](#), and ALA was asked to provide input. The comments provided focused on non-price barriers to broadband adoption.

ALA Submits Comments on Digital Deposit

ALA, as a member of the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA), submitted [comments](#) to the U.S. Copyright Office (CO) regarding “Mandatory Deposit of Electronic Books and Sound Recordings Available Only Online.” The comments describe the importance of deposit in ensuring that the Library of Congress continues to build and preserve a national collection of works.

Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)

Banned Books Week

(See highlights section)

Banned Books Week Author Opinion Pieces and Conversations

The OIF blog published opinion pieces from [several authors](#) during Banned Books Week, including Chris Crutcher, Alex Gino and Jewell Parker Rhodes. During the week of September 26, the blog had a 58% increase in views compared to the previous week. Banned Books Week prompted viral conversations on social media. OIF’s [Thunderclap](#) reached an audience of 1.6 million people, and #BannedBooksWeek was trending on Twitter Monday morning. OIF staff also provided many media interviews and social media postings around Banned Books Week.

A Template to Promote Growth of Diverse, Quality Content in Library Collections

The Office for Intellectual Freedom announced the launch of [Our Voices](#), an initiative offering interested libraries a template to follow in order to promote the growth of diverse, quality content in their collections. The goal of Our Voices is to assist efforts to build library collections that mirror the needs of diverse users, as well as provide all library users with an opportunity to explore lives other than their own.

Webinar: “Filtering: The Man in the Middle”

On September 15, OIF Director Jamie LaRue moderated "[Filtering: The Man in the Middle](#)", an AL Live webinar on the topic of E-rate, filtering and privacy. The webinar featured Bob Bocher, Fellow, ALA’s Office for Information Technology Policy; Doug Archer, Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) Member and Peace Studies and Global Affairs librarian at the University of Notre Dame; Michael Robinson, Chair of the IFC Privacy Subcommittee and Head of Systems at the University of Alaska Anchorage’s Consortium Library; and OIF Deputy Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone. A summary is posted on the [Knowledge Quest blog](#).

First Advocacy Bootcamp and Programs in Denver

On September 27, Jamie LaRue and Office for Library Advocacy Director Marci Merola conducted their first *Advocacy Bootcamp* for the Minnesota Library Association preconference. Jamie LaRue also presented three programs at the second IMLS funded *Research Institute for Public Libraries* conference in Denver. The programs addressed community-centered reference, using data for strategic management, and communication and library advocacy.

Programs for Students about Intellectual Freedom and Banned Books Week

OIF Assistant Director Kristin Pekoll spoke with students of varying ages about intellectual freedom and Banned Books Week in September, including the eighth graders at the Science and Arts Academy in Des Plaines, Illinois; MLIS students taking Jenna Nemec-Loise's “Access, Advocacy, and Policy” class at Dominican University; and with Francis W. Parker School freshmen via Skype.

"Freedom, Access, and Privacy: A (Mostly) Practical Workshop on Intellectual Freedom"

On September 16, OIF Deputy Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone spoke on "Freedom, Access, and Privacy: A (Mostly) Practical Workshop on Intellectual Freedom" for the Itasca Public Library staff in-service day. The discussion addressed a wide range of issues, including the right to access information in the library, services to the homeless, and responding to law enforcement requests for library records.

For MLIS Students Taking “Intellectual Freedom and Censorship” at the University of Illinois

During the month of September, Jamie LaRue, Deborah Caldwell-Stone, and Kristin Pekoll spoke to the MLIS students taking Emily Knox’s “Intellectual Freedom and Censorship” class at the University of Illinois at Urbana –Champaign's School of Information Sciences. The class is a partnership between the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) and the School of Information Sciences, and funding support for the class is provided by the FTRF's Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund.

Office for Library Advocacy (OLA)

First Advocacy Bootcamp and Programs in Denver

(See highlights section)

Office for Research and Statistics (ORS)

Research: ALA FINRA Personal Finance Study

The ALA FINRA Personal Finance Study includes the development of a Personal Finance Resource Guide. Rachel Wedeward is working with the ALA Library to develop the resource guide as a LibGuide. The Personal Finance LibGuide will be available through the ALA Library, the Smart Investing @ Your Library website and the ORS website. The Guide will include suggested books, serials and databases recommended for inclusion in public library collections. The FINRA Educational Foundation funds this study.

Research Efforts of Member Groups

ORS continues to work with member groups on their research efforts. Current efforts include the Conference Accessibility Task Force Data Sub-Committee which is conducting mixed methods research in support of the Task Force mission. ORS is also working with ALCTS and the Preservation and Reformatting Section (PARS) Digital Preservation Interest Group to field a survey that will gauge the PARS membership's interests and needs.

ALA Research Agenda

The Committee on Research and Statistics (CORS) and ORS have drafted an outline of an ALA Research Agenda. The agenda will be open for discussion at ALA Midwinter in a News You Can Use Session. The final report will be presented at the 2017 Annual Conference.

