

# american libraries

January/February 2019

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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**Sotomayor** p. 24

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**The State of**  
**Net Neutrality** p. 48

**PLUS:** Research Sprints,  
2018 Year in Review,  
Referenda Roundup

# TRANSFORM THE FUTURE

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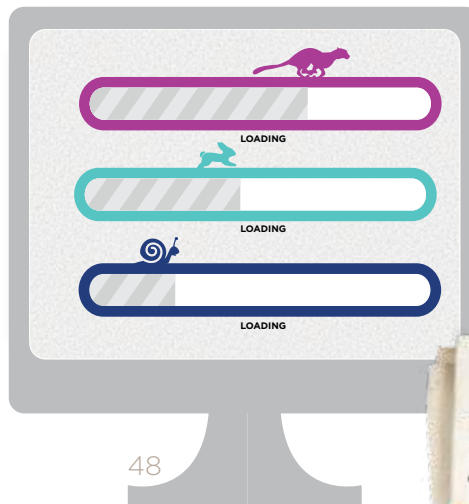
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**ON THE COVER:** Photo illustration by Rebecca Lomax/*American Libraries*;  
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from the  
**EDITOR**

## New Year, New Possibilities



**Sanhita SinhaRoy**

**T**he beginning of a new year is a good opportunity for reflection and for assessing what's ahead. As you'll read in our annual Year in Review feature (p. 28), the past year has been a busy one in the profession and at the Association. From celebrated conference speakers like former First Lady Michelle Obama to the long-awaited passage of the Marrakesh Treaty into law, 2018 has been eventful. We take a closer look at one of those events: the repeal of net neutrality protections (p. 48). Greg Landgraf examines how states have been countering the Federal Communications Commission's June decision to roll back internet fairness rules. Some efforts have been successful, others have failed, while some are still in progress.

In Referenda Roundup (p. 32), we report on how library measures fared on the ballot in 2018. *American Libraries* partnered with the Public Library Association to analyze more than 140 referenda from across the country, highlighting many of them in this issue.

It's fitting that in this policy- and advocacy-rich issue, US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor is our Newsmaker (p. 24). In the inspiring interview, Sotomayor—author of two new books for younger readers—urges us to question our assumptions. She attributes her success to reading, education, public service, and “the belief that participating in our communities makes not just a better world but a better person.”

But some library workers are struggling to find the right balance between doing their job and serving their communities, as they're being asked to do more and more, whether it's administering Narcan or carrying a firearm in the library. Anne Ford talks with seven librarians who discuss how this “mission creep” has affected their job satisfaction, mental health, and self-perception (p. 40). It's a candid conversation from multiple viewpoints that we hope will spark further dialogue.

Another great place for conversation, of course, is the Midwinter Meeting. Read our preview (p. 54) and dining guide (p. 62) to plan your conference and savor Seattle.

Happy new year from all of us at *American Libraries*.

*Sanhita*

Some library  
workers are  
struggling  
to find the  
right balance  
between  
doing their  
job and  
serving their  
communities.

# Immerse Yourself in Wellness

Mindfulness practices have intangible benefits for library workers



**Loida Garcia-Febo**

We can all benefit from kindness, mindfulness, and wellness as we manage the stress and anxiety of daily life and the workplace.

In these uncertain times, we all benefit from kindness, mindfulness, and wellness. This year, I want to help library workers manage the stress and anxiety experienced both in daily life and in their interactions with patrons and coworkers.

As a first step, a three-member ALA Workplace Wellness Advisory Committee and I collaborated with the American Library Association–Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA) to renew the wellness website started by former ALA President Lorie Roy (2007–2008).

Thanks to graduate students in Roy's School of Information class at University of Texas at Austin, the site has been revamped ([ala-apa.org/wellness](http://ala-apa.org/wellness)) and is chock-full of resources, including new information on eight wellness areas for library workers: emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual.

Based on sobering conversations with library workers at libraries and conferences, we are planning webinars on how to manage microaggressions and workplace stress.

I also want to encourage employers to promote wellness within their workplaces. Together with ALA-APA, I will establish a presidential citation to recognize annually one library's efforts in the area of wellness.

The development of wellness initiatives can benefit our library workers tremendously. I love what McQuade Library has done for students and library workers at Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts. The library provides a meditation room; a series of breathing classes to help reduce stress and anxiety; bikes with immersive technology; movie nights about environmental issues; plants for residence halls and offices; and mindful kits on bird watching, yoga, meditation, chakras, sound healing, creative healing, and gardening.

Find more inspirations on the Mindfulness for Librarians Facebook group, administered

by Madeleine Charney, sustainability studies librarian at University of Massachusetts Amherst, and in New York Library Association's *Sustainability Initiative* newsletter.

As Charney has posted on Facebook, dedicated space and resources are an expense, but we must think about the intangible return on investment for our library community as we face "catastrophic climate and social chaos." Making these tools accessible to our library workers will help all of us, our libraries, and the communities they serve.

Throughout the Association, wellness is important to us. ALA-APA, ALA, and its divisions have increased conference programming in this area, and ALA-APA's *Library Worklife* newsletter is full of recommendations for libraries and library workers. ALA Editions and *American Libraries* magazine have comprehensively covered kindness, mindfulness, and wellness. The Sustainability Round Table of ALA compiles resources that contribute to advancing a more equitable, healthy, and economically viable society.

It is heartening to see more programming at conferences—such as the Kentucky Library Association convention and the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color, both held last September—that help library workers deal with microaggressions and workplace stress. It was also special to see many attendees of the New England Library Association's annual conference in October participate in a "mindful labyrinth," which a person walks through to calm body and mind. It was equally inspiring to hear about attendees of ACRL-Oregon/Washington's joint conference in October taking a walk through the forest overlooking the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, 23 miles outside of Portland.

Let's continue to work together, kindly supporting one another in our path toward wellness. **ALA**

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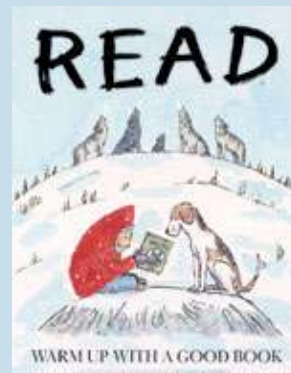
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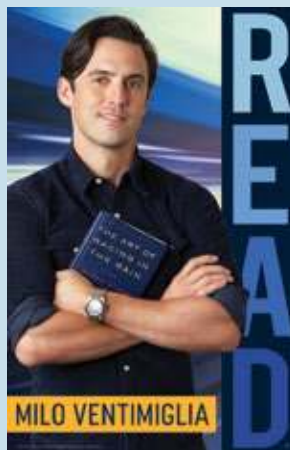
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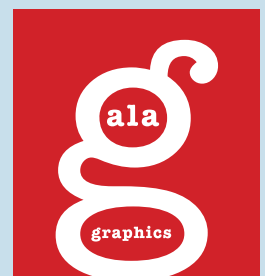
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# A Year of Progress

Celebrating successes and advancing a three-year investment plan



**Susan H. Hildreth**

Our current budget will invest in the future financial health of the Association and lay the groundwork for the coming years.

**A**fter two years of challenging fiscal results for the Association, FY2018—which ended in August—was a year of progress. The American Library Association's (ALA) total net assets increased by \$7.3 million, and total membership grew by almost 3% from the prior fiscal year. Membership and Publishing department revenues either met or beat budget. And ALA's Endowment Fund continued to grow by a healthy 9%, to \$47 million.

While these successes are worth celebrating, there are still many challenges ahead as we focus on achieving our mission in a forward-looking, financially sustainable manner.

The General Fund posted an operating deficit, albeit a much smaller one than in the past two years. Midwinter Meeting results missed expectations as our very talented and committed Conference Committee works hard to reimagine the meeting in a way that fulfills our needs as an Association while adapting to a changing economy, member interests, and resources that have negatively affected attendance. And our core revenue sources, such as conferences, publishing, and membership, remain relatively flat overall while our demands for advocacy and technology grow.

This is why we took the unusual—but vital—step in FY2019 of approving a strategic General Fund deficit budget that represents year one of a three-year investment plan. Starting with FY2018, we lay the groundwork, making changes at the staff level, initiating key studies, and looking at ALA in a holistic way to determine what to keep and what to change to become a more effective 21st-century association.

Indeed, key contributors to the FY2018 operating deficit were transition costs related to changes in personnel and engagement of outside advisors to help us assess in an objective and comprehensive way what we do and how we do it.

The findings and recommendations of those studies will help answer some important questions:

- Given changes in libraries and the profession, how should the Association be structured and how should it govern itself?
- What membership model best enables us to capture the diversity of our members nationally (and increasingly internationally) and generate the financial resources to effectively achieve our strategic priorities and directions?
- What internal infrastructure, including technology, is needed to fulfill our mission and support our members?

Over the next several months, as the results of these studies become available, ALA's Executive Board will consider the findings and recommendations and work with ALA staff to implement those most likely to benefit our Association.

We are also carefully monitoring the progress and benefits of the investments that we are making in the FY2019 budget and will keep members posted.

Although this is my last update as your treasurer, I am confident future ALA treasurers will continue to share information on the investment outcomes in FY2020 and FY2021, with the goal of reaching a balanced budget in FY2022.

The prudent investments we are making today, combined with the in-depth review of all aspects of our organization, will result in a financially sound and valuable association to support the important work we do each day and well into the future. **AL**

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**SUSAN H. HILDRETH** is ALA treasurer and interim director at Sonoma County (Calif.) Library. She is former director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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My local library has a drag storytime. THIS IS GREAT, KEEP IT UP. Also, this is why queerness as an adult is grudgingly accepted, but woe-woe if it's for kids. Look, mah dudes, we need to show kids queerness when they're kids. Support drag storytime, y'all.

@CERULEANFLEUR  
in response to "Drag Storytimes Bring Fierceness—and Fierce Opposition"  
(The Scoop, Sept. 20)

## Support for Drag Queens

People who think drag queen storytimes ("Fierceness and Fierce Opposition," Nov./Dec., p. 46) are not appropriate for children should not send their children. In the meantime, leave everybody else alone.

Willa Tavernier  
Bloomington, Indiana

## Concerns about Narcan

As a former paramedic, I have some concerns ("Company to Supply Free Narcan to Libraries," The Scoop, Oct. 24). What training is being provided to librarians who are administering Narcan? Are they aware that when you take away a person's high, they can become combative and beligerent? How about if a librarian believes someone is experiencing an opioid overdose but it is a hypoglycemic event?

While I believe in saving lives, I do have concerns for the safety of my fellow librarians. I also wonder how Good Samaritan laws will be applied. Ever since I became a librarian, we have been told not to practice law or medicine without a license. In my EMS training, we were taught that good intentions can get you sued. If a person dies, how will the librarian handle the death? EMS has protocols in place for this situation.

As librarians, we want to help people—but I don't think the psychological aspects and legal ramifications of Narcan in



libraries are being addressed. I believe the outcome may not be what is envisioned.

Mary Cohn  
Cleveland, Texas

## Meeting Rooms Policy

Thanks to Meredith Farkas for such a thoughtful and rational explanation of both sides of the meeting rooms controversy ("When Values Collide," Nov./Dec., p. 54). To me, the American Library Association's (ALA) now-withdrawn position on meeting rooms was a factual statement of intellectual freedom case law. I read it as: If your library's meeting rooms are open to everyone, then they really have to be open to everyone. However, in the ensuing furor, it was important to also say, "You don't have to open your meeting rooms to everyone. Here are some examples of ways libraries can legally limit access and use."

With that in mind, it was helpful that Farkas linked to an example of a content-neutral policy. Although there is much to

admire in Champaign (Ill.) Public Library's (CPL) policy—my library will be adapting ours based on this—I think the phrasing "programs which would disturb library customers" could be problematic. The definition of disturb could also include "distress," which is different from interrupting library usage. (For example, my library had a patron who said they were distressed that Santa will be African American this year.) Also, the CPL policy does not appear to provide a formalized way for the public to express their concerns or for staff to review any complaints. Does the public get a say? How many patrons have to be distressed before something is canceled? This is a gray area that can cause legal problems.

Further, statements such as "impede library staff, endanger the library building, or interfere with functions of the library" and "programs or gatherings which present a clear and present danger to the welfare of the participants, library staff,

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customers, or the community” are important but redundant, as they should be covered by existing behavioral policies.

Early on in conversations about the now-reversed ALA meeting rooms interpretation, I suggested that libraries look no further than their policies or position statements for advisement on conduct, inclusiveness and diversity, and challenges—as well as mission and programming guidelines—when shaping meeting room policies. I have worked in institutions that required meeting room usage to comply with these policies, as well as make all events open to the public. This combination is

powerful in ensuring that meeting room usage fits within the mission of the library and backs up staff decisions with board-sanctioned policy.

I realize that institutions not used to screening meeting room usage in this way are reluctant to make changes that would reject some users. I believe it is a reasonable price to pay to make sure hate groups are not able to take advantage of case law and demand access.

It would be helpful to have ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom review the CPL policy or my suggested strategy and let us know where this would land if challenged in the courts. Are

these viable options to help reconcile our conflicting values? We need ALA’s advice on addressing nuanced issues, as most of us will never have the KKK asking to meet in our library.

**Rebecca Lamb**  
Stuarts Draft, Virginia

#### CORRECTIONS

In “Excited about Science” (Nov./Dec., p. 20), the Beaker-head festival should have been characterized as a citywide event in which University of Calgary’s libraries participate. Heather Ganshorn’s correct title is director, science and engineering at University of Calgary’s Libraries and Cultural Resources.

🐦 Applying for jobs in libraries? Read this. As someone who sits on hiring committees, much of this is sound advice.

@LITATLEDDY in response to “Résumé Yea or Résumé Nay?” (Nov./Dec., p. 28)

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### Strategies to Fight for School Libraries

On October 5, the American Library Association (ALA) released an executive summary ([bit.ly/FFSL\\_execsummary](http://bit.ly/FFSL_execsummary)) that identifies systematic ways ALA, its divisions and offices, and the field of librarianship can support the nation's school libraries. The summary calls for ALA members and staff, including all divisions, to:

- collect quality data on standards and policies regarding school library staffing, funding, and accreditation
- develop compelling stories and messages for national and local community audiences
- strengthen partnerships with public and academic libraries to further build support
- implement support for school libraries consistently into political advocacy work

The strategies were developed by school, public, and academic library leaders from across the country during the "Fight for School Libraries" summit convened by ALA Past President Jim Neal in May. Neal tasked participants of the

summit with creating an ALA-wide strategy to support school libraries, school library workers, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), and the learners and communities that school libraries serve.

Participants reviewed the present state of the nation's school libraries, identified future opportunities, and examined the impact of school libraries on the work of public and academic libraries. Using this information, the group outlined the essential responsibilities of ALA and the library profession for supporting school libraries as unique and essential parts of the learning community.

"ALA's advocacy for all types of libraries is strengthened by this systematic approach for inclusion," the executive summary concludes. "As we move forward as an organization to examine organizational effectiveness, school libraries are an integral part of the planning and future of the Association. This inclusive approach empowers ALA to remain the premier association for our profession." ●

#### Farrell Announces ALA Treasurer Candidacy

Maggie Farrell, dean of university libraries at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, has filed as a petition candidate for ALA treasurer for 2019–2022.



Maggie Farrell

A member of ALA for 30 years, Farrell is currently chair of its Budget Analysis and Review Committee. She served on ALA Council as councilor-at-large and as Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) division councilor. She is an active member of ACRL, the Library Leadership and Management Association, and United for Libraries, as well as the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table; Social Responsibilities Round Table; and Reforma: the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking.

Farrell has been active in state associations, including those in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming. She has also served on the board of trustees of OCLC.

She was appointed by the Wyoming governor to the Wyoming Commission on Judicial Conduct and Ethics, serving as its 2013–2014 chair. Farrell was named an ALA/United States Information Agency Library Fellow in 1993 and participated in Leadership Wyoming from 2006 to 2007.

"ALA and the library profession are transforming to new, exciting ways to connect with our communities and advance libraries," said Farrell in an October 24 statement, "but we need an organizational structure that supports professional development, networking, research, data, and advocacy. As ALA imagines new ways of working and connecting, we require a financial infrastructure that supports ALA's vision and work. As treasurer, I would work with members,

divisions, round tables, units, Council, and the Executive Board to provide diverse perspectives in creating financial sustainability to ensure relevancy for our Association supporting libraries."

Farrell holds a bachelor's from University of Missouri–Kansas City, an MLS from University of Arizona, and a master's in public administration from Arizona State University.

Farrell will engage in a candidates' forum 4:30–5:30 p.m. on January 26 during the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Seattle.

#### PLA Receives Grant for Opioid Crisis Resources

The Public Library Association (PLA) has been awarded a \$249,714 National Leadership Grant by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to collect and share knowledge and resources to support public libraries and their community partners in addressing the opioid crisis.

# ALA, GLBTRT Speak Out for Rights

ALA and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT) released a joint statement on November 1 in response to government proposals to rescind lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) federal civil rights protections. The US Department of Health and Human Services and the Justice Department have undertaken initiatives that would abolish federal recognition of approximately 1.4 million transgender Americans under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and deny the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender citizens.

"We are deeply concerned by the current proposals by the administration to narrow the definition of 'sex' under Title IX and exclude lesbian, gay, and transgender citizens from the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act," the statement reads. "The proposed regulatory and policy changes are in direct conflict with ALA's fundamental values, principles, and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Never before has there been such a dire need to quash bigotry and hatred."

ALA and GLBTRT work to support library professionals as they promote mutual respect and understanding and aim to empower members to serve all communities regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, or class, with tools that foster education and lifelong learning.

The joint statement goes on to oppose government measures that marginalize populations and deny individuals' civil rights and the full protection of the law, and offers solidarity to LGBTQ members, colleagues, families, and community members. ●

In partnership with OCLC Research, PLA will produce eight case studies of communities in which the public library is playing a role in responding to the opioid crisis. The project team will gather additional perspectives and insights from government agencies, public health and human services organizations, community organizations, library leaders, and people directly affected by the epidemic.

A steering committee of library leaders, partner organizations, and researchers will guide the work. The project will run through December.

In addition to the case studies, the project team will create a call-to-action white paper, host a webinar series, and

curate content and resources for library staff across the country.

## ALSC Names Inaugural Equity Fellows

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) has selected six fellows for its inaugural Equity Fellowships, expanded from five thanks to an additional fellowship donated by ALSC Board Member Amy Koester. ALSC's new Equity Fellows are: Eiyana Favers, Ayn Reyes Frazee, Evelyn Keolian, Shahrazad "Star" Khan, Sierra McKenzie, and Jocelyn Moore.

The fellowship provides recipients with funding for two-year ALSC and ALA memberships and one year of conference

## CALENDAR

JAN. 25-29

**ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits** | Seattle  
2019.alamidwinter.org

MAR. 25-29

**Public Library Association Leadership Academy** | Chicago  
bit.ly/PLALeadership2019

MAR. 30-APR. 6

**Money Smart Week**  
moneysmartweek.org

APR.

**School Library Month**  
ala.org/aasl/slm

APR. 7-13

**National Library Week**  
bit.ly/ALANatlibweek

APR. 9

**National Library Workers Day**  
ala-apa.org/nlwd

APR. 10

**National Bookmobile Day**  
bit.ly/ALABookmobileDay

APR. 10-13

**Association of College and Research Libraries Conference** | Cleveland  
conference.acrl.org

APR. 21-27

**Preservation Week**  
ala.org/preservationweek

APR. 30

**El día de los niños/  
El día de los libros**  
dia.ala.org

MAY 1-7

**Choose Privacy Week**  
chooseprivacyeveryday.org

JUNE

**GLBT Book Month**  
ala.org/glbtkbookmonth

JUNE 20-25

**ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition** | Washington, D.C.  
bit.ly/ALAUptcomingConfs





The preconference session “School Librarians Making Meaningful Change around the World” encouraged attendees to connect via social media to build their professional learning networks.