Standards: IMLS Library Statistics Working Group

Kathy Rosa will participate in the IMLS Library Statistics Working Group (LSWG) conference call meeting On Monday, October 17. The meeting will include discussion of recommended elements for the IMLS Public Library Survey and planning for December's LSWG meeting in Louisville.

Standards Revision

Kathy Rosa is a member of the working group currently revising the ANSI/NISO Z39.7-2013 Information Services and Use: Metrics & Statistics for Libraries and Information Providers – Data Dictionary.

Strategic Directions Assessment

ORS is assisting in the assessment of the Strategic Directions implementation. Cathleen Bourdon and Kathy Rosa developed a plan for assessment based on the IMLS recommended Outcomes Based Planning & Evaluation and a logic model. At a meeting with the three Strategic Directions Team Leaders, a plan was launched to evaluate progress made toward the enabling strategies. Ongoing progress will be reported at the fall Board meeting.

Public Awareness Office (PAO)

Public Awareness Office (PAO)

The following is a snapshot of Public Awareness Office (PAO) publicity activities that took place from September 1 – 30, 2016. During this timeframe more than 3,300 articles mentioning the American Library Association were captured by ALA's monitoring service Meltwater News resulting in a circulation rate of more than 5.8 billion. (Please note that circulation rate is calculated using the number of articles/mentions multiplied by the monthly unique visitors for each media outlet's website.) During this reporting period the majority of coverage (73.95 percent) was positive and focused on ALA initiatives and Libraries Transform messaging. Approximately 23.7 percent of coverage was neutral and consisted of brief ALA mentions, including event calendar notices, or mentions within author references. Only 1.95 percent of coverage positioned ALA negatively and was fueled by the association's position on censorship and book challenges.

Libraries Transform Monthly Analytics Report: September 1-30, 2016

As of September 1, more than 3,800 libraries and supporters have joined ALA's Libraries Transform campaign. As the campaign shifts into its second year, PAO has begun work on a Year 1 Report for the campaign, which it will present to the Executive Board in October. This report will include a summary of activities from the first year, as well as a look inside the numbers and analytics of the campaign. In September, PAO Director Jeff Julian gave a keynote presentation on Libraries Transform at the Panhandle Library Access Network in Panama City Beach, Florida. Additionally, PAO Director Julian met with ACRL Libraries Transform Task Force to discuss the campaign and ways they can contribute to future Because statements.

Libraries Transform website

Pageviews: 17,908

Unique pageviews: 13,229

Tool downloads: 1,304

Twitter

#LibrariesTransform used 1,905 times on Twitter

Impressions on ALA and I Love Libraries (ILL) Twitter accounts: 301,144

Retweets on ALA and ILL accounts: 916

Facebook

Post reach on ALA and ILL Facebook: 1,024,059

Comments: 961; Likes: 32,670; Shares: 7,462;

Video views

[PLA Education video](#) 9,618 views on Facebook (238 Likes, 254 Shares)

Sample posts

September 2 post: [Children who use the library perform better in school](#) and are more likely to continue to use the library for lifelong learning. [#LibraryCardSignUp](#) [#LibrariesTransform](#)

September 12 post: [Children understand words long before they can say them.](#)
[#LibrariesTransform](#) [#LibraryCardSignUp](#)

September 26 post: [Librarians are intellectual freedom fighters.](#) [#bannedbooksweek](#)
[#librariestransform](#)

Library Card Sign-up Month (September)

(See highlights section)

Library Card Sign-up Month Social Media Report

PAO secured PSA placements with WESB News Radio 1490 AM, Bradford, Pennsylvania; WBBM Radio, WCPT 820 AM & 92.5 FM, in Chicago, Illinois. PAO also has reached out to Westwood One and more than 40 regional news talk radio networks to secure PSAs. Media outreach efforts resulted in more than 451 mentions and a circulation total of more than 109 million. PAO secured a Spanish Language Library Card Sign-up Month interview with [El Sol 103.9 FM y 980](#) in Charleston, South Carolina. PAO provided graphics and talking points to Charleston County Public Library, and its team provided a Spanish speaking spokesperson to participate in the interview. *(Please note that some analytics from Library Card Sign-up Month, such as those using the hashtag or Because statements, are also part of the Libraries Transform numbers listed above.)*

Facebook

Facebook (ALA and I Love Libraries accounts)

1,787,646 Impressions

46,081 Likes; 11,475 Shares; 1,440 Comments

Facebook Profile Frame: 7,300 added the frame; 167 Shares

Twibbon: 505 supports

Twitter

Twitter (ALA and I Love Libraries accounts):

520,458 Impressions; 1,972 Retweets

#LibraryCardSignUp used 4221 in August and September

Video

PLA Education video: 9590 views Facebook; 256 Shares

Snoopy video PSA: 29,299 views on Facebook, 502 likes, 917 Shares; 140 views YouTube

Traffic to Promotional pages: 32,057 pageviews (April 1 –October 1)

208 libraries requested artwork for custom library cards.

114 libraries requested artwork for use on billboards.