## Sharjah Library Conference Returns for Fifth Year

Hundreds of library workers attended the fifth annual Sharjah Library Conference in the United Arab Emirates November 6–8.

The conference kicked off with two full-day workshops: one on networking for school librarians and the other on the ACRL *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education*. ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo delivered the keynote “Libraries = Strong Communities” to open the main program on November 7, highlighting the role of libraries in upholding Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on free expression and service to all.

Major areas of focus at this year’s conference were user experience, social media, staff development, and the changing technical service and data management landscape. Rania Osman, head of the Libraries of the Future section at Bibliotheca Alexandrina, updated attendees on the progress of the library’s translation of the RDA Toolkit into Arabic. The conference ended with a discussion on how libraries in the Middle East and North Africa can play a significant role in helping their countries achieve their UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

One of the seven Emirates in the United Arab Emirates, the city of Sharjah is preparing for its role as UNESCO World Book Capital in 2019. The Sharjah Library Conference, held in conjunction with the 37th Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF), is hosted by SIBF with ALA creating the program content.

ALA exhibited a number of its inclusive titles for review by attendees including the *American Association of School Librarians Standards Framework for Learners* (ALA Editions, 2017) and *LGBTQAI+ Books for Children and Teens: Providing a Window for All* (ALA Editions, 2018). ●

**MICHAEL DOWLING** is director of ALA’s International Relations Office.

registrations and travel stipends for Midwinter and Annual. Fellowship recipients will also receive mentorship from members of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force within ALSC.

The ALSC Equity Fellowship is a pilot program developed to reduce barriers to participation for American Indian, Alaska Native, First Nations, Asian, Black and African American, Hispanic/Latinx, Middle Eastern, and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander individuals. ALSC seeks to expand this program in the future to include other underrepresented groups.

More information on the fellowships can be found at [bit.ly/ALSCEquityFellowship](http://bit.ly/ALSCEquityFellowship).

## LITA Seeks Innovative Student Writing

The Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) is offering an award for the best unpublished manuscript submitted by a student or students enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate program.

Sponsored by LITA and Ex Libris, the award consists of \$1,000, publication in LITA’s journal, *Information Technology and Libraries*, and a certificate. The manuscript can address any aspect of libraries and information technology. Examples include digital libraries, authorization and authentication, electronic journals and electronic publishing, distributed systems and networks, intellectual property rights, and universal access to technology.

The deadline for submission is February 28. The application and guidelines are available at [bit.ly/LITAwriting](http://bit.ly/LITAwriting).

## ALA, NNLM Expand Health Literacy Toolkit

ALA and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) updated the Libraries Transform Health Literacy Toolkit in October, with new resources to help library professionals raise awareness of how libraries provide trusted health information to their communities.

The free toolkit, available at [bit.ly/ALAhealthlit](http://bit.ly/ALAhealthlit), provides key messages,



## This Journal Is Overdue

ALA Editions has released *This Journal Is Overdue*, a blank journal with a collection of writing prompts specifically for library lovers.

Rewrite the ending of a novel on your shelves, recount memories of the first time you read a favorite book from your childhood, or jot down a sudden creative inspiration. *This Journal Is*

*Overdue* invites people to daydream, doodle, and play. Keep it as your private, never-peer-reviewed journal, or give a copy to your boss, a favorite colleague, or volunteers and friends who support the important work that libraries do each day.

Purchase a copy from the ALA Store at [bit.ly/JournalOverdue](http://bit.ly/JournalOverdue). ●

program ideas, and downloadable marketing materials libraries can use to promote health literacy throughout the year.

The newly added topics include genetics, family history, clinical trials, citizen science projects, customizing care, and student well-being. The toolkit also includes information on aging, nutrition, and chronic illness.

### CSK Book Donation Grant Applications Open

Three Coretta Scott King (CSK) Book Donation Grants are available to underfunded libraries, schools, and non-traditional organizations that provide educational services to children. All three grant recipients will receive copies of titles submitted for consideration for the 2019 CSK Book Awards, including a full set of the year's winning titles.

Applications will be accepted through January 31, and winners will be announced by late March. For more information, and to apply, visit [bit.ly/CSKbookgrant](http://bit.ly/CSKbookgrant).

### Libraries Highlight Tax-Time Help

Libraries are hosting their congressional representatives to share the role libraries play in helping people prepare their taxes. An estimated 1 million taxpayers left \$1.1 billion in tax refunds unclaimed in 2014. Libraries help address this challenge by providing access to the Internal Revenue Service's online Free File program and

hosting Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs and similar activities.

The impact of these outreach efforts is important not only to individual taxpayers, but also to the elected officials who represent them.

Several libraries have highlighted their services for members of Congress in coordination with the Tax Time Allies program. Free File events were hosted in 2018 at the Stonecrest Library in Lithonia, Georgia, with US Rep. Hank Johnson, and at the Grant County (W. Va.) Public Library with US Sen. Shelley Moore Capito.

For assistance setting up a visit from your member of Congress, contact Megan Ortegon, public policy manager at the ALA Washington Office, at [mortegon@alawash.org](mailto:mortegon@alawash.org). For resources to assist eligible taxpayers with filing their taxes, visit [bit.ly/TTAResources](http://bit.ly/TTAResources).

### United for Libraries Partners for Horror Fiction Program

The Horror Writers Association is developing a "Summer Scares" reading program that will provide libraries and schools with an annual list of recommended horror titles to help librarians start conversations with readers and promote reading. The program will be developed with United for Libraries along with other partners.

Author Grady Hendrix and a committee of four librarians will recommend three fiction titles each for middle grade,

young adult, and adult readers, for a total of nine selections. "Summer Scares" authors will also be available to appear, either virtually or in person, at public and school libraries across the country.

Final selections will be announced on February 14. The committee and its partners will also publish lists of additional



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## “Tiny Library” Receives Future of Libraries Fellowship

**M**eridian (Idaho) Library District (MLD) has been selected for the 2018 Future of Libraries Fellowship, administered by ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries.

MLD will use the fellowship to create a project toolkit about its Tiny Library project: a 320-square-foot repurposed shipping container designed to facilitate early learning and literacy for the community's families. The library district, located in the fastest-growing city in Idaho, faces severe space limitations and highly restrictive legislation limiting its ability to build new buildings. The toolkit will include floorplans, first-year programs and events, collections and activities, and evaluation and assessment documents.

The Future of Libraries Fellowship provides an individual or group with a stipend of \$10,000 to advance new ideas and perspectives for the future of libraries through the creation of a public product—report, white paper, video, resource, tool—that will help library professionals envision the future of library collections, services, spaces, technologies, or partnerships. ●



suggested titles, content by committee members about the genre, and interviews with authors.

### Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants Expand

The Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table and the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation are accepting applications for the 2019 Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries. Beginning this year, the juries will select three grant recipients: two growth grant recipients and one innovation grant recipient. The grants encourage public awareness about

the rise and importance of graphic literature and honor the legacy of Will Eisner.

The growth grants support a library that would like to expand its existing graphic novel services and programs. The innovation grant helps a library initiate a graphic novel service or program.

Recipients receive a \$4,000 programming and collection development grant, a collection of Will Eisner's works and biographies about him, and copies of the graphic novels nominated for the 2019 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards. The grants also include a travel stipend for a library representative to travel to the

2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., to receive recognition from the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation.

The application deadline is January 18. Information about the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Growth Grant can be found at [bit.ly/EisnerGrowthGrant](http://bit.ly/EisnerGrowthGrant). Information on the Will Eisner Graphic Novel Innovation Grant can be found at [bit.ly/EisnerInnoGrant](http://bit.ly/EisnerInnoGrant).

### LITA Library Automation Scholarship Available

LITA and Baker & Taylor are accepting applications for the LITA/Christian (Chris) Larew Memorial Scholarship for those who plan to follow a career in library and information technology, demonstrate potential leadership, and hold a strong commitment to library automation.

The winner will receive a \$3,000 check and a citation. Applicants must have been accepted to an ALA-accredited master's in library science program.

Applications will be accepted through March 1. Further information is available at [bit.ly/LITALarewScholar](http://bit.ly/LITALarewScholar).

### ALA Washington Office Reorganizes

On October 16, Kathi Kromer, associate executive director of the ALA Washington Office, announced the merger of the Office of Government Relations and the Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) into a new team, the Public Policy and Advocacy Unit.

Advisory groups related to the merged offices—the Committee on Legislation and the OITP Advisory Committee—will continue to provide direction and guidance to the new unit.

### Choice Releases OER White Paper

Choice has released “Course Materials Adoption: A Faculty Survey and Outlook for the OER [open educational resource] Landscape,” the third in a series of white papers on topics of importance to the academic library community.



Written by Steven Bell, associate university librarian at Temple University, the white paper provides an overview of the development and growth of OERs in American higher education and presents an empirical look at how faculty evaluate and ultimately decide to choose OERs for instructional material. The paper includes an analysis of responses to a survey of US faculty conducted by *Choice* in spring 2018 about the decision-making process used when selecting instructional materials for higher education courses. The conclusions derived from Bell's analysis of the survey should help OER advocates and educators understand the factors that contribute to instructor decisions about educational materials.

The white paper is available online at [bit.ly/ChoiceWhitePapers](http://bit.ly/ChoiceWhitePapers).

### Travel Grants for New AASL Conference Attendees

AASL is offering 30 travel grants for first-time attendees of its 2019 National Conference and Exhibition November 14–16, in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference will feature preconference workshops, concurrent sessions, and an exhibition featuring companies relevant to the profession. The \$750 grants are sponsored by Bound to Stay Bound Books.

The application is available at [bit.ly/AASLBTSGGrants](http://bit.ly/AASLBTSGGrants). The deadline to apply is February 1.

### New Broadband, Census Briefs

The ALA Washington Office has released two new policy briefs.

"Equitable Opportunity for Tribal Communities through Libraries," released in September, explores the national imperative to provide broadband to Indian Country to support learning, working, and daily life overall.

"Libraries and the 2020 Census," released in October, highlights the essential role libraries will play in ensuring an accurate census in 2020.

ALA policy briefs can be accessed at [bit.ly/ALAPolicyBriefs](http://bit.ly/ALAPolicyBriefs).

### Submit a Poster Proposal for 2019 ALA Annual

Share your best ideas and work with the library community by presenting a poster session at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference June 20–25 in Washington, D.C.

The poster session committee is accepting submissions from all types of libraries and on any topic relevant to librarianship, including a description of an innovative library program, an analysis of a solution to a problem, a report of a research study,

or any other presentation that would benefit the larger library community.

The application deadline is February 8. For information on posters and the submission process, visit [bit.ly/ALAAC19PosterSub](http://bit.ly/ALAAC19PosterSub).

### ALSC and YALSA Receive Dollar General Grant

ALSC and the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) have received a \$249,431 youth literacy grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

ALSC will use the grant to fund its Strengthening Communities through Libraries grants, which support ALSC members in public libraries in implementing STEAM programming during out-of-school time.

YALSA will use the funds to provide mini-grants to libraries in support of literacy-focused activities for underserved teens, summer learning, and teen intern programs. The grant will also be used to provide collections of YALSA's Teens' Top 10 nominees to libraries in need and to update the Teen Book Finder app and database.

ALSC will also develop and share supplemental resources to support the collaborative efforts of libraries and their community partners. **AL**

"A great read..." Foreword Clarion

## THE UNITED NATIONS' TOP JOB

A Close Look at the Work of Eight Secretaries-General

by Lucia Mouat

"I am sure that this book will become a necessary part of the libraries and reading material of... anyone involved in some way in international affairs."

-Stephen Schlesinger, author of *Act of Creation*

"An epic book—accurate, interesting, and... a reliable historical account,"

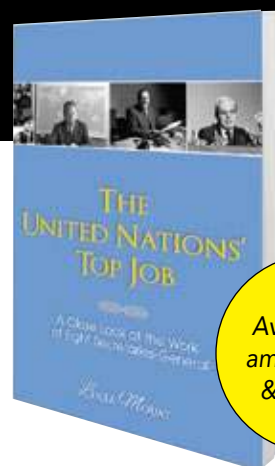
-Sir Brian Urquhart, former UN Undersecretary-General

"Comprehensive... I do not know of any other book that brings all of the secretaries-general together,"

-James Sutterlin, former Director of the Office of UN Secretary General and Distinguished Fellow at Yale University



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# TRENDS



Roberta McCulloch-Dews, director of administrative services in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, listens during a speed-repping event at Berkshire Athenaeum.

## Lawmaker Matchmaker

Libraries embrace “speed-repping” to connect patrons and elected officials

BY Emily Udell

Jamie Griffin, manager of the Whitehaven branch of Memphis Public Libraries (MPL) in Tennessee, was watching an episode of *Sex and the City* about speed dating when the idea for “speed-repping” struck. The fast-paced matchmaking of speed dating allows singles to meet multiple prospective dates in short, face-to-face conversations. But could the format be used to promote civic engagement?

“I thought that maybe something similar could advance the city’s goals of getting information out to the public,” Griffin says.

He adapted the format to allow residents one-on-one time with several local leaders at a single event. He wanted to appeal to people who might not feel comfortable speaking up at a city meeting or town hall or know how to otherwise voice their views to area officials.

In March 2017, about four months after Griffin’s flash of inspiration, his branch hosted a two-hour session that drew more than 100 community members. Because of the large turnout, organizers decided to limit each attendee to three minutes to share their views and questions with community leaders, including the city and Shelby County mayors. Also present were the CEO of Memphis Light, Gas, and Water; the local fire director; two city council members; and a library representative.

“The great thing about it is that in addition to getting adults to come out, we were able to work with some of the schools. It became a project for some of the students,” Griffin says. “For me, that made [the event] really special because they were getting into understanding how city government works early on.”

Participants could sign up for slots with the reps they wished to meet, and each session concluded with a chime, similar to traditional speed dating. Among the topics of discussion were transportation, jobs, crime, and utility bills.

Griffin says the most challenging aspect was coordinating with the busy schedules of local officials. However, once he nailed down a date that worked for the two mayors, it became easier to attract commitments from other local leaders.

When Alex Geller, outreach librarian at Berkshire Athenaeum, the public library in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, read about MPL’s speed-repping event, he brought the concept to his community.

“We thought this would be a perfect way to utilize our already developed relationships with city government and representatives,” says Geller, who spearheaded a speed-repping event in April 2018. “Some people in our community feel sort of apathetic or disengaged about politics in general, especially

“Because it was one-on-one and face-to-face, it fostered a respectful dialogue.”

**ALEX GELLER**, outreach librarian at Berkshire Athenaeum in Pittsfield, Massachusetts

national politics. We heard from people that they wanted their government reps to be more accessible.”

Community members discussed housing, food access, and transportation—among other issues—with representatives including the mayor, city council president, and local state legislators.

“Because it was one-on-one and face-to-face, it fostered a respectful dialogue,” Geller says. “Getting people to move on after five minutes was the biggest challenge.”

Massachusetts Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier (D-Pittsfield), says the people she met at the event weren’t the “usual suspects” she encounters at other political events and spaces.

“There were people who were just so excited to talk to elected officials. I had a wide variety of conversations,” Farley-Bouvier says. Taxes, frustration with the federal government, and community activism were among the topics attendees approached her about. “When you hear from people like that, it gives you a lot of different perspectives.”

These two libraries have found that speed-repping is an effective way for libraries to make both residents and participating officials aware of the resources they offer as well as the vital role they play in the communities they serve. It can also draw local media attention, which happened in Memphis and Pittsfield.

“The library gets to showcase that it’s the center for civic engagement and discourse,” Geller says.

Libraries that want to test the speed-repping concept can consider a more limited format. Griffin suggests holding an event where attendees get a set amount of time with a single representative.

For libraries aiming to increase civic engagement programming without the obstacle of coordinating schedules with elected officials, or for those that want to gauge interest before planning a speed-repping session, other opportunities exist. Skokie (Ill.) Public Library (SPL) held a “Dear Elected Official” program as a part of a series of pop-up events that aimed to educate patrons on how to contact local leaders.

Mimosa Shah, adult program librarian at SPL, says the pop-ups emerged from an ongoing Civic Lab initiative, which offers information, activities, and discussion on topics affecting the village.

“‘Dear Elected Official’ came about because we were wondering in what ways we could talk to people about being civically engaged outside of voting,” Shah says. “We thought about how we could help people feel they had a road map to connect with their elected officials.”

For about a week in January 2017, she set up a banner in high-traffic areas of the library and offered patrons resources for figuring out how to identify and contact elected officials, along with tips for communicating about issues that matter to them. SPL made a laptop, whiteboard, dry-erase pens, Post-it notes, and relevant articles available so patrons could write their letters onsite.

“It’s helpful to make sure these [programs] are part of an ongoing conversation, that they’re not just a one-off,” Shah says. “People should see that these are a standard thing.” **AL**

**EMILY UDELL** is a freelance writer based in Indianapolis.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### Literary Seattle

6

Number of years since the American Library Association last held its Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in the Emerald City.

18,000

Number of aircraft and accessory manuals that can be found at the Museum of Flight’s Harl V. Brackin Memorial Library. The collection is open to the public and also includes 36,000 books, 60,000 journal issues, and 6,850 aviation technical reports.



85

Number of years that the Blue Moon Tavern—an iconic bar in Seattle’s University District—has been in operation. The watering hole was reputedly popular among poets Allen Ginsberg, Carolyn Kizer, Theodore Roethke, and Dylan Thomas.



1926

Year that the University of Washington’s Suzzallo Library opened. Some visitors say the Gothic-style library is evocative of Hogwarts because of its interior resemblance to the School of Witchcraft and Wizardry in the Harry Potter films.

10,000

Number of new, used, and out-of-print books of and about poetry available at Open Books, a 500-square-foot shop in Seattle’s Wallingford neighborhood. ●





Faculty and librarians work on a research sprint at the University of Kansas Libraries in 2017.

# Academic Speed Trials

Research sprints bring together librarians and university faculty

BY Timothy Inklebarger

**T**he race is on at universities in Kansas and Minnesota, where a new method of highly intensive research is uniting librarians and faculty to accomplish big projects over short periods of time. The so-called research sprints are being pioneered at University of Kansas and University of Minnesota libraries, and its designers are spreading the word.

Karna Younger, faculty engagement librarian at Kansas University Libraries, says the idea of research sprints—during which faculty and librarians work together for about a week on the same project, and, more importantly, in the same space—is not a wholly new idea. But the approach is being formalized into a method that can be replicated.

“It allows librarians a way to publicize and market what they do in a

way that captures faculty members’ attention,” Younger says.

Sprints at the two universities have focused on projects with a wide range of subject matter, including making a smartphone app that features information related to the 1955 murder of Emmett Till; creating scientific research models for a geology course; collecting historical sources for a stage play that focuses on denim and the mythology of the 1848 California gold rush; and creating a supply management research tool.

The schools also have presented the method to groups like the Coalition for Networked Information, Younger says.

Kansas has been running sprints since 2016, “borrowing from time-bounded, fast-paced, collaborative work formats in fields like design

and web development,” the schools note in a 2018 white paper.

The sprints aren’t just producing real-world results. They’re also a form of outreach to help faculty better understand the potential for libraries to assist with research, says Benjamin Wiggins, program director of Digital Arts, Sciences, and Humanities for University of Minnesota Libraries and affiliated assistant professor of history at the university.

“What I think we’re really trying to do is open up the possibilities to them and give [faculty] a sense of what libraries are today,” he says. “The way librarians are supporting and collaborating in research is changing very fast. We are moving away from ‘Let’s simply collect all the things that scholars produce’ to more supporting research in every stage of the process.”

The sprints at University of Minnesota have included as many as 40 librarians—roughly one-third of the university’s library staff—and a dozen faculty members. They last for several days and generally put everyone in the same room,

Sprints are a form of outreach to help faculty better understand the potential for libraries to assist with research.

working on the same project, and that's important, Wiggins says. Having researchers, faculty, and librarians at a single location "makes it cohesive, coherent, and produces something quickly."