Tool Downloads: 13,942

Highlights

September 1 post: ICYMI: We added some "[Expert in the library](#)" materials to the [#Libraries Transform](#) toolkit.

September 2 post: [Children who use the library perform better in school](#) and are more likely to continue to use the library for lifelong learning.

[#LibraryCardSignUp](#) [#LibrariesTransform](#)

September 15 post: [Snoopy](#) has a library card. You should get one, too. September is Library Card Sign-up Month! [#LibraryCardSignUp](#)

Crisis Communication Efforts

PAO continues to work with members of ALA's Crisis Communication Team to develop and distribute statements and letters with ALA. Successes include:

- Placement of an op-ed with the [Chicago Tribune](#) regarding the need and value of school librarians in Chicago Public Schools, which led to additional placement with Chicago media including [DNAinfo](#)
- Additional placements of statements regarding school reading list censorship efforts in Chesterfield County, Virginia with the [Chesterfield Observer](#)
- Statement for the [Kansas City Star](#) regarding the arrest of a library employee as he tried to defend free speech during a public program at the Kansas City (MO) Public Library
- PAO also worked with ALA President Julie Todaro to develop talking points to address the uptick of drug use in public libraries and how libraries support homeless patrons. Coverage highlights on this issue include the [Associated Press](#), Ohio; [Associated Press](#), Virginia; WMDT 47ABC, Salisbury, Maryland; KCBS Radio, San Francisco; [HOY](#), Santa Ana, California; and the [Los Angeles Times](#).
- Todaro also spoke with [EFE News Service](#), which is the Spanish language equivalent of the Associated Press. EFE has a vast reach and its coverage was also picked up by [FoxLatino](#), [Holaciudad!](#), Univision, and Telemundo.

Banned Books Week

Banned Books Week, September 25 - October 1, focused on the theme of "Stand Up For Your Right To Read" and highlighted the challenges to titles by diverse authors regarding diverse themes. The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom also leveraged Banned Books Week to discuss its "[Our Voices](#)" campaign. PAO tracked more than 1,176 articles/mentions during this reporting period which resulted in a circulation rate of more than 2.8 billion. PAO secured an op-ed from OIF supporter and Young Adult Author I.W. Gregorio, which was placed with [Publishers Weekly](#). The op-ed appeared on *Publishers Weekly* website and various newsletters reaching more than 90,000 publishing/library industry subscribers. PAO also worked closely with OIF to secure coverage and vetted more than 20 interview and information requests from a variety of media. Coverage highlights included [TIME](#), [The Guardian](#) (UK), [TIME for Kids](#), [National Geographic](#), [CNN.com](#), [Quartz](#), [Bloomberg News](#), [Washington Post](#), [Houston Public Radio](#), [Atlanta Public Radio](#), [Voice of America Radio](#), and the [New York Times](#).

President-elect Media Training

PAO worked with media trainer Jeff LeShay to provide an in-depth full-day training session for President-elect Jim Neal. The training included a review of PAO services, best practices, key messages, and on-camera opportunities for President-elect Neal. In October, PAO will provide similar training for incoming Division presidents.

Social Media Analytics of Note During this Time Period

Twitter

#LibrariesTransform used 1,905 times on Twitter
Impressions on ALA and ILL Twitter accounts: 301,144
Retweets on ALA and ILL accounts: 916

Facebook

Post reach on ALA and ILL Facebook: 1,024,059
Comments: 961; Likes: 32,670; Shares: 7,462;
(Additional Social Media analytics are available in the Libraries Transform Monthly Report.)

Future Publicity Efforts

PAO is currently working on publicity efforts to support the following initiatives:

- Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction & Nonfiction shortlist announcement October 26.
- I Love My Librarian Award announcements, November 2016
- ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits, January 20 – 24
- ALA Youth Media Awards, January 23

Public Programs Office (PPO)

PPO Receives IMLS Grant to Offer Free Community Engagement Training to Libraries

(See highlights section)

Applications Open 11/1 for Great Stories Club Reading and Discussion Program

From November 1 to December 31, 2016, libraries will be invited to [apply for the Great Stories Club](#), a reading and discussion program for at-risk teens. The theme for the upcoming round is “Nature vs. Nurture: Origins of Teen Violence and Suicide.” Working with small groups of six to ten teens, grantees will host reading and discussion events for each of three selected book titles. The titles – selected in consultation with librarian advisors and humanities scholars – are chosen to resonate with reluctant readers struggling with complex issues like incarceration, violence and poverty. Eligible libraries are located within or working in partnership with organizations that serve at-risk youth. Up to 100 grants will be awarded. [View the book selections for this round.](#)

Great Stories Club Author Tour Underway

[Five acclaimed young adult authors and illustrators will travel to public libraries](#), alternative high schools and juvenile justice centers around the country to speak with young people as part of the Great Stories Club reading and discussion program for at-risk youth. The following individuals will take part in the tour, discussing some of their most popular works: author MK Asante (“Buck: A Memoir”), author Jay Asher (“Thirteen Reasons Why”), author Andrew Aydin and illustrator Nate Powell (“March” trilogy), and illustrator Matt Weigle (“No Fear Shakespeare Graphic Novels: Romeo & Juliet”). Between now and July 2017, hundreds of teenagers at libraries nationwide will read these works as part of the Great Stories Club.