That proximity cuts out the back-and-forth of emailing and voicemails and waiting that can delay projects for months or even years, according to Wiggins.

Sprints are typically smaller at University of Kansas, where about 10 librarians assist a handful of faculty members, according to Younger.

Kansas has also been hosting "research hurdles," which are longer research consultations held during shorter sessions. "There's more flexibility for people who can't take a whole week," Younger says of the hurdles.

"Much like the sprints, faculty members were matched with appropriate librarians; these teams self-scheduled their meetings until the project was deemed successfully completed by the faculty member," the schools note in their recent white paper.

Research sprints appear to be catching on. Younger says that in addition to the white paper and conferences, the group of librarians helping develop the method has held virtual meetups with librarians from other universities to spread the word. Kansas and Minnesota university librarians have also created a toolkit and a website ([researchsprints.org](http://researchsprints.org)) to help others run their own sprints.

"We've had a lot of success," Younger says. "It's been really great, so I really hope other institutions pick this up and start sprinting too." **AL**

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**TIMOTHY INKLEBARGER** is a writer living in Chicago.

Photo: Gayle Babcock/Architectural Imageworks

2019

# LIBRARY DESIGN SHOWCASE



Joplin (Mo.) Public Library, which was featured in the 2018 Design Showcase.

## Show Us Your Beautiful New Library

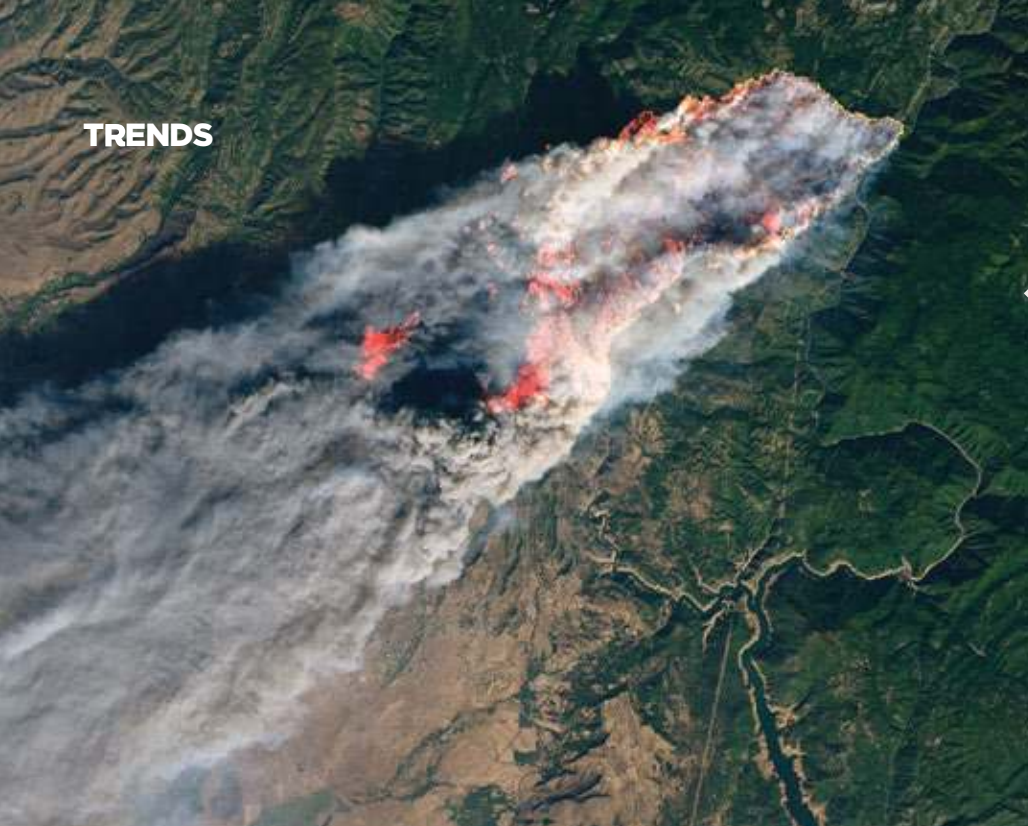
**A**merican Libraries is now accepting submissions for the 2019 Library Design Showcase, our annual feature celebrating new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types. The showcase will appear in the September/October 2019 issue.

We are looking for shining examples of innovative library architecture that address patrons' needs in unique, interesting, and effective ways. Previous submissions have ranged from stunning restorations of historic Carnegie buildings to vacant structures that have been repurposed into libraries to high-tech facilities with audio and video production studios.

If your library is on the cutting edge, we want our readers to know. To be eligible, projects must have been completed between May 1, 2018, and April 30, 2019. The submission deadline is May 31, 2019. Unfortunately, not all submissions can be featured.

To have your library considered, send a completed submission form ([bit.ly/DesignShowcase19Form](http://bit.ly/DesignShowcase19Form)), along with at least five high-resolution digital images with photographer credits, to *American Libraries*, Attn: Library Design Showcase, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Submissions can also be sent via Dropbox to [pmorehart@ala.org](mailto:pmorehart@ala.org).

View last year's showcase at [bit.ly/DesignShowcase18](http://bit.ly/DesignShowcase18). For more information, email [pmorehart@ala.org](mailto:pmorehart@ala.org). ●



The Camp Fire in Northern California, as viewed by NASA's Landsat 8 on November 8.

# California Libraries in Wildfires' Wake

Paradise, other communities cope with disaster

BY Timothy Inklebarger

**P**ublic institutions across the country are rallying in support of displaced library employees and libraries devastated by wildfires in California—fires that have claimed more than 80 lives and resulted in the evacuation of tens of thousands of people.

“Miraculously, the Paradise branch of the Butte County Library system is still standing,” says Butte County Library Director Melanie Lightbody, noting that it’s one of the only remaining structures in town. While the library was not destroyed by the fire, the building and its contents have suffered extensive smoke damage.

The five other branches in the system remain operational and have become information centers, offering computers, Wi-Fi, and printers to help displaced residents contact insurance

companies, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and other agencies.

“Right now, part of the biggest issue we have going on is [that] people have lost their technology,” Lightbody says.

Five of the library’s 26 staff members have lost their homes to the fire, she adds.

“We have many people affected by the fire, so we are still in an urgent situation,” she says. “We are just now starting to look at disaster recovery. One of the things I’m working on is trying to get into the [Paradise branch] building,” where historical records and archives are located.

Michael Dowling, director of the American Library Association’s (ALA) Chapter Relations Office, says ALA is connecting Butte County Library with preservation

and conservation experts at the Library of Congress and the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, which is cosponsored by FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution.

“We’re reaching out to find out what the situation is, what we can do, and what the needs of the library and the director are,” Dowling says.

Lightbody says Sara Jones, director of Marin County (Calif.) Free Library, and the California Library Association have established a fundraiser for the smoke-damaged Paradise branch. “[They] have been instrumental in getting us in touch with resources as well as staff from the California State Library,” Lightbody said in an email.

Despite all the chaos in Butte County, she says she is “blown away by the generosity of people not only within our state but outside our state.”

Colusa, Glenn, Plumas, Sutter, and Tehama county libraries are helping evacuees, she says, adding, “I’m sure other libraries are assisting as well.” Other institutions, such as Catlin Gabel School in Portland, Oregon, and the Harwood Foundation in Taos, New Mexico, have also contacted the library system to offer assistance.

The fire in Butte County was contained on November 25, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Fires in the southern part of the state have caused the temporary closure of several libraries and, as in northern California, prompted at least one branch to serve as a crisis center for the public.

Yolanda De Ramus, chief deputy director at Los Angeles County



Library (LACL), says that dozens of library employees have been directly impacted by the fires.

"We had about 45 staff members who were impacted or otherwise evacuated," she says. "We aren't aware of any staff members who lost their homes."

Los Angeles County libraries in Agoura Hills, Malibu, Topanga, and Westlake Village have experienced smoke damage but have not been directly affected by physical fire damage.

Jesse Walker-Lanz, assistant director of public services at LACL, says remediation has already begun at the smoke-damaged branches, which includes testing air quality for particulates to ensure employee and patron safety.

The Malibu and Topanga branches reopened November 17,

and the remaining damaged branches followed on November 28.

As part of a Los Angeles County Department of Health Services–Human Resources task force, the Malibu branch is assisting FEMA's disaster assistance center, which is located in a courthouse adjacent to the library.

"The library is open and providing space in the [library] meeting room and the library's computers," Walker-Lanz says, noting that the computers are giving patrons access to various county departments, government forms, and applications for disaster-relief benefits.

It's also serving as a vaccination site for tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis for recovery workers, De Ramus said in an email.

Lightbody says that although the community is devastated, the



Los Angeles County Library staffers Vickie Raymundi (left), educational outreach coordinator, and Corrine Le, library page, help at FEMA's disaster assistance center in Malibu.

library's survival has meaning in the crisis: "We are more than just a library; [we are] a symbol of hope to the community and a community center, which we will be once again."

*An earlier version of this story appeared at [bit.ly/AL-CAwildfires](http://bit.ly/AL-CAwildfires).* **AL**

**TIMOTHY INKLEBARGER** is a writer living in Chicago.

## FROM AMERICAN LIBRARIES

# So You Want to Podcast...

### Is your library interested in producing a podcast?

Join *Dewey Decibel* podcast host Phil Morehart for a panel discussion featuring librarian podcasters **Gwen Glazer** (*The Librarian Is In*), **Joseph Janes** (*Documents That Changed the World*), and **Adriane Herrick Juarez** (*Library Leadership Podcast*) at the ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits in Seattle.

Saturday, January 26  
at 11 a.m.

PopTop Stage,  
Washington State  
Convention Center  
exhibit hall

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# DEWEY DECIBEL

PODCAST

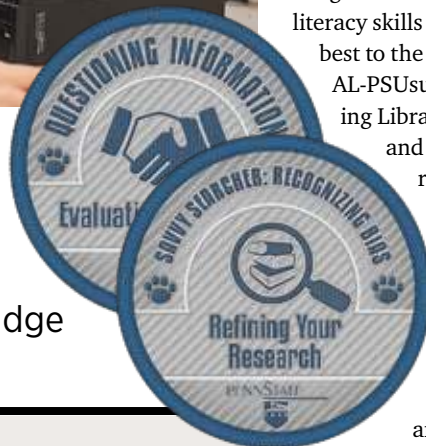




Penn State University student Luz Sanchez Tejada uses the school's microcredentialing platform in Pattee Library to earn badges as part of her peer research consultant training.

# The Making of a Microcredential

Penn State University Libraries evaluates badge steps with help from artificial intelligence



national awareness of these educational credits and to the school successfully marketing the benefits of the program.

In 2013, when this virtual currency was fairly new, the library conducted a survey of employers from 10 different industries to figure out which information literacy skills would translate

best to the job market ([bit.ly/AL-PSUsurvey](https://bit.ly/AL-PSUsurvey)). Online Learning Librarian Victoria Raish

and I used the survey rankings to inform the design of activities for 10 microcredentials to be embedded within general education courses. We created badges for search, inquiry, and organization

topics such as keywords, ethics, and citations. Our goal was that, by graduation, students would complete all badges to earn the “über badge,” which could be leveraged in portfolios or résumés or on social networking sites as a conversation starter with potential employers. Badge earners even have control over what metadata is displayed, such as the date earned, steps required to complete the credential, or actual work submitted to earn it.

As with nearly all microcredentialing programs, the evidence that learners submit to show they've successfully completed a series of steps must be assessed. Quizzes can be automatically graded, but it gets tricky when prompts ask for written responses. In 2017, a team of 14 Penn State employees

In the last two years, Penn State University Libraries has seen rapid adoption of information literacy microcredentials among students. Microcredentials—transferable forms of metadata-encoded, performance-based educational credits—are not new; they started gaining traction in academic libraries around 2012. What is different at Penn State is that to help manage the sudden volume of badge submissions, librarians have turned to a new ally: artificial intelligence (AI).

BY Emily Rimland

Degrees and professional certifications are valuable, but in many scenarios it's important and cost effective to have a way to showcase granular skills. Microcredentials—also known as digital credentials or digital badges—are competency-based methods of demonstrated learning that do just that. For instance, a badge may show achievement in Java programming or project management, which can help a candidate land a job promotion or earn a classroom grade.

At Penn State University Libraries, we're embracing and rethinking microcredentials ([bit.ly/penninfoit](https://bit.ly/penninfoit)). We see them as an opportunity to extend our reach and deepen students' engagement with information literacy—and we see librarians as best positioned to evaluate these essential skills.

Usage of microcredentials at Penn State has recently exploded. From 2013 to 2016, we issued 160 total badges; in academic year 2017–2018, we issued 3,585. We attribute this boom to a broader

## GLOBAL REACH

## Calgary's New Showpiece

evaluated more than 10,000 individual badge steps. Giving personalized feedback didn't easily scale to the large number of submissions, so staffers began to wonder if AI could be a potential or partial solution.

We wanted to keep librarians in the feedback loop but saw a place for AI to triage some aspects of evaluation. Serendipitously, Penn State's Nittany AI Alliance was offering seed funding for internal projects, so we partnered with the College of Information Science and Technology to develop a tool that integrates human and algorithmic capabilities. We named our AI technology mArI, in honor of Mary McCammon and Mary Katherine Yntema, the first two female computer science faculty members at Penn State.

The technology, which was added to our microcredentialing process in beta in 2018, helps in two main ways. For students, a feature called Text on Target uses machine learning to compare drafted responses to previous submissions, so they know if their answers are likely to be scored successfully. For graders, mArI can detect the complexity and grade level of a response, which allows them to focus on providing personalized feedback.

Our hope is that microcredentials and AI will stretch students' educational dollars and save library staff time. Our story is one of teamwork, partnerships, and an educational technology that has finally arrived. **AL**

**EMILY RIMLAND** is information literacy librarian and learning technologies coordinator at Penn State University Libraries. She is founder of the Association of College and Research Libraries Digital Badges Interest Group and recipient of the 2018 Library Instruction Round Table Librarian Recognition Award.



The new Calgary (Alberta) Public Library

**CANADA** The new Calgary (Alberta) Public Library building opened November 1 and greeted a record 115,000 visitors during its first two weeks. The building has four floors, 240,000 square feet of internal space, a podcast and YouTube production studio, a performance hall, a grand reading room, a children's library, a digital commons, heated handrails, and an interior that blends modern furnishings with a traditional look. But patrons using wheelchairs are finding some unexpected barriers:

ground-level light fixtures, lack of handrails on a sloped sidewalk, and out-of-reach security buttons on the elevators. Sarah Meilleur, director of service delivery, said the library is working to address these concerns.—**CBC**, Nov. 7, 13; **CityLab**, Nov. 7.

**SCOTLAND** A national archive for the civil nuclear industry has won a top Scottish architecture prize. Nucleus in Wick, Caithness, constructed to hold more than 70 years' worth of information and up to 30 million digital records, won the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Andrew Doolan Best Building in Scotland Award for 2018. Many of the documents, photos, and technical drawings it will hold relate to Dounreay, an experimental nuclear power complex 30 miles away. The facility will also store local archives dating from the 16th century.—**BBC News**, Nov. 6.

**FINLAND** Oodi, Helsinki's new central library, opened its doors December 5, one day before Finland marked its 101st anniversary as an independent nation. Oodi was designed by ALA Architects, the Helsinki-based firm that won an international competition for the project in 2013. The building is expected to see an estimated 2.5 million visitors annually.—**DesignBoom**, Nov. 13.

**JAPAN** Acclaimed novelist Haruki Murakami is donating 40 years' worth of his personal manuscripts, letters, and papers, as well as his collection of 20,000 record albums, to Waseda University Library in Tokyo, his alma mater. The university plans to house them in a special facility that will be used as a research center for Murakami studies and a venue for seminars and concerts. Murakami's works have been translated into 50 languages, and scholars worldwide have become interested in Japanese literature through his novels.—**The Asahi Shimbun** (Tokyo), Nov. 5. ●



# Sonia Sotomayor

Supreme Court justice and author teaches kids to embrace their differences

In her memoir *My Beloved World* (Knopf, 2013), US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor paints a vivid picture of her Bronx childhood—a challenging but meaningful time that saw her diagnosis with type 1 diabetes, the death of her father, her delight in discovering the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, and her eagerness to earn gold stars for good schoolwork.

Now she's brought those stories to younger readers with two new books: *The Beloved World of Sonia Sotomayor* (Delacorte Press, 2018), for middle graders; and the picture book *Turning Pages: My Life Story* (Philomel, 2018).

*American Libraries* spoke with Justice Sotomayor while she traveled to an appearance at Chicago Public Library.

**I understand that you were quite the Nancy Drew fan as a child. Retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg have expressed fond memories of those books also. What is it about Nancy Drew that inspires such love?**

I think it's her independence. In *My Beloved World*, I tell the story of what one of my teachers, Sister Mary Regina, wrote in my yearbook, which is that I had the unusual desire to be a lawyer and a wife. I think she made up the wife part. I don't think I was thinking of getting married then. But that gives you the expectations of the times.

Nancy Drew's independence, her strength, her determination, her perseverance were not generally ascribed to young girls. And I think for young girls like me who had that streak of independence in them, reading about someone who provided an acceptable role model was just wonderful.

**Did you visit the library much while you were growing up in the Bronx?** Oh my gosh, yes. It was the

Parkchester [branch of New York Public Library], one subway ride away. Given my family's limited resources, I generally walked to it. That's the place where I found comfort and solace after my father's death. It was a way to escape the unhappiness of my home, actually. And it was a safe place. Later, when I went to Princeton, I lived in Princeton's library. Libraries have been an essential part of my life.

I return to the Bronx at least a couple of times a year, and on one of my trips I went to one of the

spots where I grew up: St. Athanasius Church, which has [the Hunts Point branch] around the corner that serves the same function my public library served for me. It clearly is a safe haven for the kids interested in studying and in books and applying themselves. The kids there all recognized me. I had so much fun with them.

**What led you to adapt your memoir for young readers?**

It started with my cousin, who teaches bilingual education to middle-school children. She kept telling me that *My Beloved World*, although easy to read, had a lot of very sophisticated thoughts in it that middle-school children had a problem understanding. She thought you could maintain the



interest of a middle schooler more easily with more storytelling.

Once I started on the middle school book, my publishers talked to me about whether we could appeal to younger readers as well. It was around the time that US Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) was coming out with his first graphic novel [*March*, Top Shelf Productions, 2013]. They proposed that as a possibility, and I said, “No, that’s not quite me.” We settled on an illustrated book.

It’s very important to me that my books come out in both English and Spanish. I spoke Spanish before I spoke English, and I still speak Spanish, and it’s important to me to reach kids from backgrounds similar to mine—those for whom English is not yet their dominant language.

**You’re working on another children’s book—a picture book about understanding differences. What inspired it?**

I have a memory of once being in a restaurant where I had given myself my insulin injection before my meal, and as I walked out, I heard a woman whisper, “Drug addict.” I whipped around and went to her and said, “I’m a diabetic. You shouldn’t be assuming that people are bad because they’re doing something that’s necessary to their health.” I walked away just furious, but it always stayed with me. I know that there are many people who watch me taking injections and who are curious but never ask me why.

I realized from that woman that people make assumptions on the basis of ignorance. So I wanted to create a book about kids with visible and invisible challenges and conditions, like deafness, blindness, stuttering, allergies, Down syndrome, and autism. The book is set in a garden, and I have each



child describe their condition, their frustrations, their difficulties, but also what strength it brings to them.

There are multiple messages in the book. The first is, “If you see a child acting in a different way, don’t assume they’re a bad child. Just ask why. You can ask parents; you can ask a teacher.”

Number two is, “If people act differently, that doesn’t mean that they’re not making positive contributions to their community.”

And number three, I talk about how in a garden, you have some trees that need more light than others and some plants that need more water than others. Those differences create a beautiful garden. And we create a more beautiful community with our differences.

**What questions do children most often ask you at your public appearances, and how do you respond?**

Children most often ask me about things that they may be experiencing in their own life. I know that when a child asks me

how long the sadness lasted after my father died, almost always that child has had a recent death in their life. In those situations, I always try to bring the child aside after my talk and ask them if they lost someone. Inevitably I will share a moment with them talking about their loss.

I also get asked, “Is being on the Supreme Court a hard job?”

My answer is, “It’s a very, very hard job. You see, in every case, when the court rules, we announce a winner. By definition, that means someone else has lost the case. So no matter how right I feel the decision I voted for is, and no matter that I know there are people who are happy I voted that way, I always remember

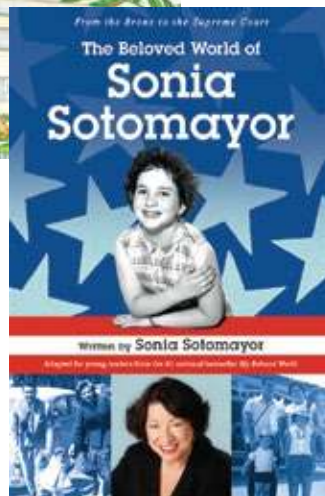
there’s someone else who thinks justice hasn’t been done. That makes my job very hard.”

Children also ask what the best part of my job is. The answer is, “Talking to you.” I have the privilege of being able to talk to kids about my passions and about the secrets to my success in life, which for me were reading and education and public service, and the belief that participating in our communities makes not just a better world, but a better person.

**Do you ever get the chance to read to children?**

Oh yes, many of them. On this book tour, I’ve gone to a number of schools, and I’ve done any number of readings elsewhere. I’ve collected over 2,000 hugs. I’m counting. I want more.

*This article first appeared at bit.ly/AL-Sotomayor.* **AL**



“I feel like libraries are kind of like the YouTube of the real world. They’re publicly accessible, they have all of this information that’s kind of just stockpiled there, and anyone can get into it and really dive deep.”

**LINDSAY AMER**, in “From Brooklyn to Wichita, Public Libraries Create LGBTQ-Affirming Spaces,” NBC News, October 16.



“Of all the things I’m thankful to the United States for, I can unequivocally say that access to free public libraries is the one I am most grateful for. They deepened my love of books. They opened worlds I had never heard of. They allowed me to be part of a community of book lovers. They made me love my new country even more because of its commitment to improving the mind.”

**EDUARDO MENDIETA**, “I Believe in Libraries,” *This I Believe*, WPSU-FM, September 13.

“No one will confuse Vermont libraries with the New York Public Library, with its stone lions and 55 million catalog items. But they matter, even the ones the size of a living room. It’s not merely that libraries connect us to books. It’s that they connect us to one another.”

**CHRIS BOHJALIAN**, in “12 Authors Write about the Libraries They Love,” *The New York Times*, October 15.

“I WAS HUNGRY, I WAS LONELY, I WAS HOMESICK. IN MY MIND, THE SOLUTION WAS GETTING A LIBRARY CARD.”

**VIRALI DAVE**, “Finding Home in a Public Library,” *Wit and Delight*, November 7.

“I was just sharing with a group of friends that they can get free tickets to museums through the library, and they were yelling at me to write the website link down for them. The connection over art and music and reading is something that really resonates with that age group, and the library has kind of become an epicenter for those interactions.”

**HANA ZITTEL**, adult services librarian at Denver Public Library, in “Colorado Millennials Booking It to Their Public Libraries,” *Denver Post*, November 12.



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## Using Visual Arts in Early Childhood Programming

with Heather White  
and Katherine Hickey

**Thursday,  
February 14, 2019**

2:30 p.m. Eastern



90-MINUTE WORKSHOP

## Writing for Your Library Website

Tips for Improving  
Your Content

with Rebecca Blakiston

**Thursday,  
March 21, 2019**

2:30 p.m. Eastern



5-WEEK ECOURSE

## Solutions for Challenging Workplace Relationships

with Richard Moniz  
and Jo Henry

**Begins Monday,  
April 8, 2019**

For a full listing of current workshops  
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**ALA** American  
Library  
Association

# 2018

## YEAR IN REVIEW

### US Signs Marrakesh Treaty

On October 9, President Trump signed into law the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act, which removes a key copyright barrier and allows libraries and other organizations to make materials available across borders to people with print disabilities. The treaty came into force in 2016 and now covers 74 countries.

### Michelle Obama at Annual

At the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA) in New Orleans, former First Lady Michelle Obama and Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden conversed before an overflow crowd of 8,000. Obama spoke about her family, her career, and her memoir—and about getting her first library card at age 4.



### Meeting Rooms Language Adopted, Rescinded

At its June 26 meeting in New Orleans, ALA Council voted to update the meeting rooms interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*, specifying that libraries that provide meeting space to the public could not exclude hate groups. Members, leadership, and library advocates then engaged in weeks of passionate debate on both sides of the issue. In a special election in August, Council repealed the change and reinstated the 1991 language.



Photos: ©Roman Miller/Adobe Stock (Braille); Cognates (Obama)





## Drag Queen Story Hours Become Popular, Controversial

As drag queen-hosted library story hours increase in popularity, socially conservative organizations protesting the events have gotten more vocal, organizing protests, inundating library boards with automated form letters, and causing some events to be rescheduled or relocated out of safety concerns.

## Resolution Honors African Americans

At the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, Council unanimously adopted a resolution that honored African Americans who fought library segregation and that apologized for wrongs committed against them in segregated public libraries.



## Federal Funding for Libraries

After a second year of #FundLibraries activism by library advocates, President Trump signed legislation on September 28 that includes level or increased funding for many library programs for FY2019. The Institute of Museum and Library Services received an additional \$2 million to improve its state-formula grant administration, enabling libraries to continue offering innovative services.

## Librarians and Guns

Library Media Specialist Diana Haneski saved 55 lives during the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, in February. Haneski knew what actions to take thanks to her friend Yvonne Cech, a school librarian who had protected students during the Sandy Hook shooting of 2012. In March, Florida Gov. Rick Scott signed a bill allowing school librarians and other staff to carry firearms on the job.



Yvonne Cech (left) and Diana Haneski



## Wilder Award Name Changed

On June 23, the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) board voted to change the name of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award to the Children's Literature Legacy



Award. Then-ALSC President Nina

Lindsay said the move reflects the division's core values, and, in a joint statement with ALA Past President Jim Neal, acknowledged that Wilder's works include dated cultural attitudes toward indigenous people and people of color.



## 3D Gun Debate Hits Libraries

On July 31, US District Court Judge Robert Lasnik issued a temporary restraining order to block Texas-based Defense Distributed from publishing its instructions for 3D-printed guns online, but the plans could eventually be made public. ALA created a resource list to help libraries develop policies for 3D printer use.

## Amazon Should Replace Local Libraries to Save Taxpayers Money



## Outrage Over Amazon Op-Ed

On July 23 *Forbes* published an op-ed arguing that Amazon stores should replace libraries. After public outcry, the publication removed the article from its website.

## ALA Sees Big Changes

ALA saw major changes in 2018. In January, the Executive Board appointed Mary Ghikas as executive director through January 2020. And in September, the Association decided to explore Chicago's commercial real estate market by listing its headquarters buildings at 40 and 50 East Huron.



## #MeToo Hits Publishing Industry

The publishing industry was not spared allegations and admissions of misconduct in the wake of #MeToo. Authors Sherman Alexie, Jay Asher, and Junot Díaz were among high-profile examples of those accused, leading many librarians to question collection development policies in the face of the movement.



## National Library Week Turns 60

National Library Week (NLW)—an awareness campaign conceived to get America reading—celebrated its 60th year with the theme “Libraries Lead.” In 1958, the first NLW, an effort of the ALA and the American Book Publishers Council, attracted more than 11,000 newspaper articles and spurred the formation of Friends groups in dozens of cities.




## Net Neutrality Rules Rescinded

The Federal Communications Commission rescinded the rules that it had passed in February 2015 guaranteeing an open, unrestricted internet. The repeal took effect June 11. The US Senate passed a resolution May 16 to reinstate net neutrality rules, but a similar measure failed to come to a vote in the House.

## Estevez Movie Highlights Libraries

Emilio Estevez visited the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans to screen his new film, *The Public*, a drama set inside the downtown location of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. (Read our interview with Estevez at [bit.ly/EstevezInterview](http://bit.ly/EstevezInterview).)





# REFERENDA ROUNDUP

How states performed  
on library measures  
by Anne Ford

**D**uring the 2018 election year, *American Libraries*, in partnership with the Public Library Association, tracked 146 library referenda across 33 states. A generous selection of them appears here and online at [bit.ly/almreferenda18](https://bit.ly/almreferenda18). Nearly 80% of those referenda passed in the library's favor. Among those are two statewide wins: In Maine, voters approved a \$15 million bond to upgrade facilities including library services at its community colleges, while in New Mexico, voters authorized the state to sell and issue nearly \$12.9 million in general obligation bonds for several types of libraries. The biggest winner in terms of referenda passed was Michigan, with more than 30 measures approved.

It's worth noting that several of this year's losses came about via a narrow margin. In Bayfield, Colorado, for example, a proposal to increase Pine River Public Library District's mill levy from

2.5 to 4.5 mills failed by just 10 votes. And it took just 113 votes to defeat a tax rate increase that would have yielded an estimated \$687,767 for Vineland (N.J.) Public Library.



## ARIZONA

✓ In the **Glendale** Elementary School District, voters passed by 51.9% a \$35 million bond that will go toward upgrading school buildings. They also renewed by 53.4% a \$9.6 million maintenance and operation budget override that will fund school library services as well as other programs, adding \$3.33 per \$100 of assessed property value. The two measures will fill a capital improvement funding gap that has resulted in nine consecutive years of reduced state funding to schools.

✓ In **Phoenix**, three school districts gained funding that will go in part to school libraries: The Laveen Elementary School District saw the successful renewal of a \$3.8 million district assistance budget-limit override to be used for library books, textbooks, and classroom technology, and to fund school construction and renovation. The Osborn Elementary School District renewed, by 57%, its \$2.4 million maintenance and operations override, which will help fund library services as well as other programs. Voters also renewed the Wilson Elementary School District's \$495,000 override to help fund library software, library books, educational technology, and other items.

## CALIFORNIA

✓ In **Campbell**, voters passed Measure O by 68%; the measure authorizes the city to issue up to \$50 million in bonds at an estimated tax rate of \$19 per \$100,000 in assessed value. The funds will go in part toward modernizing the public library and making it seismically safe.

✓ **Oakland** voters passed Measure D in June with a yes vote of 75.9%. The measure imposes a \$75 parcel tax that will

provide the city's libraries with \$10 million annually for the next 20 years.

## COLORADO

□ By just a 10-vote difference—2,369 to 2,359—**Bayfield** voters opted not to increase Pine River Public Library District's mill levy from 2.5 to 4.5 mills. The board has been using the district's reserve fund to balance the budget for the past three years.

□ **Clearview** Library District Ballot Issue 6C, which would have provided \$23 million to replace the current Windsor-Severance Library with a new, 38,000-square-foot facility, was rejected by voters 64.4% to 35.6%.

□ A proposed 3.25-mill levy increase aimed at including the city of **Dacono** in the High Plains Library District failed, with 55% of 1,152 voters opposed. Dacono Public Library has been closed since early 2017.

✓ By an affirmative vote of 73%, **Freemont County** voters passed a statute authorizing the county to provide high-speed internet, telecommunication, and/or cable television services to libraries, residents, businesses, schools, nonprofits, and other users. The same statute passed, by the same percentage, in the city of **Florence**, while **Cañon City** voters passed it by 83%.

✓ Voters in **Garfield County** approved Ballot Question 6A, which will allow the county's library district to keep all tax revenue it collects. The measure passed by 73%.

□ In **Moffat County**, Referred Ballot Measure 1A failed, gaining only 44% of the vote. The 2.85%-mill levy proposed by the measure would have generated an estimated \$1.2 million annually, divided between Moffat County Libraries and the Museum of Northwest

Colorado in Craig. The county's draft 2019 budget has reduced library funding to about \$100,000 and defunds the museum entirely.

## CONNECTICUT

□ In **Coventry**, a referendum to approve the appropriation of \$4.9 million for renovations and a new addition to Booth and Dimock Memorial Library failed.

✓ **Glastonbury** appropriated \$6.5 million to renovate and expand Welles Turner Memorial Library. The expansion will include a 536-square-foot addition to the children's area and a 3,210-square-foot addition to the west of the current building. It will establish a dedicated makerspace, reconfigure and expand the teen area, and reallocate existing space to create a computer center and operating efficiencies. Voters approved the measure 8,686 to 8,575.

✓ **New Milford** voters approved by a vote of 7,780 to 3,290 the expansion of New Milford Public Library from 15,000 to 22,000 square feet. The plan will also see the addition of meeting space, the relocation of the children's and young adult sections, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## FLORIDA

✓ **Pasco County** voted 66.7% to pass an \$18.6 million bond to fund the remodeling and upgrading of the county's seven library branches.

## GEORGIA

✓ **Forsyth County** approved by 64.7% the implementation of a special-purpose 1% sales and use tax in order to raise approximately \$274 million that will benefit the public library

# MICHIGAN

✓ In **Ann Arbor**, Proposition A passed with 53% support (26,746 to 23,618). The proposition amends the city charter to require that all city-owned land on a particular downtown block remain under public ownership in perpetuity and be developed as an urban park and civic center commons. The block is adjacent to the downtown branch of Ann Arbor District Library and includes the surface of the city's underground parking garage, known as the "Library Lot," and Liberty Plaza, a sunken concrete park. The city's alternative plan, favored by the mayor, was to sell the Library Lot to a Chicago developer to build a residential high-rise. Ann Arbor library trustee Linh Song had opposed the measure, saying that the University of Michigan's "Diag" in the middle of campus serves as adequate open space and that the library already exists as the city's civic commons.

✓ Residents of **Marquette County** passed four millage proposals ranging from 0.91 mills to 0.27 mills in support of Peter White Public Library. A 1-mill proposal to extend library services to Powell Township was defeated with only 42% of voters approving. Library Director Andrea Ingmire said the measures would allow her to "move forward in planning for a stable library future." •



**Betsie Valley District Library**  
Renewal of a 0.35-mill, 5-year levy



68% For  
32% Against  
560 Total votes



**Dowagiac District Library**  
New 1-mill, 20-year building bond



53% For  
47% Against  
4,451 Total votes



**Fruitport District Library**  
New 0.75-mill, 10-year levy



60% For  
40% Against  
6,553 Total votes



**Galien Township Public Library**  
Renewal of a 1-mill, 6-year levy



65% For  
35% Against  
553 Total votes



**Ionia Community Library**  
New 1.3-mill, 20-year levy



43% For  
57% Against  
5,902 Total votes



**Lapeer District Library**  
New 0.42-mill, 25-year building bond



45% For  
55% Against  
13,765 Total votes



**Milan Public Library**  
Renewal of a 0.25-mill, 7-year levy



74% For  
26% Against  
2,712 Total votes



**Rauchholz Memorial Library**  
New 1-mill, 10-year operating/building bond



37% For  
63% Against  
1,937 Total votes



**St. Charles District Library**  
Override to restore 0.8 mills



56% For  
44% Against  
3,273 Total votes



**Ypsilanti District Library**  
New 0.7-mill, 12-year levy



67% For  
33% Against  
34,472 Total votes

system as well as roads, parks, public safety, and water.

## IDAHO

□ Voters in the **Wilder** Public Library District narrowly turned down a levy in May that, if passed, would have

increased property taxes by \$15.12 per \$100,000 of taxable property value in order to fund the remodeling of the library (a former fire station). The levy needed 55% or more of the vote to pass, but fell just shy of that. It is the third time in two years that the levy has failed.

## ILLINOIS

✓ **Batavia** voters narrowly approved a 7-cent tax rate increase for library operations, by a vote of 6,055 to 6,007. The tax rate of 44 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation will remain the same, however—an equivalent tax on building

construction bonds that residents have been paying for the past 20 years will be eliminated when that debt is retired in December.

❑ A millage increase in **Dorr Township** failed in August. If approved, the millage would have jumped to 0.8 mills from 0.3 mills, with the additional funds going toward more materials, increased hours, updated technology, and upgraded facilities at Dorr Township Library.

✔ Voters in Cook County's **Maine Township** approved, 61% to 39%, the issuance of \$195 million in bonds for more than 50 projects across School District 207, among them classroom upgrades and library improvements.

✔ Grundy and Kendall Counties saw the passing of a proposition to issue \$10,300 in school building bonds for the improvement of the Saratoga School Building in **Morris**. Those improvements will include the construction of a learning resource center. The proposition passed by a vote of 1,786 to 630.

✔ In **Oak Park**, voters said yes to a nonbinding referendum to consider the merger and consolidation of Oak Park taxing bodies including but not limited to the Village of Oak Park, Oak Park Township, Oak Park Public Library, and the Park District of Oak Park.

✔ **Potomac**-area voters approved in March the establishment of a taxing district and a levy of 15 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, generating \$30,000 annually for Potomac Public Library. The measure passed 202 to 98.

❑ In **Rochester**, voters rejected 1,675 to 1,562 a \$3.2 million bond that would

have allowed for the expansion and renovation of Rochester Public Library.

❑ A March property tax referendum aimed at building a \$4.9 million public library in **South Beloit** failed. The new facility would have been triple the size of the existing library building. The ballot measure failed by a vote of 530 to 481.

✔ With a vote of 2,510 to 1,630, **Western Springs** passed a \$2 million bond issue in March to renovate the interior of Thomas Ford Memorial Library, including the lobby and circulation areas; audiovisual collections; youth, teen, and tween areas; community room; and adult services desk.

❑ In **White Oak**, a referendum to increase the library district's operating tax rate to 21.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value from 18.5 cents failed, with 60.2% voting against it. This is the fifth time since March 2016 that this proposed rate increase has been defeated. The funding would have allowed the library to create a digital media lab and expand services to older residents.

## LOUISIANA

✔ **Calcasieu Parish** voters approved, by 64%, the renewal of a 10-year, 6-mill plan to fund the 13 branches of the parish library system. The tax supplies 96% of the library's funding and will bring in approximately \$12.8 million annually.

❑ A 1.61-mill property tax renewal aimed at maintaining and improving the public libraries of **Lafayette Parish** failed in April by a vote of 5,746 to 6,392.

## MAINE

✔ Statewide, voters approved a \$15 million bond to upgrade facilities

at all seven of Maine's community colleges. Those facilities include "information technology infrastructure" and "instructional and library services."

✔ **Falmouth** saw the passing of a \$500,000 supplemental bond to support the expansion and renovation of Falmouth Memorial Library. The voting results were 4,295 for and 3,108 against.

✔ In **Rockport**, voters approved borrowing \$1.5 million to help fund the construction of a new library in Rockport Village, with 1,067 voting for the measure and 922 against. A bridge loan to fund the construction as other donations materialize was also approved.

## MARYLAND

✔ **Baltimore** passed an ordinance authorizing the city's mayor and city council to borrow up to \$65 million for recreational space and public buildings, including Enoch Pratt Free Library. The ordinance passed with a vote of 87.3% for and 12.7% against.

✔ An ordinance allowing **Prince George's County** to borrow money and issue bonds in an amount not exceeding \$16.8 million for projects within its library system passed with an affirmative vote of 85.3%.

## MINNESOTA

✔ By a vote of 2,115 to 1,317, **Cambridge** voters approved a 0.5% local sales tax to fund the construction of a new Cambridge Public Library and East Central Regional Library Headquarters, as well as the city's street improvement program and outdoor park development. The tax will remain in effect through 2043.