ALA DIVISIONS

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

Six States Participate in Every Student Succeeds Act Workshops

(See highlights section)

AASL, GameRT and School Librarians Play and Learn at GAME

AASL, in collaboration with the ALA Games & Gaming Round Table, presented “GAME | Gaming As Meaningful Education,” September 23-24 in Rochester, New York. The two-day event focused on how games encourage critical thinking, problem solving and creative activities. GAME kicked off with an afterhours gathering at The Strong | National Museum of Play, a collections-based museum devoted to the history and exploration of play. Keynote presentations included Julie Evans, CEO of Project Tomorrow and Christopher Harris, Director of the Genesee Valley School Library System. Along with presentations, attendees participated in hands-on activities including an escape room and visited with game developers and designers.

New Research Articles Examine Leadership, Capstone Projects and Library Supervisors

Three new articles are now available in AASL’s peer-reviewed online journal, *School Library Research* (SLR). SLR promotes and publishes high quality original research concerning the management, implementation and evaluation of school library programs. Articles can be accessed at www.ala.org/aasl/slr.

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

Updated ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit

ACRL has released a new version of its popular [Scholarly Communication Toolkit](#). The Toolkit has been updated with new and revised content and is now hosted through Springshare's LibGuides. The Toolkit, developed and maintained by the ACRL Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (ReSEC), continues to provide content and context on a broad range of scholarly communications topics and offers resources and tools for the practitioner. ACRL and ReSEC tapped Christine Fruin, scholarly communications librarian at the University of Florida, to completely revise and redesign the Toolkit and migrate it to ACRL's LibGuides. The new Toolkit now features sections on topics such as fair use, public access mandates, and library publishing in addition to more fully developed sections on open access publishing and repositories. The ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit is freely available online and licensed through Creative Commons.

ACRL Seeks Nominations for 2017 Awards

ACRL celebrates the opportunity to honor the outstanding achievements of academic and research librarians across North America. Made possible by generous corporate support, the annual presentation of ACRL's awards, grants, and fellowships enables ACRL to honor the very best in academic librarianship. This year, ACRL once again seeks to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of its peers. More information, including submission procedures, past winners, criteria, and contact information, is available in the awards section of the [ACRL website](#). Nominations and supporting materials for most awards must be submitted by December 2, 2016.

Progress Update on ACRL Action-Oriented Research Agenda

The team from OCLC Research – which ACRL selected to design, develop, and deliver a new ACRL “Action-Oriented Research Agenda on Library Contributions to Student Learning and Success” – has recently submitted a progress report to the ACRL Board of Directors. The report details how the project team conducted a literature search in academic library journals and conference proceedings for scholarly and practice-based literature that addresses library contributions to student learning and success. It explains the ways the team analyzed the studies (using content analysis to portray the current state of library value studies in an institutional context) and identified themes for the research agenda. More details are on [ACRL Insider](#).

Critical Library Pedagogy Handbook Two-Volume Set

ACRL announces the publication of the two-volume [Critical Library Pedagogy Handbook](#). Edited by Nicole Pagowsky and Kelly McElroy, these books provide a collection of ideas, best practices, and lesson plans that contribute to the richness of what it means to do this type of work in libraries. Critical pedagogy incorporates inclusive and reflective teaching for aims of social justice. It provides mechanisms for students to evaluate their social, political, and economic standing, and to question societal norms and how these norms perpetuate societal

injustices. Teaching librarians have long incorporated social justice into their work, but focused interest in critical library pedagogy has grown rapidly in recent years. In two volumes, the *Critical Library Pedagogy Handbook* works to make critical pedagogy more accessible for library educators, examining both theory and practice to help the busy practitioner explore various aspects of teaching for social justice. *Critical Library Pedagogy Handbook* is available for purchase in print and as ebooks for Volume One and Volume Two through the ALA Online Store, in print from Amazon.com, and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

Bridging Worlds: Emerging Models and Practices of U.S. Academic Libraries Around the Globe

ACRL published [*Bridging Worlds: Emerging Models and Practices of U.S. Academic Libraries Around the Globe*](#) this September. Edited by Raymond Pun, Scott Collard, and Justin Parrott, the book provides insight into international academic libraries and provides best practices and practical leadership strategies. Over the past decade, a growing number of American colleges and universities have made international engagement a key facet of their missions, emphasizing global awareness, interconnectedness, and student and community diversity. Universities are establishing campuses, branches, and enhanced programs outside of the United States and many are partnering with foreign institutions in the Middle East and East Asia to introduce and integrate Western higher education into these regions. This book provides practical best practices, lessons learned, and perspectives gained, from collection building to finances to designing spaces, and touches on some of the cultural, political, and social factors at play as institutions work to support these complex organizations. *Bridging Worlds: Emerging Models and Practices of U.S. Academic Libraries Around the Globe* is available for purchase in print and as an e-book through the ALA Online Store and in print from Amazon.com, and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

Keeping Up With...