## MISSOURI

✔ Voters in **Kansas City** passed, with 83% in favor (63,274 to 12,588), an 8-cent increase in Kansas City Public Library's property tax-based operating levy. The increase will provide an additional \$2.8 million annually. Library Director Crosby Kemper III said the funding will allow the library to expand hours, modernize technology, and renovate or replace existing branches.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

✔ **Epping** voters approved in March \$600,000 to expand Harvey-Mitchell Library. This is the fourth time the expansion has been on the ballot, and it passed by a vote of 542 to 336.

❑ A proposed \$5.1 million library renovation project in **Exeter** failed in March. The project needed three-fifths of the vote to pass, but it received only 1,315 votes out of 2,623.

✔ The Weeks Public Library in **Greenland** will be renovated and expanded as the result of a 467–278 vote in March to approve a \$2.9 million bond. The library will expand by 9,000 square feet and be brought into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## NEW JERSEY

❑ In **Vineland**, voters narrowly rejected a dedicated property tax rate increase from 3.3 cents per \$100 of assessed property valuation to 5 cents. The results were 7,353 for, 7,466 against. If passed, the measure would have increased funding for Vineland Public Library by an estimated \$687,767 annually. Advocates say the library could be forced to reduce hours, staff, and programs.

## NEW MEXICO

✔ Statewide, voters approved the Public Libraries Bond, authorizing the state to sell and issue nearly \$12.9 million in general obligation bonds for academic, public school, tribal, and public libraries to meet increasing demands for materials and electronic services. With 424,619 yes votes and 193,309 no votes, the bond passed with 68.7% in favor.

✔ **Bernalillo County** voters approved a bond of \$1.8 million, which will go toward purchasing materials for all branches of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County library system. The bond passed by a vote of 160,977 yes to 56,294 no, a 74.1% margin.

✔ **Sandoval County** voters voted in favor of a bond that will provide nearly \$3.4 million to 15 public and tribal libraries. The bond passed with 65.8% of the vote.

## NEW YORK

✔ Voters in **Amenia** opted to increase the town's annual contribution to Amenia Free Library by \$30,000, to a total of \$125,000.

✔ Voters in the town of **Kinderhook** opted to increase the operating budget of Valatie Free Library by \$9,150 and to increase the operating budget of Kinderhook Memorial Library (KML) by \$49,000. Meanwhile, the town of Stuyvesant voted to increase its share of the operating budget of KML by \$6,921.

✔ A proposal to dissolve **Woodstock** Public Library District failed, with 2,067 votes against it and 1,142 for it. Board President Dorothea Marcus says the vote allows the continuation of efforts to expand the library building.

## OHIO

✔ **Delaware County** voters passed, by 64%, a renewed 15-year millage rate of 1.0, which will allow Delaware County District Library to finish paying off the 25-year loan it had taken out to open its Orange Township branch. The renewed millage will also allow the library to begin planning a new branch in the Powell and Liberty Township area.

✔ **Fairfield County** voters passed, by 21,231 to 14,990 (59% to 41%), a library levy costing homeowners \$39 per \$100,000 valuation.

✔ A May levy in **Hamilton County** passed by a vote of 63% to 37%. The levy creates a tax to benefit the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County at a rate not exceeding 1 mill for each dollar of valuation. The money will fund branch renovations as well as books and reference materials.

✔ **Muskingum County** Library System saw the renewal and increase of a levy from 1 mill to 1.25 mills. The levy, which will allow the library system to maintain its operations, passed by a vote of 14,259 to 13,699 (51% to 49%).

✔ A five-year, 0.9-mill levy passed in **New Carlisle** with 63% of the vote. The levy is expected to generate about \$78,000 yearly, allowing New Carlisle Public Library to increase its hours.

✔ In **Oak Harbor**, a five-year, 1-mill renewal levy for current expenses of Oak Harbor Public Library was passed, with 3,221 voting for the levy and 1,399 voting against.

✔ **Pickerington** saw the passage of a 1.25-mill permanent levy to fund operations at Pickerington Public Library. The levy passed by a vote of 12,052 to 8,747 (57.9% to 42.1%).

✔ **Port Clinton** voters passed a five-year, 0.8-mill replacement levy for current expenses of Ida Rupp Public Library. The levy was passed by a vote of 3,900 to 1,803.

❑ **Stark County's** Issue 4, which sought an eight-year, 2.2-mill levy to help Stark County District Library modernize its 10 locations, failed, with 52% of voters rejecting the measure. The levy was voted down in every community except Canton and Meyers Lake. Executive Director Mary Ellen Icaza says that if the district cannot pass a new levy before its existing 1.7-mill property tax expires in 2019, the library will lose more than half of its operations budget.

✔ In **Tipp City**, a five-year, 0.75-mill renewal levy for Tipp City Public Library passed with 72% of the vote.

✔ **Willoughby-Eastlake** Public Library system saw the renewal of a 1-mill levy and the addition of a 1-mill increase. The income will generate an additional \$1.5 million annually for seven years. The levy renewal and addition passed by a vote of 14,401 to 11,630.

## OREGON

❑ Voters in **Tigard** rejected a local option levy in May aimed at providing additional funds for the city's library, parks, and police department. If passed, the levy would have cost property owners \$1.18 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

## PENNSYLVANIA

✔ In **Oley Township**, a proposal to pass a library tax of 0.09 mills for the

establishment and maintenance of the Oley Valley Community Library passed by a vote of 978 to 469.

## TEXAS

✔ In **Austin**, Proposition B passed with 73% of the vote. The proposition calls for the issuance of \$128 million in bonds and notes for city libraries, museums, and cultural and creative arts facilities.

## UTAH

❑ With 66% of voters opting against it, a statewide nonbinding ballot question failed. If passed, the measure would have indicated majority support of a 10-cent tax on motor fuels to raise more than \$100 million for education, including school libraries.

## WASHINGTON

✔ The **Pierce County** Rural Library District Proposition 1 Levy Lid Lift measure passed, with 106,844 voters (50.2%) casting yes votes, which raises the levy rate to 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

✔ **Sequim** voters passed Proposition 1, creating the Sequim Library Capital Facility Area tax district. However, they rejected Proposition 2, which would have approved bonds and tax levies to expand the Sequim Library building.

## WEST VIRGINIA

✔ In **Kanawha County**, an excess levy to raise \$3.1 million annually over the next five years for the county public library system passed by a vote of 37,505 to 18,053.

✔ **Pleasants County** voters passed a five-year, \$3 million continuing levy that

will fund the school system as well as the public library. The levy passed by 1,536 to 949.

✔ **Wood County** voters approved a five-year continuing levy with more than 72% of the vote. The levy is expected to generate more than \$18 million annually for Wood County schools and libraries.

## WISCONSIN

✔ By a vote of 572 to 553, **Ellsworth** passed a nonbinding referendum to partially fund a new library through a \$3 million village loan.

✔ **Gibraltar** passed, with 70% of the vote, a referendum calling for \$4.4 million to remodel the school district's library and media center.

## WYOMING

✔ In **Carbon County**, voters approved by 3,603 to 1,502 a 1% sales tax that will allow the town of Hanna to pay all utilities and insurance for the Hanna branch of Carbon County Library System. The tax will also benefit the Encampment branch.

✔ **Laramie County** voters passed by 64% a sales tax to fund road maintenance. Nearly 70% of the \$22 million Laramie County will receive as a result of the tax will go to the Public Works Department, with an additional 10% going to help fund the purchase of books for Laramie County Library.

*An earlier version of this story first appeared at [bit.ly/AL-Referenda18](http://bit.ly/AL-Referenda18).* **AL**



**ANNE FORD** is editor-at-large of *American Libraries*.

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# Other Duties as Assigned

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Front-line librarians on the constant pressure to do more

BY Anne Ford

**M**aybe it existed only in our collective imagination—the era when librarians focused solely on providing access to written information, and when their greatest on-the-job challenge consisted of keeping the stacks in order. Whether that halcyon time ever actually took place, it's definitely not here now. Social worker, EMT, therapist, legal consultant, even bodily defender: These are the roles that many (perhaps most?) librarians feel they're being asked to assume.

*American Libraries* asked seven librarians—public, academic, and school; urban and rural—their thoughts about the many directions in which their profession finds itself pulled. **AL**

A portrait of Chera Kowalski, a woman with short blonde hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a black blazer over a white t-shirt with a blue and pink graphic of a cat's face. A gold necklace with a rectangular pendant is visible. The background is a red brick wall.

## ‘At the end of the day, somebody is dying.’

*Chera Kowalski has received national media attention for her administration of the overdose reversal drug Narcan to six patrons of the Free Library of Philadelphia’s McPherson Square branch. Kowalski has since moved out of her role as the branch’s teen/adult librarian and into a position as assistant to the library’s chief of staff.*

**I**n the community I was in, administering Narcan was something that needed to happen. My profession went out the door when an overdose was going on. At the end of the day, somebody is dying, and it doesn’t matter what your title is.

I’ve been criticized for this. People ask, “Why do you feel we need to do this? This isn’t in our job description.” I understand those criticisms, and I’m willing to listen to them. It’s something I’ve been very clear about:

Learning to administer Narcan was voluntary; I made this choice, and it shouldn’t be forced on anybody.

But as a professional, if you see certain needs, it’s your responsibility to at least connect with people who can meet those needs. You can’t just say, “Sorry, no.” This may not mean having Narcan at your desk. But I think if people are overdosing in your space, you at least need to have a plan in place beyond “call 911.”

It’s interesting to see where the arguments against administering Narcan come from. Some of them are clearly coming from a personal stigma against substance use disorder. An overdose is a medical emergency, just like a heart attack would be, just like an epileptic seizure would be. We can’t deny services based on things that make us personally uncomfortable.

What if you’re concerned you don’t know how to administer Narcan properly? I have said this to a room full of librarians: You’ve been trained to find accurate information on just about anything. That is your role. If you cannot do that, you really need to reevaluate the field you’re in. Now, you might not *want* to do it, even once you have the correct information about it, and that’s fine. It’s a personal choice at the end of the day. But you can’t hide behind an argument of misinformation.

I think the libraries that are adopting Narcan are being conscientious about the effects on their staff, and that’s why they’re making this training voluntary, because overdoses are upsetting to witness. I’ll admit it: I got burned out. I was working in direct public service, and that can

be difficult regardless of the community you’re in.

When people are deciding to go into public librarianship, they really need to think about what that can mean. I hate to sound condescending, but you have to go

into the field knowing what you’re signing up for. That’s what being an adult and a professional is. ●

### **CHERA KOWALSKI**

Assistant to the chief of staff, Free Library of Philadelphia



## 'There are other options to protect your patrons.'

*Former police officer Tom Rink speaks to the question: Should librarians be expected to carry firearms on the job in order to protect their patrons?*

I was a police officer for 25 years. I got tired of the grind, of always seeing the bad side of things, so I took a career exploration class and decided to get my library degree, which was a truly unexpected result.

Carrying a firearm, for me, is no big deal; I'm retired law enforcement. But we have a "no guns on campus" policy at Northeastern State University, and you have to honor the wishes of your organization.

My main concern is that response times from police departments aren't always timely. Also, all the bad guys know these are gun-free zones, so it's a target-rich environment. My opinion is that if there's someone on campus who has a concealed-carry permit and has the proper training to use that firearm, then they could mitigate an attack by stepping in and halting it with fewer injuries.

However, I understand that this creates an inherent danger for the

campus police, because they don't necessarily know who the bad guys are or who the good guys are. If you know that employees aren't allowed to carry guns on campus, then you know that anyone with a gun is considered a bad guy.

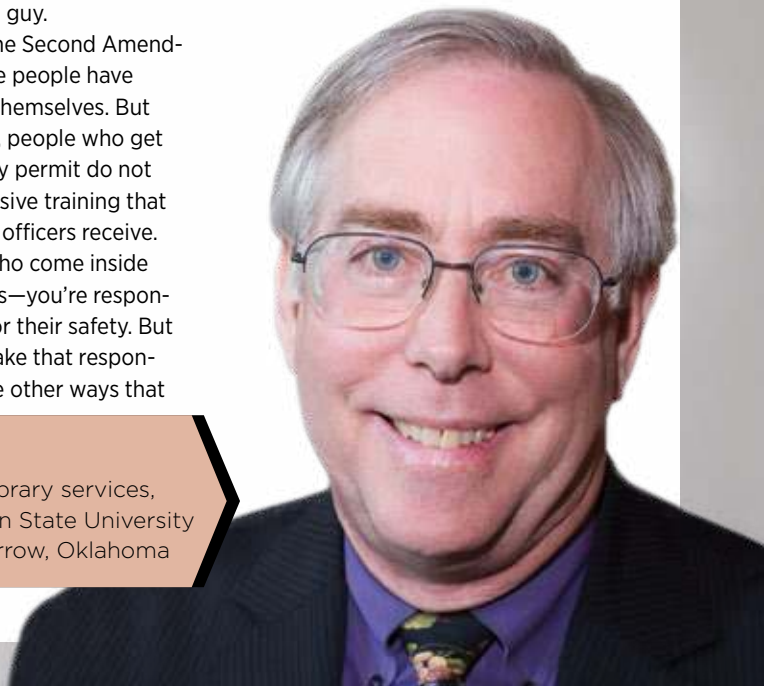
I do support the Second Amendment. I do believe people have the right to arm themselves. But at the same time, people who get a concealed-carry permit do not receive the extensive training that law enforcement officers receive.

The patrons who come inside your library doors—you're responsible to a point for their safety. But how far do you take that responsibility? There are other ways that

the general public can be protected. Have you heard of ALICE active-shooter response training? ALICE stands for Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate ([bit.ly/ALICElibs](http://bit.ly/ALICElibs)). It's training on how to mitigate the fallout from an active-shooter scenario. We've had ALICE training in the library, so we're aware of the best way for civilians to respond when this type of situation happens. There are other options to protect your patrons besides having a gun and going blasting. ●

### TOM RINK

Instructor, library services,  
Northeastern State University  
in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma



## 'It's all just different pathways to attaining information.'

*At the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library, Homa Naficy directs The American Place, a program for immigrants and refugees who seek immigration information, resources for learning English, and help preparing for US citizenship. In 2013, the Obama White House declared her a Champion of Change.*

**W**e offer a slew of programs, and they have expanded over the years. We are located next to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services' Connecticut field office, and we'd have people constantly coming

into the library searching for information. We started with English and citizenship classes. Then we expanded into formal citizenship classes, which resulted in demands for support with citizenship applications. That prompted us to go after accreditation, so we could provide legal services.

Our next enhancement came from funding from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. It wanted to fund a

## ‘You can’t save everybody.’

*Graham Tedesco-Blair has spoken at the annual Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference on the topic of libraries and rural poverty. He is an adult services librarian at Newark (N.Y.) Public Library.*

In a lot of rural areas, the work left and never came back. We get a number of library patrons who are homeless or semi-homeless. We have people sleeping under bridges or by the side of the Erie Canal. Thankfully, we don’t have anyone coming to the library to shoot up—there are enough abandoned buildings in town that they don’t need to come to the library to do that—but we have had Narcan training. We figured better safe than sorry.

Yeah, this is what libraries have turned into. You could describe it as mission creep, but I guess I could put it this way: I would love to be one of those 1920s librarians who got to look up poetry or read philosophy all day, but that’s not the world we live in. My father was a social worker and my mom was a special-ed teacher, so I’m very used to working with those who need help. You see a problem, you work to fix it. You don’t ask, “Why is it my job?”

You have to do the job that’s actually there, not the one that exists

in your head. I absolutely adore when a kid needs a book because they’re doing a report on dinosaurs, or someone wants to learn about the Civil War because they finally retired, and this is their hobby now. But those aren’t the only patrons who deserve my attention. We’re here to serve the community. And what they need, that’s what we’re going to do.

Burnout and empathy fatigue are definitely a huge problem. You have to not be so hard on yourself. Just admit that you’re not going to solve all the problems. You can’t save everybody, nor is it your responsibility to. If you’re doing your best, if you’re trying hard, it’s okay to leave work at work. At the end of the day, go home, put on your favorite TV show, eat a little bit of chocolate, hug your partner if you have one. If you need to take a vacation, that’s why you have paid time off. ●

### GRAHAM TEDESCO-BLAIR

Adult services librarian,  
Newark (N.Y.) Public Library



program to create a pathway to a career. So we targeted the immigrant population, and we are now offering training in food handling and food safety in institutional kitchens, because those are benefited positions. The trainings are contextualized ESL. We also tell them about their rights in the workforce. We’re providing them with critical information, which is our role as a library.

It’s all just different pathways to attaining information, and that’s our industry. It’s not even a question. That’s what we do; we help people. It’s not about the issue [of immigration]; it’s about our mission, and our mission is to help people meet their informational needs. ●

### HOMA NAFICY

Chief adult learning  
officer, Hartford (Conn.)  
Public Library





## ‘I called 911 once a week.’

*Amanda Oliver worked as a school librarian, then as a public librarian, but burnout—and an erroneous but terrifying shooting threat—led her to leave the profession.*

**W**hat happened was, the Washington, D.C., public school for which I worked was very close to Howard University. Howard thought it had a shooter who had run into the immediate vicinity, and we were the immediate vicinity. Our security guards must have seen something on the news, and in a panic went to the pre-K and kindergarten classrooms and told them there’s a shooter. Our PA system did not work.

I got a text from a colleague, and all it said, in all caps, was ACTIVE SHOOTER. I was standing in the library, and

the moment I read the text, the door opened, and there were 22 2nd-graders. We got all the kids into the library, we locked the doors, and we covered the windows with paper. I’m looking at the windows thinking, “If the shooter knocks the glass out, what are my options? How many kids can my body protect?” I don’t

### AMANDA OLIVER

MFA student, University of California–Riverside

Photo: Emma McAlary (Oliver)

## ‘There’s only so much we can do in 16 weeks.’

*Nicole A. Cooke has directed the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s MS/LIS program since 2017. She responds to the often-heard statement: “I didn’t learn this in library school.”*

**I** hear, “We didn’t learn this in our program,” and that’s true. There are lots of things I didn’t learn in my master’s program. But now that I’m faculty, I realize I don’t know we could actually ever teach everyone everything they might need to know. To a certain extent our job is to teach the basics, the foundation. It becomes impractical to think we can teach students all the dimensions of their jobs.

I teach a class titled “Information Services to Diverse Populations,” and in that class, we talk about homelessness, we talk about LGBTQ issues, we talk about some of the more recognized marginalized groups. In that class we have guest speakers who talk about their work with different populations. This is how we try to interject some reality into the courses. But there’s only so much we can do in 16 weeks.

I hear people asking, “Can we have a joint program with social work?” I’m happy to investigate that, but we have to get social workers on board as well in terms of what that might look like. It is difficult to get dual-degree programs up and running. We have to go through enormous amounts of paperwork even to get a new course. And then how do you assign the classes, how are they cross-listed, what’s going to be required from each end? The framework of higher ed does not make any of this easy.



even remember how we put together that everything was okay. It turned out that someone had seen someone with a bag holding golf clubs and had mistaken it for a gun.

We just sort of glossed over it. It was an epic failing of the school administration. I had been wanting to leave for a while, but that sealed the deal. I didn't want to be in a system where there was no process for anything like that. When you have too many roles and too many things to do, things fall by the wayside, and this horrible incident was never properly handled.

By the way, I never in one million years would have shot a gun in front of my students at someone. Never. I would never add to their trauma. I can't imagine the school librarian whipping out a gun in front of 6- and 7-year-olds. Even if I had had a gun, I don't trust that I would have known how to properly use it or that I would have sprung into action in time.

Aside from that incident, as a school librarian, I was pulled in a million directions. On top of a grueling teaching schedule, I was also responsible for maintaining a 15,000-piece library collection. If I was going to get it all done, I had to come early and stay late. By my fourth or fifth year, I started saying, "You have to give me a schedule that makes it possible to manage this collection." That never happened.

I switched to a public library in D.C. Ninety percent of the

patrons we saw on a daily basis were experiencing homelessness, addiction, and severe mental health issues. There was not a day that I did not witness a psychotic episode. I called 911 once a week. People say, "Other branches aren't that bad," and I'm not interested, because if one branch is like that, your system is failing, as far as I'm concerned. Every day I'd go: "I think I'll have PTSD from this job."

About a month before I left, I got my third manager in the eight months I was there. She told the library, "I'm not taking this job unless there's a full-time police officer." Once we got that officer, I realized one day, "I haven't been screamed at in a week." But I have a lot of issues with police in general, so I don't believe that should be a solution. Is that what we have to resort to in order to keep order? I want to believe "no," but it's hard, because I did see a huge difference.

The funny thing is, I loved being a librarian. I loved providing a service to underserved people who deserve a leg up in the world. But there's no possible way to do it long-term the way that I was. When I thought about what being a librarian would look like for me five or 10 years down the road, I was sick.

I don't have an answer. I don't know how to fix these things. I truly don't know, other than that society needs an overhaul for how we treat people. ●

Then you have to weigh, particularly in this higher-education landscape, whether that degree would be worthwhile.

Sometimes folks think that LIS programs are being willful about not including things, and I think that's not the case. We talk about these things all the time, and we try to incorporate them in our classes, but curriculum- and program-level changes are difficult. We are already covering so much, and we have accreditation standards we need to adhere to. Also, we may not have the necessary personnel, because you can't just stick some random instructor into a class about diverse populations. I would like people to be aware of all the different moving parts that go into a graduate program. ●

A portrait of Nicole A. Cooke, a Black woman with dark, wavy hair, smiling. She is wearing a patterned top. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowd.

### NICOLE A. COOKE

Associate professor and MS/LIS program director, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## 'I want more people to be able to be librarians.'

*Fobazi Ettarh is author of "Vocational Awe and Librarianship: The Lies We Tell Ourselves," a paper that appeared in January 2018 in the open access, open peer-reviewed journal *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*.*

**M**ission creep is definitely a major problem in librarianship. You start off with a certain set of duties, and then "other duties as assigned" become a bigger and bigger part of your job. Since your colleagues are doing this extra work, if you do only what's in your job description, you're seen as doing "less than," even though that's what you were technically hired for.

The most pressing example is Narcan. It is true that certain communities are having trouble with library patrons overdosing. You think, "Well, we as librarians

try to mitigate community problems. Just like we have storytime, why shouldn't we have this service, when it's clearly needed?"

People also say, "I can't stand by and do nothing." But if you do something [i.e., administer Narcan] and the person still, God forbid, dies, then what? Or what if you help them and they sue you for emotional damages? We're not trained to dispense medical anything. We're also not social workers. When we take on this work, there's no institutional support for the trauma counseling we might need afterward, or for knowing when to call or not call the police.

A two-day training is not the same thing as getting your master's in social work. Just like we wouldn't want some social worker with three days of library training to take over the library, we shouldn't rely on these two- or three-day trainings. It's not our job to become the catch-all for social-service failings. If overdosing is a big problem in your community, instead of having librarians do a training, hire an actual social worker or medical professional, just

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like you would hire a children's librarian if your neighborhood has a lot of large families.

Being stretched thin doesn't allow any of us to do our jobs well. If we're trying to be librarians and also social workers and also mental health professionals and also community centers, there's no way that any one space can do all of that well, and so we're doing all of that badly. I think it would make more sense for us to do the job we're trained for: information specialists.

I really do love both my job and librarianship. I want more people to be able to be librarians, to be able to provide the representation and access and values that we espouse and are not currently living up to. It's a lot easier to make the emotional argument: "Someone's in front of me; how can I do nothing?" It's a lot harder to take a step back and ask, "If we set this precedent, what will happen in the future?" ●

#### **FOBAZI ETTARH**

Undergraduate success librarian, Rutgers University-Newark (N.J.)



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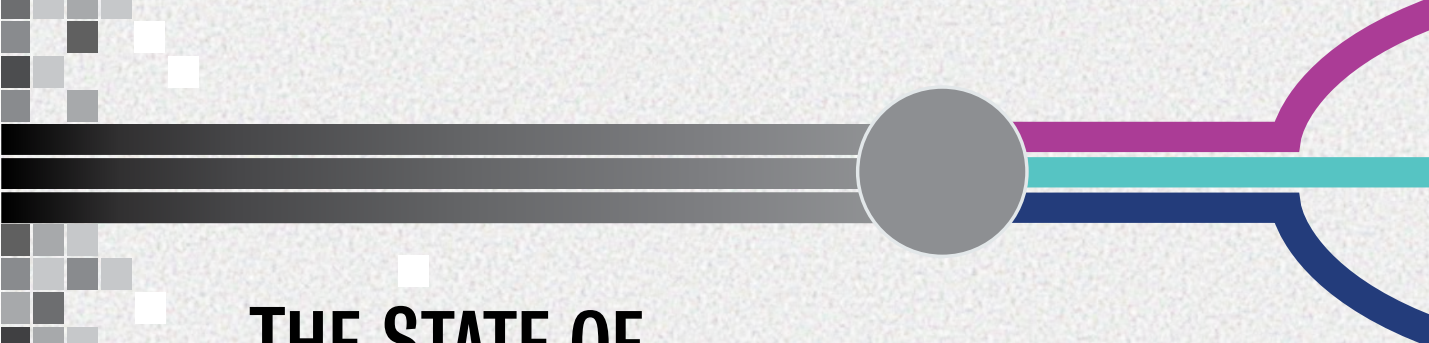



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# THE STATE OF Net Neutrality

A coast-to-coast roundup of efforts  
to restore the open internet

BY Greg Landgraf

**T**he Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Restoring Internet Freedom Order (RIFO) took effect June 11, 2018, overturning the net neutrality rules the agency established with 2015's Open Internet Order. Since then, many individual states and other entities have taken it upon themselves to try to restore net neutrality protections. The following is a review of those efforts—successful, failed, and in progress—around the US.

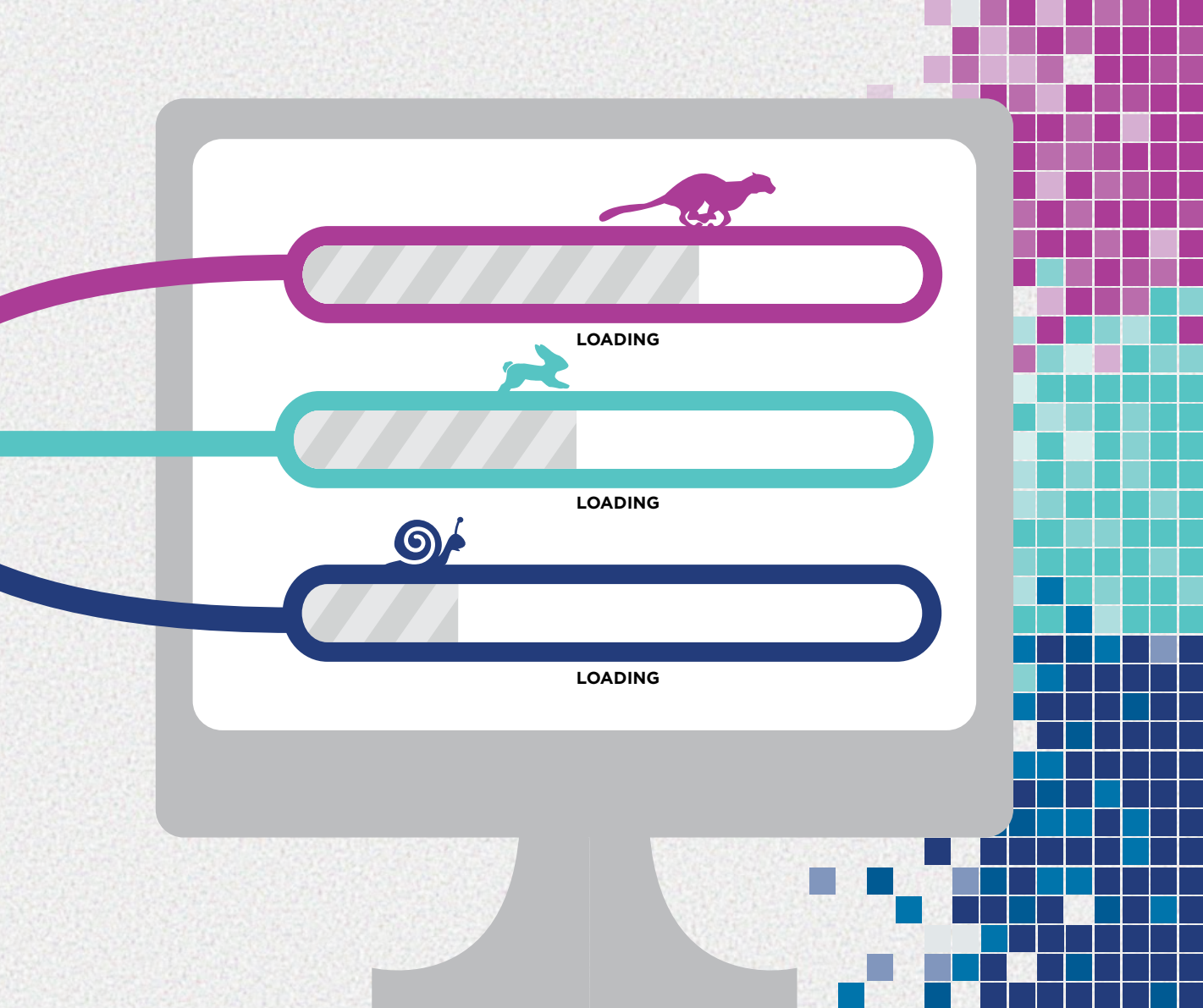
More than 35 states have introduced legislation to protect net neutrality, although only four (California, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington) have passed laws. Several governors have also issued executive orders related to net neutrality.

The details of state net neutrality actions vary significantly, but common provisions are:

- prohibiting all internet service providers (ISPs) in a state from blocking lawful content, applications, services,

or devices; impairing or degrading the speed of lawful internet traffic based on content, application, service, or device; engaging in paid prioritization of traffic; or unreasonably interfering with a user's ability to select, access, or use broadband internet service

- requiring ISPs to meet the net neutrality provisions above to be considered for state contracts (in some cases, these acts apply to contracts for municipalities as well)
- requiring ISPs to transparently disclose their network management principles
- establishing certification systems or registries of ISPs that meet net neutrality requirements



- issuing resolutions urging the US Congress to implement net neutrality requirements but having no regulatory power on their own

“Having 50 different approaches to net neutrality is not optimal for anybody,” observes Larra Clark, deputy director of public policy for the American Library Association’s Washington Office and the Public Library Association. However, in addition to providing net neutrality in the states where they’ve been implemented, state activities are valuable in advocating for meaningful protections nationally. “States taking these leadership roles makes it more likely that the FCC will come to the table and the

telecommunications companies that have fought us on this issue will work to find a compromise,” she says.

## State legislation passed

**CALIFORNIA** On September 30, Gov. Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill (S.B.) 822 ([bit.ly/ALNN-1](http://bit.ly/ALNN-1)), requiring ISPs in the state to comply with net neutrality principles and disclose network management practices. The bill goes beyond the Obama-era regulations by also limiting certain forms of “zero rating,” in which ISPs favor certain information by not counting content or websites they own against data limits. The bill’s author, Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) called it “the strongest in the

nation.” However, the US Justice Department filed suit against the law the same day Brown signed it. This suit has been postponed, and California has agreed not to enforce its law until the D.C. District Court decides on the state attorneys general suit on RIFO.

Brown also signed Assembly Bill (A.B.) 1999 ([bit.ly/ALNN-2](http://bit.ly/ALNN-2)) on September 30, requiring broadband networks created by local governments to follow net neutrality.

**OREGON** Gov. Kate Brown signed House Bill (H.B.) 4155 ([bit.ly/ALNN-3](http://bit.ly/ALNN-3)) on April 9. The law prohibits public bodies from contracting with ISPs that do not abide by net neutrality.

**VERMONT** May 22 Gov. Phil Scott signed S.B. 289 ([bit.ly/ALNN-4](http://bit.ly/ALNN-4)), requiring state agencies to contract only with ISPs that practice net neutrality, directing the state Secretary of Administration to develop a process to certify ISPs that practice net neutrality, and directing the state attorney general to study the extent to which the state should enact net neutrality rules. It also requires ISPs to disclose their network management practices. The law followed Executive Order 2-18 ([bit.ly/ALNN-5](http://bit.ly/ALNN-5)), issued February 15, that required state agencies to contract only with ISPs that follow net neutrality.

Even though the scope of this law is narrower than California's, industry groups filed suit to block it October 18 in the US District Court in Vermont.

**WASHINGTON** Gov. Jay Inslee signed H.B. 2282 ([bit.ly/ALNN-6](http://bit.ly/ALNN-6)) on March 5. The law requires ISPs to practice net neutrality and to accurately disclose network management practices.

## Executive orders

In addition to Vermont, governors in the following states have issued executive orders related to net neutrality. Each of these orders requires ISPs to follow net neutrality principles to receive state contracts.

**HAWAII** Gov. David Ige issued Executive Order 18-02 on February 5.

**MONTANA** Gov. Steve Bullock issued Executive Order 3-2018 on January 22.

**NEW JERSEY** Gov. Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 9 on February 5.

**NEW YORK** Gov. Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order 175 on January 24.

**RHODE ISLAND** Gov. Gina Raimondo issued Executive Order 18-02 on April 24.

## Bills introduced but not enacted

**ALASKA** Neither of the proposed bills requiring ISPs to practice net neutrality (H.B. 277 and S.B. 160), nor House Joint Resolution 31 and Senate Joint Resolution 12 urging the US Congress to overturn the FCC's order, were acted on in committee.

**COLORADO** H.B. 18-1312 would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality to receive money from the High Cost Support Mechanism, the state's implementation of the FCC's Connect America Fund, which provides funds for deploying broadband in rural areas. The bill passed the house but failed in the Senate Committee on State, Veterans, and Military Affairs.

**CONNECTICUT** The senate passed S.B. 366, requiring ISPs in the state to practice net neutrality and disclose network management practices. However, the house did not vote on the measure. H.B. 5260 and S.B. 2, which would have required ISPs to adopt net neutrality policies to qualify for state contracts, both failed in committee.

**GEORGIA** Neither of the bills related to net neutrality introduced in the house or senate progressed out of committee. S.B. 310 would have required all ISPs to follow net neutrality, while H.B. 1066 would have prohibited the state from contracting with ISPs that don't provide a certification of net neutrality.

**HAWAII** S.B. 2644, which would require ISPs to follow net neutrality and disclose network management practices, passed the senate unanimously, but its house companion, H.B. 2256, stalled in committee. The similar S.B. 2088 was deferred in committee.

In addition to requiring net neutrality, H.B. 1995 would have established a task

force to examine the costs and benefits of a state-owned public utility to provide broadband internet service. Two of three house committees recommended passage of the bill, but the Finance Committee did not act on it.

**IDAHO** H.B. 425, which would require ISPs to comply with net neutrality, was not acted on in committee.

**ILLINOIS** H.B. 4819, which would have required state contractors to comply with net neutrality and other ISPs to notify consumers of any deviations from those principles, passed out of the House Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, and IT Committee, but the house re-referred it to the Rules Committee and did not vote on it.

Two other measures did not advance out of committee: H.B. 5094, which would have required ISPs in the state to abide by net neutrality, and S.B. 2816, which would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality to qualify for state contracts.

**IOWA** Neither Senate File 2286 nor House File 2287, which would have required ISPs to provide service in accordance with net neutrality, advanced out of committee.

**KANSAS** H.B. 2682, which would have prohibited state contracts with ISPs that do not follow net neutrality, died in committee.

**KENTUCKY** The Small Business and Information Technology committee did not act on H.B. 418, which would have required state contractors to practice net neutrality.

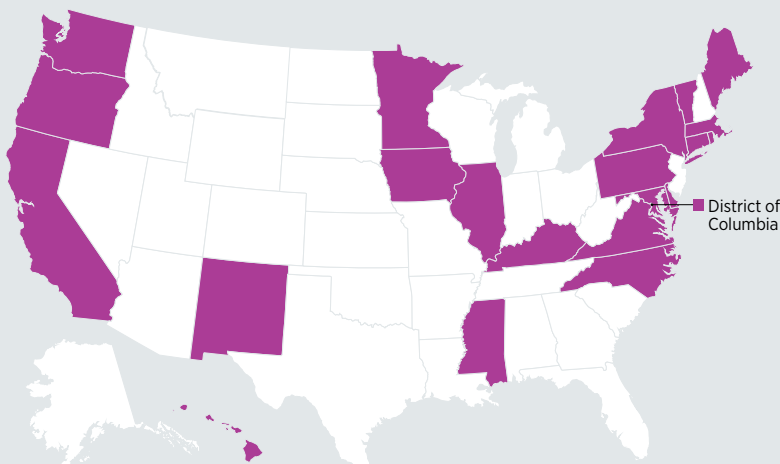
**MARYLAND** H.B. 1654, which would prohibit state agencies from contracting with ISPs that do not follow net neutrality and require ISPs to notify customers about the types of personal data they collect and disclose, passed the house, but the senate did not vote on it. The similar H.B. 1655, which



# Legal challenges

One venue where the FCC's actions will be challenged is the courts. A coalition of attorneys general representing 21 states and the District of Columbia filed suit ([bit.ly/ALNN-7](http://bit.ly/ALNN-7)) in the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on January 16, 2018, to block the FCC's action. According to then-New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, the Restoring Internet Freedom Order (RIFO) was an "arbitrary and capricious" change to existing policies prohibited under the Administrative Procedure Act. The court will hear arguments in the case in February.

The Mozilla Corporation also filed a petition for review against the FCC in the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, on the grounds that RIFO violates federal law, including the Communications Act of 1934 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996. According to Mozilla, "The decision does not simply



Attorneys general from 21 states and the District of Columbia have filed a lawsuit in the US Court of Appeals against the FCC.

'roll back' to an unregulated internet; instead, it removes affirmative protections for the public despite the fact that many people in the US suffer from a lack of choice in broadband high-speed internet access."

The American Library Association (ALA) and 19 other education and library associations filed an amicus brief ([bit.ly/ALNN-8](http://bit.ly/ALNN-8)) August 27 in support of

Mozilla's suit. Arguments have not yet been scheduled.

Larra Clark, deputy director of public policy for ALA's Washington Office and the Public Library Association, says the FCC's 2015 rules were already affirmed by the D.C. Circuit Court. "That's part of the reason for our argument that the order should be considered 'arbitrary and capricious,'" Clark says. ●



would also authorize local governments to grant franchises for broadband internet service, did not pass out of committee.

S.B. 287, which would require the state to only contract with ISPs that follow net neutrality, did not pass out of committee.

**MASSACHUSETTS** Senate Order S2263, establishing a special senate committee on net neutrality and consumer protection to review RIFO, was adopted January 18. The committee issued its report March 23 as S.B. 2376. This report accompanied S.B. 2336, a bill that would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality.

S.B. 2336 was replaced by S.B. 2610, which would direct the state Department of Telecommunications and Cable to create standards for a Massachusetts Net Neutrality and Consumer Privacy Seal to identify ISPs that abide by net neutrality and provide consumers with an easy way to opt out of providing third parties access to personal information. It would also establish a registry of broadband service providers in the state and list their network management practices and privacy policies. The bill passed the senate July 19 and has been referred to the House Ways and Means committee.

H.B. 4151, which would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality, was replaced by House Order 4684, authorizing the Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy to study documents concerning several bills, including those on net neutrality. This order also covered H.B. 4222, requiring ISPs to follow net neutrality and establishing the Massachusetts Internet Service Provider Registry to provide service quality and pricing information to customers.

**MINNESOTA** Two bills have been introduced in both the house and the senate that





**PENNSYLVANIA** H.B. 2062, which would have required ISPs to abide by net neutrality, did not make it out of committee. The same fate befell S.B. 1033, which also would have prohibited state contracts with ISPs that don't follow net neutrality and required ISPs to disclose network management practices.