The August edition of Keeping Up With..., ACRL's online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education, featured a discussion of [Cybersecurity, Usability, and Privacy](#) by Bohyun Kim. A discussion of [Small and Rural Libraries](#) by Rebecca Freeman was featured in September. ACRL is currently accepting topic suggestions for future editions of Keeping Up With.... Visit the Keeping Up With... website for more information or contact David Free at dfree@ala.org with questions or to submit topics.

Curriculum Designer/Presenters for ACRL Assessment Learning Opportunities

The ACRL Value of Academic Libraries Committee is pleased to announce the selection of Sara Lowe, Melanie Sellar, and Brandy Whitlock as curriculum designer/presenters for new learning opportunities on assessing library impact, building on the work of the ACRL program Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success (AiA). They join the team of continuing facilitators from the AiA program, Karen Brown, Eric Resnis, Debra Gilchrist, and Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, as partners in shaping the curriculum and delivering the new learning opportunities. The team is creating two (and possibly more) new learning opportunities on assessing library impact. First, a day-long workshop is being designed to provide professional development support to librarians who wish to know more about creating a plan to assess one particular program or service in their library. The focus is on understanding library contributions

to institutional priorities for student learning and success, and any aspect of the library can be the focus of inquiry. Second, the design team is creating a new approach to support library leaders – deans and directors – in communicating about library impact with campus decision makers through a half-day guided discussion format. More details are on [ACRL Insider](#).

e-Learning Update

ACRL's e-Learning program offered one live webcast during this report period focusing on the craft of library instruction. Upcoming webcast topics include data-driven budgeting, collaborative collection stewardship, and improving communication through visual design. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#).

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)

ALCTS Offers Symposium on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) will present “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Creating a New Future for Library Collections” on Friday, January 20, 2017, at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting in Atlanta. Whether in acquisitions, access, management or preservation, library collections are evolving to support these ideals. Furthering discussions on metadata, open access, and preserving diverse voices in collections are critical as libraries face challenges in a changing society. This symposium explores work underway and what the future brings. Registration is through the [ALA Midwinter site](#).

ALCTS Opens Call for Proposals for Inaugural ALCTS Exchange

As a fully online interactive forum, the [ALCTS Exchange](#) will give participants the opportunity to share the latest research, trends, and developments in technical services and collection management in an innovative, creatively engaging, virtual environment. The ALCTS Exchange Working Group welcomes proposals for the May 2017 forum that highlight the innovation happening in the profession as well as reflect on the progress made in past decades. Proposal topics should be relevant to the overarching theme, *Embracing the Past, Building the Future*, as well as the [daily themes for each session](#). The deadline for first consideration is December 2, and proposals submitted after December 9 will not be accepted. Proposal submitters will be notified by early February 2017. Connect with ALCTS Exchange on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) using #ALCTSx17.

Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant – Year 7

ALSC and YALSA received a grant of \$248,306. ALSC will use its half of the funding to help libraries provide programming that strengthens community opportunities for STEAM learning

during out-of-school times. ALSC will award 12 Strengthening Communities through Libraries mini-grants to members in public libraries. ALSC will also develop and distribute supplemental resources to support out-of-school time programs.

ALSC Mentoring Program Accepts New Matches

This fall, ALSC added more than 20 new matches to [the mentoring program](#). These matches will now begin to develop goals and participate in an orientation session later this fall. The program lasts one year and is open to members and non-members. Mentors must be ALSC members.

Total ALSC Membership up 4.5% from August 2015

ALSC closed FY16 with a strong performance in terms of membership statistics. At the end of August, the division currently stood at 4096 total members compared to August 2015 when it was at 3921 members. Membership categories that have seen significant growth include regular, student and associate/advocate categories.

Great Websites for Kids

ALSC recently added 11 more sites to Great Websites for Kids, the online resource containing hundreds of links to exceptional websites for children. Sites are reviewed and chosen for inclusion by ALSC's Great Websites for Kids Committee.

Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government - <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>

Biz Kids - <http://bizkids.com/>

canTEEN - <http://canteengirl.org/>

DK Find Out! - <http://www.dkfindout.com/us/>

Exploratorium - <http://www.exploratorium.edu/explore>

Girls Communicating Career Connections - <http://gc3.edc.org/>

KidLit TV - <http://kidlit.tv/>

Oh Noah! - <http://pbskids.org/noah/>

Origami Yoda - <http://origamiyoda.com/>

Plum Landing - <http://pbskids.org/plumlanding/>

Sparticl - <http://www.sparticl.org/>

ALSC Changes Email Communications

Changes are coming to ALSC email communications that will bring more avenues and options for learning about our programs or services. ALSC has created an email subscription center where members and non-members can learn about all emails in one place. [A recent blog post](#) outlines what has changed and how to receive more information.