**RHODE ISLAND** S.B. 2008, which would have required state agencies to award contracts only to ISPs that follow net neutrality, passed the senate June 19. The House Corporations Committee has not acted on it.

That committee recommended that H.B. 7076, which would require ISPs to follow net neutrality and require the state Division of Public Utilities and Carriers to annually certify ISPs, be held for further study. It made the same recommendation for H.B. 7422, which would require net neutrality and obligate ISPs to disclose their network management practices.

**SOUTH CAROLINA** Neither H.B. 4614 nor H.B. 4706, which would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality and disclose their network management practices, passed out of committee.

**SOUTH DAKOTA** The Senate Commerce and Energy Committee voted February 6 not to send S.B. 195 to the full senate, killing the measure. The bill would have required ISPs to abide by net neutrality and disclose network management practices to receive contracts from the state.

**TENNESSEE** Several bills were introduced but did not pass out of committee, including H.B. 1755 and S.B. 1756, which would have required ISPs to abide by net neutrality and disclose their network management practices, and prohibit state agencies or local governments from contracting with ISPs that do not follow

net neutrality; S.B. 2183 and H.B. 2253, which would have prohibited state governmental entities from contracting with ISPs that do not follow net neutrality; and H.B. 2405 and S.B. 2449, which would have created a task force to study issues relating to RIFO.

**VIRGINIA** H.B. 705, which would have required ISPs to practice net neutrality, stalled in the Commerce and Labor Committee.

S.B. 948, which would have required ISPs to practice net neutrality and prohibited them from knowingly disclosing personally identifiable information about customers, did not pass out of committee.

**WEST VIRGINIA** Neither H.B. 4399, which would have required ISPs to practice net neutrality and disclose network management practices to receive state contracts, nor S.B. 396, which would have applied to all ISPs in the state, passed out of committee.

**WISCONSIN** The assembly voted against taking up A.B. 909, which would have required ISPs to follow net neutrality and limited disclosure of personally identifying information. Senate counterpart S.B. 743 did not pass out of committee.

Neither S.B. 740 nor A.B. 908, which would have applied only to state contractors, were acted on by committee.

## Resolutions

**CALIFORNIA** In February, Senate Resolution (S.R.) 74, urging the US Congress to reinstate the 2015 rules, passed.

**DELAWARE** Senate Concurrent Resolution 44, expressing the state assembly's opposition to RIFO and urging the US Congress to enact legislation preserving net neutrality, passed the senate in January.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA** A round table hearing was held in January 2018 on Proposed Resolution 22-0691 opposing RIFO. While it was cosponsored by all 13 members of the council, no vote has been taken.

**GEORGIA** House Resolution 1161, a resolution that would have encouraged state agencies to establish policies requiring contract recipients to adhere to net neutrality, was introduced, but it did not progress out of committee.

**ILLINOIS** S.R. 1196, which would have urged the US Congress and the Trump administration to advocate for permanent adoption of net neutrality rules, did not advance out of committee.

**MICHIGAN** S.R. 131, which would have urged the governor to issue an executive order requiring ISPs with state contracts to abide by net neutrality, has not been acted on in committee.

**MISSOURI** House Concurrent Resolution (H.C.R.) 84, which would urge the US Congress to pass legislation restoring net neutrality, has not been acted on in committee.

**NEW MEXICO** Senate Joint Memorial 17, urging the US Congress to review RIFO, passed, but the house postponed action indefinitely.

**OHIO** The Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations did not act on H.C.R. 18, which would have urged the president and US Congress to protect net neutrality and open internet access. **AL**



**GREG LANDGRAF** is web content specialist at Greene County (Ohio) Public Library and a regular contributor to *American Libraries*.





2019

# *Midwinter* PREVIEW

HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES IN SEATTLE

EDITED BY Greg Landgraf

**W**ith its thriving tech scene, picturesque outdoors, and iconic Space Needle, Seattle has long led in inspiration and innovation—concepts that have historically driven librarianship and will continue to do so for many years to come. The American Library Association’s (ALA) Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits returns to the Emerald City January 25–29, giving library professionals the perfect opportunity to discuss the ideas, trends, and research that will shape the future of information services.





Melinda Gates



Eric Klinenberg



Robin DiAngelo



Isha Sesay

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

### Opening Session

Friday, January 25, 4–5:15 p.m.

Philanthropist **Melinda Gates**, cofounder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, has dedicated her life to transforming the health and prosperity of families, communities, and societies. Core to her work is the empowerment of women and girls. Gates is author of the forthcoming *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World* (April), a call to action that traces the link between women's empowerment and the health of societies. In the book, Gates details opportunities to create change and provides simple and effective methods for making a difference.

### Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture

Saturday, January 26, 4–5 p.m.

**Eric Klinenberg** is professor of sociology and director of the Institute for Public Knowledge at New York University. His latest book, *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life* (2018), argues that the resilience of communities rests not on shared values but on the crucial connections created by shared spaces, such as libraries, day-care centers, bookstores, coffee shops, and neighborhood gardens.

### ALA President's Program: Libraries = Strong Communities

Sunday, January 27, 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Acknowledging structural racism is necessary in order to dismantle oppression and build strong communities. In ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo's program, **Robin DiAngelo**, author of *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* (2018), will discuss the phenomenon and offer ways to engage more constructively in conversations about racism.

### Closing Session

Monday, January 28, 2–3 p.m.

Peabody Award-winning journalist **Isha Sesay** will speak at the Closing Session. Sesay was an integral part of CNN's coverage of major world events, including Japan's nuclear reactor crisis, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and the kidnapping of 276 Chibok schoolgirls in Nigeria by Boko Haram militants. She recently left CNN to focus on other projects, including her upcoming book *Beneath the Tamarind Tree* (July), the first definitive account of Boko Haram's abduction of the schoolgirls. Sesay is also the founder of W.E. (Women Everywhere) Can Lead, which supports education and empowerment of girls in Africa.

## Auditorium Speaker Series

Saturday, January 26,  
10–11 a.m.

**Sylvia Acevedo** is currently CEO of the Girl Scouts of the USA, but she's also been an IBM engineer, a NASA rocket scientist, an award-winning entrepreneur, and a commissioner on the White House Initiative for Educational Excellence for Hispanics. Her recent memoir for young readers, *Path to the Stars*:

*My Journey from Girl Scout to Rocket Scientist* (2018), traces her journey from living in an underprivileged New Mexico neighborhood to becoming one of the first Latinx to graduate with a master's in engineering from Stanford University and work as a scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Sunday, January 27, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Travel author, television host, and activist **Rick Steves** started his business, Rick Steves' Europe, in 1976, growing it from a one-man operation to a company of 100 full-time employees. He spends about a third of every year in Europe, researching guidebooks, filming TV shows, and making new discoveries. He tackled a new genre of travel writing with *Travel as a Political Act: How to Leave Your Baggage Behind* (2018). The book reflects on how a life of travel broadened his perspectives and how travel can be a force for peace and understanding in the world. He will discuss his belief that frequent travel is the most effective way for Americans to contribute to "homeland security."

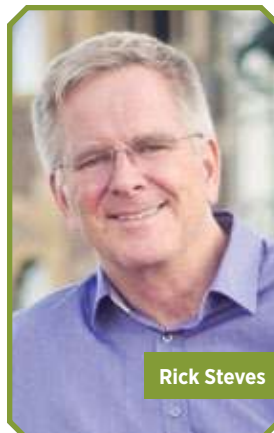
## Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration

Monday, January 28, 6:30–7:30 a.m.

The 20th annual Martin Luther



Sylvia Acevedo



Rick Steves

King Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration commemorates King's legacy and recognizes the connection between his life's work and the library world. The event will feature a keynote address from **Jeanne Theoharis**, distinguished professor of political science at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York and author of *A More Beautiful and Terrible History: The Uses and Misuses of Civil Rights History* (2017). The observance will also feature a call to action from former ALA President Lorie Roy (2007–2008) and readings including passages from King's speeches and work. Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served.

## Support Seattle Business

ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services has created a mapped list of minority-, women-, and LGBTQ-owned businesses in Seattle ([bit.ly/ALA\\_Seattle\\_Business](http://bit.ly/ALA_Seattle_Business)), with a focus on those located close to the Washington State Convention Center. ●

## SYMPOSIUM ON THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES

The Center for the Future of Libraries will once again sponsor the Symposium on the Future of Libraries, three days of sessions that explore new trends that are already inspiring library innovation as well as longer-term efforts to help libraries of all types adapt to the needs of their users. The symposium is included with full conference registration.

A plenary session with civic, social, and education innovators who are creating what's next for cities, campuses, and communities will open the symposium each day from 8 to 10 a.m. The full schedule is available at [alamidwinter.org/symposium-schedule](http://alamidwinter.org/symposium-schedule). Notable sessions include:

### Breaking Down the Barriers to Advocacy for School Libraries

Saturday, January 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

ALA Policy Corps Members **Ann Ewbanks**, director of Montana State University's School Library Media Certificate; **Jenna Nemec-Loise**, head librarian at North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka, Illinois; and **Deborah Rinio**, adjunct instructor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks will share their perspectives on library advocacy and what makes a good advocate. They will also discuss how to connect with local, state, and national legislators; communicate effectively; and eliminate barriers to advocacy efforts.

### Racial Equity: Libraries Organizing to Transform Institutions

Saturday, January 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

The Public Library Association (PLA) Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and



Inclusion and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity will explore public libraries' work on identifying and addressing institutional racism and structural inequities.

### Return to the Real: The Library as Social Connector

**Saturday, January 26, 3–4 p.m.**

WebJunction Programs Manager

**Betha Gutsche** and WebJunction  
Community Manager **Jennifer**

**Peterson** will explore library programs through the lens of social possibilities. Studies indicate that a lack of social connections can increase loneliness and depression. Active learning programs with participatory activities can help strengthen community bonds and provide the sense of belonging that humans crave.

### The Role of Libraries in Addressing Homelessness and Poverty

**Sunday, January 27, 1–2 p.m.**

Libraries, particularly public libraries, are considering their responsibilities to serve community members who are experiencing poverty and homelessness. But this subject is not often addressed in library schools, leaving librarians without the vocabulary, background, and tools to effectively address these challenges. This interactive session will offer examples of exercises, readings, videos, and conversations to help libraries move forward. Panelists include researcher and author **Julie Ann Winkelstein**; **Tina Reid**, access services assistant at Austin Peay State University's Felix G. Woodward Library in Clarksville, Tennessee; **Jessica Ball**, librarian at Memphis (Tenn.) Public Libraries; and **Hilary M. Jasmin**, research and learning services librarian, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

### The Academic Library in an Open Access World: Threats and Opportunities

**Sunday, January 27, 4–5 p.m.**

**Rick Anderson**, associate dean for collections and scholarly communication at the University of Utah's J. Willard Marriott Library, will explore the library's role in an era when access to scholarship no longer needs to be brokered. This session will discuss both threats and opportunities presented by an open access future.

### BOOKS AND AWARDS

It wouldn't be Midwinter without celebrating books and authors. Honor some of the best works of the year—and even rub shoulders with some of your favorite writers—at these events.

### RUSA Book and Media Awards

**Sunday, January 27, 5–7 p.m.**

ALA's Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) will announce the winners of its awards, which recognize some of the best books for adults. Awards to be announced include the **Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Non-fiction**, the **Dartmouth Medal** for outstanding reference work, and the **Sophie Brody Medal** for Jewish literature. RUSA will also unveil this year's **Notable Books List**, **Reading List**, **Listen List**, and **Outstanding Reference Sources** selections. This event is complimentary, but registration is required.

### Youth Media Awards

**Monday, January 28, 8–9 a.m.**

In an event that's always a highlight, the winners of the most prestigious awards in children's and young adult literature will be announced Monday morning. The Washington State Convention Center will be buzzing as the winners of the **Newbery**, **Caldecott**,

## Business and Financial Meetings

### Friday, January 25

- 8:30 a.m.–noon, ALA Executive Board Meeting I
- Noon–4:30 p.m., Budget Analysis and Review Committee and Finance and Audit Joint Meeting

### Saturday, January 26

- 8–11 a.m., Council Orientation Session
- 3–4:30 p.m., ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session
- 4:30–5:30 p.m., ALA Presidential and Treasurer Candidates' Forum

### Sunday, January 27

- 8:30–9 a.m., ALA-APA Council Session
- 9–11 a.m., ALA Council I
- 1–2:30 p.m., Planning and Budget Assembly

### Monday, January 28

- 10 a.m.–noon, ALA Council II
- 2–4 p.m., ALA Executive Board Meeting II
- 4–4:30 p.m., ALA-APA Board Meeting

### Tuesday, January 29

- 9–11:30 a.m., ALA Council III
- 12:30–4:30 p.m., ALA Executive Board Meeting III



## ALA Store

Located in the Atrium Lobby of the Washington State Convention Center, the ALA Store will offer a wide range of promotional, continuing education, professional development, and gift items—including special conference-only items not available in the ALA Graphics catalog.

A special pop-up mini-store will operate near the registration area 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Friday, January 25. Attendees are advised to stop by early to get their pick of conference T-shirts. ●

### STORE HOURS

Friday, January 25  
1:30–5:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 26  
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, January 27  
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Monday, January 28  
8:30 a.m.–2 p.m.

**Coretta Scott King, Pura Belpré, and Printz** awards, along with more than a dozen others, are revealed. Follow the results via live webcast or by following #alayma on Twitter. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Revelers are encouraged to attend the **Joint Youth Reception** (5–6:30 p.m. Monday, January 28), sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), to talk about the day's big winners over drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

## United for Libraries Gala Author Tea

**Sunday, January 27, 2–4 p.m.**

Bestselling writers **Juliet Grames** (*The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*), **Wayétu Moore** (*She Would Be King*), **Chris Pavone** (*The Paris Diversion*), and **Annie Ward** (*Beautiful Bad*) will discuss their forthcoming books while attendees enjoy tea and a variety of treats. Book signings will follow, and United for Libraries will recognize winners of

the 2018 National Friends of Libraries Week Awards during the program. Tickets are \$55 in advance for United for Libraries members, \$60 in advance for nonmembers, or \$65 onsite. Advance purchase is recommended.

## Morris and Nonfiction Award Program and Presentation

**Monday, January 28, 10:30 a.m.–noon**

Enjoy coffee, tea, and pastries, and listen to the 2019 Morris Award and Young Adult Nonfiction Award winners and finalists speak about their honored titles. After the speeches, mingle with the authors and pick up copies of their books. Tickets are \$25.



Juliet Grames



Wayétu Moore



Chris Pavone



Annie Ward

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

The News You Can Use series offers updates from experts on policy, research, statistics, technology, and more, based on new surveys,

reports, legislation, regulations, and projects. See the full schedule at [alamidwinter.org/news-you-can-use](http://alamidwinter.org/news-you-can-use). Highlights include:

### **Libraries and Public Policy After the Midterm Elections and the Midpoint of the Administration**

**Saturday, January 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

ALA Washington Office's Senior Director of Public Policy and Government Relations **Alan Inouye**, Associate Executive Director of Public Policy and Advocacy **Kathi Kromer**, and Deputy Director of Government Relations **Kevin Maher** will discuss what the library community can expect from the 116th Congress over the next two years on issues like funding, copyright, privacy, education, and telecommunications.

### **PLA Inclusive Internship Initiative**

**Saturday, January 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

Since 2017, more than 100 high school students have participated in paid, mentored internships at public libraries across the nation through PLA's Inclusive Internship Initiative. This program will share highlights from past participants, describe how libraries can work with high school interns to build more inclusive staffs and services, and provide information on applying to host an intern in 2019.

### **Intellectual Freedom and the Law: Issues and Updates for Meeting Rooms, Drag Queen Storytimes, and Library Displays**

**Saturday, January 26, 1–2 p.m.**

Controversies over library meeting room policies, drag queen storytimes, and library displays have made headlines in recent months. ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom Interim Director **Deborah Caldwell-Stone** and Freedom to Read Foundation General Counsel **Theresa Chmara** will explore the legal principles and precedents

that apply to these issues and provide practical guidance on creating policies that comply with the law, protect intellectual freedom, and meet the needs of the library and its community.

### **Preliminary Results from the 2018 Young Children, New Media, and Libraries Survey of Technology Use in Today's Libraries**

**Sunday, January 27, 8:30–10 a.m.**

ALSC will present preliminary findings on how libraries are using new media in programming and providing a wide range of technologies to families with young children. Panelists **Katie Campana**, assistant professor at Kent State University; **Claudia Haines**, youth services librarian at Homer (Alaska) Public Library; **Marianne Martens**, associate professor at Kent State University; and **Liz Mills**, PhD candidate and Beverly Cleary research assistant at

University of Washington will discuss survey results and their implications.

### **LITA Top Technology Trends**

**Sunday, January 27, 1–2:30 p.m.**

The Library Information Technology Association's premier program on changes and advances in technology affecting the library world will feature a round-table discussion with a panel of experts and thought leaders.

### **Library Advocacy and Community Engagement in the 2020 Census**

**Sunday, January 27, 4–5 p.m.**

Communities across the country are preparing for the 2020 Census. Library staffers and supporters can increase awareness of library services and strengthen community relationships by participating in a Complete Count Committee. Hear from librarians who have been involved with Complete Count efforts and learn about a new ALA Washington Office advocacy publication.

### **Future Ready with the Library: Connecting with Middle Schoolers to Build Strong Communities**

**Monday, January 28, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

YALSA and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries developed the Future Ready with the Library project to help middle school students consider their passions and interests and learn how they might connect to college and a career. This session will address how libraries can work with community partners and families to support the social and emotional development needs of middle schoolers and encourage their early steps in considering academic and workplace opportunities.

### **TICKETED EVENTS**

No matter what your professional specialty or interests, Midwinter's

## **Stay connected**



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Follow along on Tumblr at [americanlibraryassoc.tumblr.com](https://americanlibraryassoc.tumblr.com)



Keep up on Instagram with #alamw19 and at [bit.ly/ALAinstagram](https://bit.ly/ALAinstagram)



Visit [alamidwinter.org/scheduler](http://alamidwinter.org/scheduler) or download the mobile app



## In the Exhibit Hall

With more than 450 exhibitors offering the latest in products, titles, and services for every type of library; multiple stages featuring the hottest names in publishing; and a variety of special events, the exhibit hall at Midwinter is essential to learning and networking. Swing by the specialty pavilions dedicated to mobile apps, small presses, and university presses.

Visit the Book Buzz Theater for news on the latest titles, and catch readings, discussions, presentations, and signings at the PopTop Stage.

*American Libraries* will host a live podcast episode as part of the PopTop Stage program. Join *Dewey Decibel* podcast host **Phil Morehart** for “So You Want to Podcast...” (11 a.m. Saturday, January 26), a panel discussion featuring librarian podcasters **Joseph Janes**, associate professor at the University of Washington Information School and host of *Documents That Changed the World*; **Gwen Glazer**, readers services librarian at New York Public Library and cohost of *The Librarian Is In*; and **Adriane Herrick Juarez**, executive director of Park City (Utah) Library and host of *Library Leadership Podcast*. ●

### EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Friday, January 25  
5:30–7 p.m.

Saturday, January 26  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, January 27  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Monday, January 28  
9 a.m.–2 p.m.



preconference institutes and other ticketed professional development opportunities can help you take your work to the next level. Visit the Ticketed Events page ([bit.ly/midwintertext](http://bit.ly/midwintertext)) for more information.

### Designing Educational Opportunities on the Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy

Friday, January 25, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Today's shifting academic information landscape provides challenges and opportunities for librarians to become change agents for campuswide initiatives and competencies. This Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Emerald City RoadShow will help participants leverage scholarly communication and information literacy to develop education and outreach strategies that address the aspirations and needs of scholars, students, and researchers. Presenters include **Maryam Fakouri**, scholarly publishing outreach librarian at the University of Washington in Seattle, and **John Watts**, head of knowledge production at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Libraries. Tickets are \$225 for ACRL members, \$265 for ALA members, \$325 for nonmembers.