ALSC Visits Alaska

The opportunity to visit two Alaskan libraries who received the Curiosity Creates mini-grants opened the door to learning more about serving children's librarians who work in remote areas in general. Representatives of ALSC met with librarians in Homer, Kenai, Soldotna, and Anchorage to hear about their programs and communities. The trip resulted in concrete ways

that the association can connect more meaningfully with members in libraries like those visited in Alaska.

ALSC Professional Award Applications

ALSC is now taking applications and nominations for the Professional Awards and Grants. Each year ALSC gives away over \$100k in awards, grants, and scholarships to its members. Applications and nominations are open for [The Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Award](#); [ALSC Baker & Taylor Summer Reading Grant](#); [The Light the Way Grant](#); [ALSC Distinguished Service Award](#), and the [Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship](#).

2017 May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture Date

The [2017 Arbuthnot Lecture](#), hosted by the South Carolina State Library, will be held on April 1, 2017 at the W.W. Hootie Johnson Performance Hall, in the Darla Moore School of Business. The lecture, will be delivered by 2014 National Book award winner, four-time Newbery honor recipient, and *Brown Girl Dreaming* author Jacqueline Woodson. Tickets will be available in the spring of 2017.

ALSC National Institute

The ALSC Virtual Institute took place September 15-16, 2016 and hosted many of the programs that were originally designated for the National Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina that was cancelled due to the state's discriminatory legislation. The successful event had more than 230 attendees participate and the follow-up survey showed the majority of participants found their overall experience was positive.

National Institute Sponsors

The event would not have taken place without ALSC's very generous sponsors:

- Gold Level sponsors, donating more than \$2,000 include Friends of ALSC, HarperCollins Children's Books, Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, Penguin Young Readers, and Scholastic;
- Silver Level sponsors, donating more than \$1,000, include the Carole D. Fiore Leadership Fund, Discount School Supply, Janice Davis Designs, and University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science; and
- Bronze Level Sponsors donating more than \$500 include Candlewick Press, Charlesbridge Publishing, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, Peachtree Publishers, and University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science.

Mini Institute in January

In addition to the virtual event, the remainder of the programming slated for Charlotte will be presented at the Mini Institute, a one-day, face-to-face workshop immediately prior to ALA's Midwinter Meeting on Friday, January 20, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. More information about the Mini Institute including registration prices, agenda, and programs is available on the [ALSC website](#).

Fall Online Education Courses

ALSC is currently offering five courses during the fall season. [Fall Online Courses](#) began on September 26, 2016 and include our newest course, [Demonstrating ALSC Competencies](#). This course is highly reflective and is designed to help students find ways to demonstrate their competence in the youth services field. Students will formulate solid goals and a plan to go with them to learn about and practice some of the competencies they are less familiar with or have not had a chance to demonstrate. Other fall courses include *Engaging Readers and Writers with Interactive Fiction*, *Storytelling with Puppets*, *STEM Programs Made Easy*, and *The Sibert Medal: Evaluating Books of Information*.

Upcoming ALSC Webinars

ALSC is offering several upcoming webinars:

- ALSC is offering several upcoming webinars around diversity, including [Whitewashing, Sexism, and More: Using Book Covers to Start a Conversation with Kids](#) and a two-part webinar series: [Exploring Similarity, Embracing Difference: How to Evaluate and Identify Literature Portraying Individuals with Disabilities](#) and [Exploring Similarity, Embracing Difference: Programming and Activities](#).
- ALSC is also offering a four-part webinar series from the Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee, with focus on [Ages and Stages in Early Literacy Programming](#), [Early Literacy Library Spaces](#), [Early Literacy Outside the Library Walls](#), and [Early Literacy and STEAM](#).
- [Registration](#) is now open for all webinars and is free for both members and non-members to attend. ALSC's [archived webinars](#) are now free for all ALSC members, and are offered at a small price for non-ALSC members.

Continuing Education Proposals

The ALSC Education Committee is always considering new courses and webinars to add to ALSC's growing online education offerings. Members interested in teaching need to fill out an [online application](#) and provide a copy of their resume, teaching references, and a course syllabus (not needed for webinars). The Education Committee will be selecting proposals on a rolling basis to allow for courses to be added multiple times throughout the year.

Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)

Interest Group News

ASCLA's Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Interest Group (IGARD) presented a [poster session](#) at IFLA. The poster was entitled "Reconnecting Persons with Dementia to their Libraries: Using Library Materials to Improve the Quality of Life for People Living with Alzheimer's and Other Dementias". The IGARD poster was one of 203 posters displayed for three days (August 15-17, 2016) within the Exhibition Hall. During two 2-hour sessions on August 15 and August 16, Mary Beth Riedner and IGARD member Erik Johansen chatted about

the poster with many interested parties. Over 125 printed handouts were distributed to those who wanted additional information.

Travel with ASCLA

ASCLA's annual fund raising trip will take us on a river cruise to Amsterdam and Belgium during tulip time from April 3 – April 10, 2017. Enjoy this cruise for people who don't do cruises and drift slowly along the rivers and canals with excursions to see the sights. Only five rooms are left at the current price so book your seat soon! More information on the [ASCLA blog](#).

Revised Standards for People who are Blind or Physically Handicapped

The Working Team for the revision of the 2011 [Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped](#) is accepting comments on the first, revised draft of the standards. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), Library of Congress, is the administrator for the free informational and recreational reading resources for residents of the United States who are unable to read or use standard print materials because of visual or physical impairment. [Comments on the first draft](#) of the revised standards are welcome. For more information, go to the [ASCLA blog](#).

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)

New Strategic Plan

At its September meeting, the LITA Board approved [a new Strategic Plan](#) (PDF) that focuses on the following four areas, which are intended to inspire creative responses at all levels within LITA and allow committees and interest groups to create concrete projects that align with the Association's goals over the next two years:

- Member Engagement
- Organizational Stability and Sustainability
- Education and Professional Development
- Advocacy and Information Policy

Ongoing progress toward the strategic goals will be tracked through [a Tactical Plan](#) that will be maintained by the LITA Board, committee and interest group chairs, and staff. LITA welcomes feedback and suggestions.

2017 LITA Forum

(See highlights section)

Giving Tuesday event

LITA will be participating in this year's Giving Tuesday event on November 29 as part of a fundraising campaign to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The goal is to raise money to fund

additional Emerging Leaders and scholarships for Forum attendees from underrepresented groups. Celebration events are also planned at the November LITA Forum, ALA Midwinter, and ALA Annual where you can join LITA as it looks forward to what the next 50 years of library technology will look like.

New Diversity and Inclusion Committee

At the March Board meeting, the LITA Board approved the creation of [a new Diversity and Inclusion Committee](#) to increase a commitment to create and embrace programming, education, environments, and activities that promote accessibility, diversity, and inclusion. The first project this group is working on is a Conference Buddy Program at ALA Annual in order to foster a more inclusive environment and diverse membership, as well as to improve the overall member experience for new LITA members. The program is modeled on the excellent one run by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table.

New WordPress Site for Forms Includes Revamped Reporting Process

In order to make LITA more efficient, [a new WordPress site for forms that includes a revamped reporting process](#) has been implemented. Committee and interest group chairs use the new forms here to submit their quarterly reports, which are automatically emailed to the three LITA presidents, executive director, the group's board liaison, and the LITA committee or interest group coordinator. The system also attaches, to the email, a PDF of the report that the chair can then upload to his/her Connect group as part of the group's own history. Phase two of this project will turn these submitted reports into blog posts that display publicly on the site and are categorized by date and group, with the goal of allowing anyone to subscribe to receive new reports via email. Although the new system has only been in place for five months, it has already increased communication amongst LITA's leadership, allowing for identification of problems much sooner and of connect groups that previously weren't communicating with each other.

Public Library Association (PLA)

PLA, OITP and Cox Communications Plan Digital Literacy Initiative

PLA, the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP), and Cox Communications have initiated a new project to advance digital literacy training through libraries. From October 2016 to March 2018, the project will recruit three pilot libraries and build each pilot library a personalized DigitalLearn.org site. Community-based Cox staff will assist the libraries with promotion and in-person digital literacy classes. Cox Communication is supporting the direct costs associated with the project.

PLA to Provide Leadership Training in Africa

(See highlights section)

PLA Midwinter Institute Offers Strategies for Partnering with Law Enforcement to Advance Social Justice

PLA is offering an interactive institute from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 20, 2017 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. "[Partnering with Law Enforcement to Advance Social Justice: A Train-the-Trainer Event for Public Libraries](#)" will be presented by Andrea Blackman, division manager for the Special Collections Division of the Nashville (Tennessee) Public Library, and coordinator of the library's nationally recognized Civil Rights Room and Collection. [Read the complete release...](#)

Coaches Announced for 2017 PLA Leadership Academy in Portland, OR

PLA is pleased to announce the full roster of coaches for the PLA Leadership Academy: Navigating Change · Building Community, March 20-24, 2017, in Portland, OR. These experienced public library leaders and city managers will provide attendees with professional insight and support, with one coach for every four attendees. [Read the complete release...](#)

PLA Now Accepting Nominations for Nine Service Awards and Grants

Through the generosity of sponsors, PLA is offering nine awards/grants designed to highlight the best in public library service and to honor those bringing innovation, creativity and dedication to public libraries. Many of the awards include an honorarium. Please [visit the website](#) for details on each award and nominate yourself, your colleague or your library through December 5, 2016.

PLA Webinar Helps Libraries to Better Serve their Spanish Speaking Communities

Libraries joined PLA on October 5, 2016 to learn how they could move beyond the basic Bilingual Storytime and ESL program to serve their Spanish speaking communities. "Beyond Bilingual Storytime and ESL: Digging Deeper into Your Spanish Speaking Community" is available on-demand as part of the [PLA 2016 Rewind: Post-Conference Webinar Series](#).

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)

Call for Nominations

Beginning September 1, 2016, RUSA opened the nomination period for its annual series of achievement awards and grants. Nominations and supporting materials for most awards must be submitted by December 9, 2016. RUSA encourages members to nominate their colleagues whose work has influenced their thinking and performance and whose outstanding contributions merit recognition by the profession. Visit the [RUSA News](#) webpage for the complete list of RUSA's achievement awards and grants and the nomination forms.

IAMRUSA Podcast

RUSA's next [podcast](#) in our popular series is now available. Interviewed by Patricia Valdovinos, RUSA's Spectrum Intern, Joe Thompson, RUSA's past-president, has worked in libraries for 24 years. He talks about how he started and ended up where he is. From circulation assistant to Senior Administrator, Public Services, for Harford County Public Library in Belcamp MD, Joe and his staff just opened a new branch with an interactive early literacy center (Schooner Cove), and will eventually offer 3D printers to the public.

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

New Organizational Plan

YALSA's Board of Directors approved a [new organizational plan](#) for 2016—2018. The plan includes a new mission and vision statement along with three new goal areas. [Share your ideas and feedback](#).

Support for Small, Rural & Tribal Libraries

YALSA will be using grant funding over the next three years to support small rural and tribal libraries in creating college and career readiness (CCR) services for the middle schoolers in their community. Successful applicants will receive a wide variety of support, including access to mentors, a stipend to purchase CCR materials, and funds to travel to an in-person orientation, as well as to another conference of their choice. [Learn more and sign up](#) to receive updates about applying.

2017 Summer Learning Grants

Now through Jan. 1, 2017 libraries can apply for two different [grants](#) to support their summer learning activities. Twenty summer learning resource grants are available to help libraries purchase materials needed for use with promoting literacies related activities for and with teens from low income families, teens who speak English as a second language, and/or teens at risk of failing school. Twenty additional grants are available to fund teen interns at libraries that wish to hire teens to support summer learning activities.

Position Paper on Summer Learning

Libraries at the forefront recognize that traditional summer reading programs are not meeting the needs of many of today's teens. This [paper](#) will be a tool for library staff to use with administrators to help them understand how expanding summer reading programs into summer learning ones can increase the library's value and better meet the needs of youth.

Amp Up Your Collection Development Knowledge

Beginning Oct. 24 and running through Nov. 20, explore how best to build your teen collection so that they meet the needs of the teens in your community via our [newest e-course](#).

School & Public Library Cooperation

The AASL/ASLC/YALSA Interdivisional Committee is hard at work creating a toolkit which will feature resources to help library staff from school and public libraries forge successful collaborations.

Teen Tech Week™ 2017

Beginning November 1, visit www.ala.org/teentechweek for all of your planning and resource needs to help you implement great digital literacy and tech-focused programs and services for and with the teens in your community, especially during TTW, March 5—11, 2017.

ALA PUBLISHING

ALA Editions

New Books from ALA Editions and ALA Neal-Schuman

Some of the new professional development books published include [The One-Shot Library Instruction Survival Guide, Second Edition](#), by Heidi E. Buchanan and Beth A. McDonough (ALA Editions); [Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism, Third Edition](#), by Michael Cart; [Acquisitions: Core Concepts and Practices, Second Edition](#), by Jesse Holden; [Practical Ontologies for Information Professionals](#), by David Stuart; and [Library Conversations: Reclaiming Interpersonal Communication Theory for Understanding Professional Encounters](#), by Marie L. Radford and Gary P. Radford. For a full listing of titles including books, online workshops, and eCourses, visit the ALA Store. www.alastore.ala.org

ALA Graphics

ALA Graphics Winter Catalog

The ALA Graphics Winter 2016 catalog has mailed and will begin arriving in mailboxes mid-October. The catalog cover showcases a new poster created in celebration of the forthcoming film, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, inspired by the eponymous book by J.K. Rowling. The poster, which features Eddie Redmayne as Newt Scamander, is sure to inspire Harry Potter fans of all ages to “Discover a Fantastic World at Your Library”.

Libraries Transform Expert Badge, NLW Items and Clings

The catalog cover also highlights the [Libraries Transform Expert Badge](#), supporting Julie Todaro’s presidential initiative. The catalog also marks the debut of new items for National Library Week 2017 and another set of Libraries Transform Clings.

www.alastore.ala.org/alagraphics/

American Libraries

Kansas City Public Library Free Speech Story

American Libraries interviewed the Kansas City Public Library director after a story broke about a staff member arrested for supporting free speech at a public event. The [story](#) got more than 4500 hits in the first week.

American Libraries International (IFLA) Digital Supplement

The American Libraries International ([IFLA digital supplement](#)) went live on September 23.

6th Dewey Decibel Podcast

The [6th Dewey Decibel podcast](#)--on banned books--went live on October 1 and had the most first-day downloads of all podcasts thus far.