### Advancing Racial Equity in Public Libraries: Normalizing, Organizing, and Operationalizing

Friday, January 25, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

At this PLA institute, practitioners will share their experiences using racial equity tools and setting up racial equity initiatives for success. Speakers will also discuss barriers to anticipate and strategies for sustaining efforts through challenging times. Presenters include **Sonja Ervin**, Multnomah County (Oreg.) Library equity and inclusion manager, and **Gordon**

**F. Goodwin**, Government Alliance on Race and Equity regional project manager at Race Forward. Tickets in advance are \$130 for PLA members, \$150 for ALA members, \$180 for nonmembers, and \$80 for students and retired persons.

### **Implicit Bias, Health Disparities, and Health Literacy: Intersections in Health Equity**

**Friday, January 25, 9 a.m.–noon**

PLA, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Pacific Northwest, and ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, will present an institute to help participants explore practices and interventions that can reduce health disparities and promote health equity. Organizers will provide a packet of resources to support health literacy in the library, including tools librarians can use to identify their communities' health needs. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$60 onsite.

### **United for Libraries Institute: Friends, Foundations, and Trustees**

**Saturday, January 26, 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Library trustees, Friends groups, foundations, and staff are invited to join a



Jan Masaoka

free afternoon of learning opportunities.

**Jan Masaoka**, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits, will deliver the keynote

"Be Passionate about Your Library! Creating and Developing Effective Advocates for Your Library." The event will also feature expert speakers and a panel discussion, "Working Together: Friends, Foundations, Trustees, and Libraries." Tickets are complimentary, but registration is required.

## **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS**

### **ACRL Presidential Forum**

**Saturday, January 26, 1–2 p.m.**

ACRL President Lauren Pressley will host "Climbing the Stairs to Diversity and Inclusion Success." At this interactive workshop, **Terryl Ross**, assistant dean of diversity, equity, and inclusion at the University of Washington College of the Environment, will present a new diversity and inclusion model. Attendees will discuss all five levels of the model as well as realistic ways for organizations to progress through them.

### **Trends in Young Adult Services Paper Presentation**

**Saturday, January 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

In this YALSA program, **Amanda Waugh**, instructional librarian at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Maryland, will present "Feels

Like Home: The Digital Information Practices of Teen Fans," a paper that investigates teen information-seeking behaviors in online fan communities.

### **The ALA Masters Series**

The ALA Masters Series provides opportunities to hear experts from across different library specialties describe their in-house innovations in fast-paced, 45-minute lunchtime sessions. Visit [bit.ly/alamasters](http://bit.ly/alamasters) for this year's schedule of speakers.

## **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

Midwinter is more than just speakers, awards, and business meetings. Some of its most powerful moments are the informal opportunities to ask questions, make recommendations, explore ideas, and reflect on what you've learned.

More than 200 **Discussion Groups** will meet at Midwinter. These are loosely organized sessions on broad and timely topics, each sponsored by an ALA division, round table, or office.

Make connections at the **Networking Uncommons** space, a Wi-Fi-equipped area where you can gather in small groups to have a quick meeting, hold impromptu sessions, polish your presentation, or recharge. Sign up for a time slot or just show up. The space is open 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Friday, January 25, and 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday–Monday, January 26–28.

Relax and regroup at the **ALA Lounge**. Connect with colleagues, other ALA members, and ALA staff, and get answers to your questions about what's happening at conference and at ALA. You'll have the chance to pick up plenty of swag—including special ribbons not available anywhere else. **AL**

For an up-to-date list of dates and times, see the Midwinter Conference Scheduler at [alamidwinter.org/scheduler](http://alamidwinter.org/scheduler).

## **JobLIST Placement Center**

**A**LA's JobLIST Placement and Career Development Center (open 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, January 26–27) offers free workshops, résumé review, and headshots. Other highlights include:

- **Orientation**, 9 a.m. Saturday, January 26
- **Open House/Career Fair**, 9–10:30 a.m. Sunday, January 27
- **Career Counseling**, 9–10 a.m. and 4–5 p.m. Saturday, January 26; 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday, January 27
- **Mentoring-on-the-Fly**, 9 a.m.–noon Saturday, January 26 and 1–4 p.m. Sunday, January 27 •





# EMERALD CITY *Eats*

## WHERE TO DINE DURING MIDWINTER

by Donald Steven Olson





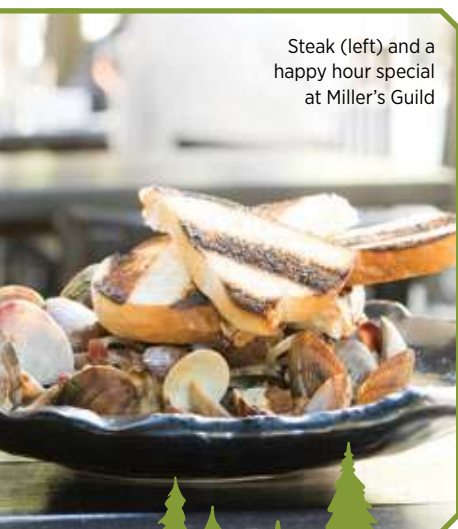


Seattle's reputation as one of the great restaurant cities in the US has grown steadily over the past three decades. Before that time there were some good Asian and Italian restaurants and always one or two classic French eateries, but eating out in Seattle had been mostly about seafood and steak.

Then, like the tech industry that refueled Seattle's ailing aerospace economy, the food scene exploded. Cooking became an art, and the materials needed to create that art were close at hand—right at the famous Pike Place Market. The “buy fresh, eat local” philosophy, which places a premium on sustainable fishing and organic farming practices, now pervades the Seattle food scene. To enhance your meal you will also find excellent Washington State wines and locally brewed beers.

As author of *Frommer's Seattle Day by Day: 28 Smart Ways to See the City*, I've been lucky enough to explore the city's restaurant scene for more than a decade. Many of Seattle's best downtown restaurants are independent kitchens attached to hotels; others are on the waterfront or in neighborhood spots outside the downtown core but easy to reach by public transportation or taxi.

Photos: Miller's Guild



Steak (left) and a happy hour special at Miller's Guild

## DOWNTOWN/BELLTOWN

### Assaggio

2010 Fourth Ave.

206-441-1399

[assaggioseattle.com](http://assaggioseattle.com)

From the personal welcome by owner and chef Mauro Golmarvi to the handmade pastas and melt-in-your-mouth veal dishes, Assaggio is a place where food is a passion and hospitality is genuine. Everything at this charming, award-winning restaurant—from the simple margherita pizza and baked lasagna to the sophisticated osso buco—is fresh

## Price Guide

Average price per person for entrée without appetizers, drinks, tax, or tip.

\$ under \$10

\$\$ \$11–\$20

\$\$\$ \$21–\$30

\$\$\$\$ \$31 and up

and memorable. Gluten-free versions of the pastas are available, and the wine selection is excellent. **L (M–F), D (M–Sat) \$\$\$**

### Café Campagne

1600 Post Alley

206-728-2233

[cafecampagne.com](http://cafecampagne.com)

Tucked away in the secret little courtyard of Inn at the Market hotel, this charming, romantic French café-bistro overlooks the crowds and noise of Pike Place Market with a Gallic nonchalance. Try the French onion soup or one of the pâtés as an appetizer, then consider the cassoulet—a traditional Southwest French white bean stew with lamb, pork, duck confit, garlic sausage, and breadcrumbs. Café Campagne is a lovely spot for lunch or weekend brunch, too. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (M–F), D daily \$\$–\$\$\$**

### The Carlile Room

820 Pine St.

206-946-9720

[thecarlile.com](http://thecarlile.com)

It's difficult to characterize this appealing and adventurous

downtown restaurant. The retro décor evokes a 1960s lounge, but the menu offers a contemporary “plant-forward” theme that emphasizes the freshest produce available. The menu changes daily depending on what produce is available. Chefs are given free rein to invent new taste combinations, like heirloom tomatoes with red-lentil hummus, mint, and sesame, and chickpea-fava fritters with almond tahini. Great for vegetarians. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), D daily \$\$**

### Lola

2000 Fourth Ave.  
206-441-1430  
lolaseattle.com

You won't find better Greek-inspired food anywhere in Seattle. Lamb is Lola's specialty, and it's always delectable, whether you order the *manti* (lamb ravioli with yogurt, Aleppo pepper, and pine nuts); the kebabs (with caramelized garlic and red wine glaze); the slow-roasted lamb seasoned with oregano, mint, rosemary, and *jus*; or the lamb burger. Start with pita bread and the cauliflower and anchovy spread, and sample the traditional Greek salad.

**Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L, D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

### Miller's Guild

612 Stewart St.  
206-443-3663  
millersguild.com

Above all, this is a place for grilled meat and fish. A giant mesquite-burning stove in the open kitchen grills steaks, chops, and seafood to perfection. If you're an unabashed



Clam chowder at Shuckers

carnivore, go for the juicy chops and steaks from Niman Ranch, one of the top purveyors of choice cuts of beef on the West Coast. Order a couple of sides, like creamy mashed potatoes and crispy Brussels sprouts, and a glass of Oregon pinot noir, and you're set. This is a good happy hour spot where you can get a glass of wine for \$7 or a beer for \$5 and order smaller versions of the lunch and dinner choices. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L (M-F), D daily \$\$\$**

### Purple Café and Wine Bar

1225 Fourth Ave.  
206-829-2280  
purplecafe.com

Diners at Purple are somewhat dwarfed by the enormous

room, with its huge glass windows and floor-to-ceiling wine storage tower, but no one seems to mind. Wine is a big feature here, and pairings with your various plates are surprisingly inexpensive compared to other Seattle restaurants. The ever-changing menu at Purple nods to international influences but makes abundant use of the bounty of the Pacific Northwest—you can find everything from Dungeness crab cakes to Columbia River sturgeon, depending on the day. You can also order crispy-crust pizzas, a burger

made from free-range beef, a pear and blue cheese salad, or pastas. **L, D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

### Serious Pie

316 Virginia St.  
206-838-7388  
seriouspieseattle.com

Chef Tom Douglas is serious about food, and that includes



The clam and pancetta pie at Serious Pie

Photos: Shuckers; Serious Pie



pizza. His applewood-burning oven turns out artisan-quality pies with crispy, chewy crusts and mouth-wateringly delicious toppings. Two of my favorites are the Yukon Gold potato pizza with rosemary and pecorino and the sweet fennel sausage pizza with roasted peppers and provolone. This low-ceilinged, pub-like room is very casual and always busy. There's beer on tap, a limited wine list, some excellent ciders, and a refreshing array of nonalcoholic concoctions. **L, D daily \$\$\$**

### Shiro's Sushi Restaurant

2401 Second Ave.

206-443-9844

shiros.com

Sushi lovers from around the globe flock to Shiro's in Belltown for the best sushi in Seattle. Sushi master and local legend Shiro Kashiba serves only the finest, freshest fish to his lucky customers. For a sumptuous repast, order the chef's selection of omakase sushi or sashimi. Shiro's signature dish, broiled black cod *kasuzuke*, will have your taste buds dancing in delight. Reservations essential. **D daily \$\$\$**

### Shuckers

Fairmont Olympic Hotel

411 University St.

206-621-1984

shuckersseattle.com

I'm going to let you in on the best-kept secret in Seattle: During happy hour, fresh oysters on the half shell are only \$2 each at Shuckers. Oysters are what this long-established spot at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel is known for. It usually

## The Best Caffeine in Seattle



Seattle is one of the country's most coffee-friendly cities, with cafés, coffee shops, and coffee carts everywhere. These congenial spots are a way of life in the city where the first Starbucks opened in 1971 and is now visited as a tourist attraction. Here's a brief list of coffees and cafés of special merit.

### Ancient Grounds

1220 First Ave.  
206-749-0747

For an unusual Seattle espresso experience, stop at Ancient Grounds not far from Pike Place Market. It's both a café and an intimate art gallery, loaded with intriguing treasures including Native American and Asian masks and netsuke. The espresso is strong, the ambience pure Seattle.

### Caffè Umbria

320 Occidental Ave. S.  
206-624-5847

caffèumbria.com

The Bizzarri family has been roasting beans since grandfather Ornello opened his first shop in Perugia, Italy, decades ago. Five blends are available, including fair-trade beans. Enjoy an extra-foamy cappuccino at their café near Pioneer Square.

### Starbucks

1912 Pike Place  
206-448-8762

starbucks.com

Seattle's coffee culture began at this little shop. There are no tables in the world's first Starbucks, only counter service, so take your beverage across the street to sip while you're exploring Pike Place Market.

### Caffè Ladro Espresso Bar and Bakery

801 Pine St.  
206-405-1950

caffeladro.com

Serving only organic, fair-trade, shade-grown coffee, Caffè Ladro brews up a good latte and offers a small selection of baked goodies. One of 15 locations.

### Uptown Espresso

2504 Fourth Ave.  
206-441-1084

velvetfoam.com

I love the velvety smooth lattes and the comfy, hassle-free environment of this café in Belltown. It's a good place to relax and read the morning paper with a great coffee and pastry.

### Zeitgeist Coffee

171 S. Jackson St.  
206-583-0497

zeitgeistcoffee.com

This spacious European-style coffee house in Pioneer Square is an urban oasis and cultural hub that features rotating exhibits by local artists along with its popular Italian beans. ●

has about eight local varieties just waiting to be shucked, served on ice, and slurped down by oyster lovers. The restaurant also serves baked oysters, pan-fried oysters, the freshest fish of the day, and a great clam chowder. **L (M-Sat), D daily \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

### Tulio

Hotel Vintage

1100 Fifth Ave.

206-624-5500

tulio.com

Tulio is a hands-on, family-run restaurant that uses Pacific Northwest ingredients in dishes inspired by the food of northern

Italy. All of the pasta—tortellini, tagliatelle, ravioli, linguine, orecchiette—is handmade every morning. One of the standouts is the sweet potato gnocchi with sage butter and mascarpone; it practically melts in your mouth. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L (M-F), D daily \$\$\$**





## Wild Ginger Asian Restaurant and Satay Bar

1401 Third Ave.  
206-623-4450  
wildginger.net

The heart-of-downtown location is great, the ambience is bright and lively, and the cooking is always good at this Pan-Asian restaurant across from Benaroya Hall. Skewers of chicken, prawns, short ribs, Kobe beef, and lemongrass tofu arrive hot from the satay bar accompanied by sticky rice and pickled cucumber. You can also order succulent Asian classics like Angkor Wat chicken, Thai passion tofu, and Mongolian noodles. A surprising number of the dishes are gluten-free, and a vegan menu is also available. **L (M-Sat), D daily \$\$**

## PIKE PLACE MARKET

### Etta's Seafood

2020 Western Ave.  
206-443-6000  
ettasrestaurant.com

When you taste one of the

crunchy-on-the-outside, creamy-on-the-inside Dungeness crab cakes, you'll understand why they are the signature dish at Etta's. Located in the perpetually busy Pike Place Market neighborhood, with big windows that let you people watch as you dine, Etta's roster of seafood dishes includes seafood stews and chowders, good fish and chips, and other seasonal specialties. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), L, D daily \$\$-\$\$\$**

### Place Pigalle

81 Pike St.  
206-624-1756  
placepigalle-seattle.com

If you have a soft spot for old-fashioned French restaurants that serve classic French dishes with French wines by the glass and feature Edith Piaf softly singing in the background, this is your place. You can't beat the steamed mussels Pigalle served with smoked bacon, celery, shallots, and balsamic vinaigrette at this romantic spot perched above Puget Sound in Pike Place Market. **L, D daily \$\$\$**

### Steelhead Diner

95 Pine St.  
206-625-0129  
steelheaddiner.com

No ordinary diner, this lively spot in Pike Place Market overlooking Post Alley features the cooking of Kevin Davis, who brings together influences of New Orleans, California, the Pacific Northwest, and France, making for a unique and exciting dining experience. For an appetizer, try the Dungeness crab and bay shrimp tater tots. Other standouts: kasu-marinated Oregon black cod and the poutine with melted cheese curds. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), L, D daily \$\$**

## WATERFRONT

### AQUA by El Gaucho

2801 Alaskan Way, Pier 70  
206-956-9171  
elgaucho.com/dine/aqua

The famous steakhouse El Gaucho operates this trendy waterfront restaurant with its long serpentine bar, big windows looking out on Elliott Bay, and deck for bayside dining. From a seasonal variety of local oysters to seared

sashimi-grade ahi tuna and wild Alaskan halibut, Chef Wesley Hood's seafood is always fresh and delicious. Landlubbers can enjoy one of the dry-aged steaks prepared on an open-air charcoal grill. Vegetarians can choose from fresh salads, pastas, and curry dishes. **D daily \$\$\$\$**

### Elliott's Oyster House

1201 Alaskan Way, Pier 56  
206-623-4340  
elliottsoysterhouse.com

Elliott's is one of the most trustworthy lunch and dinner spots along Seattle's waterfront. If you're an oyster maniac, come during Elliott's oyster happy hour to sample these briny bivalves for \$1.50-\$2.50 each. Since it's Seattle, we suggest you stick with whatever fresh fish is on the menu, but there are steak, salad, and pasta options, too. **L, D daily \$\$-\$\$\$**

### Ivar's Acres of Clams

1001 Alaskan Way, Pier 54  
206-624-6852  
ivars.com/locations/acres-of-clams

If you don't want to spring for an expensive seafood dinner in



Ivar's Acres of Clams

Photos: Etta's Seafood; Ivar's

a waterfront restaurant, try this iconic alternative that's been in business since 1938. Come for takeout fish and chips made with fresh cod or halibut and a cup of thick, creamy clam chowder. It's a great place to eat, watch the ferries cross Elliott Bay, and afterwards stroll along the busy waterfront. **L, D daily \$\$**

## Six Seven Restaurant

The Edgewater

2411 Alaskan Way, Pier 67

206-269-4575

[edgewaterhotel.com/seattle-six-seven-restaurant](http://edgewaterhotel.com/seattle-six-seven-restaurant)

The glass-walled dining room at The Edgewater hotel looks out over Elliott Bay and the Olympic Mountains. The locally sourced and usually organic menu changes with the seasons, but you can never go wrong with the cedar-plank king salmon. Dinner is expensive, so come for lunch, when that Caesar salad with Dungeness crab costs a lot less. If you want a great lunch to go, order the deli board bento box with soup and your choice of sandwich. **Brunch (Sat, Sun), B, L (M-F), D daily \$\$-\$\$\$\$**



The *thali* platter at Poppy

## CAPITOL HILL

### Dick's Drive-In

115 Broadway Ave. E.

206-323-1300

[ddir.com](http://ddir.com)

Retro all the way, Seattle's iconic burger joint still has the orange awnings from the 1950s, though its drive-up service has ended. Many locals won't eat burgers anywhere else, and we can't say that we blame them. Of course there are also great fries, hand-dipped shakes, and root beer floats. **L, D daily \$**

### Lark

952 E. Seneca St.

206-323-5275

[larkseattle.com](http://larkseattle.com)

This delightful neighborhood bistro on Capitol Hill encourages family-style sharing and features

only locally produced, seasonal and organic grains, cheese, vegetables, fish, charcuterie, and meats. The fresh fish plates might include local Penn Cove blue mussels with ginger. Vegetables and grains selections might be farro with mascarpone and ratatouille or gnocchi with wild mushrooms. The cheeses here are artisanal delights offering an array of tastes and textures that will wake up your taste buds.

**D daily \$\$**

### Poppy

622 Broadway Ave. E.

206-324-1108

[poppyseattle.com](http://poppyseattle.com)

Created by chef Jerry Traunfeld, Poppy presents a fresh take on the Indian *thali*, a compartmentalized platter holding dishes with different tastes. Traunfeld uses local, seasonal, and fresh herbs and produce to create his daily selection

of dishes. Before you order your *thali* platter, though, you must try the eggplant fries with sea salt and buckwheat honey—there's a reason why they are one of Poppy's signature appetizers. The tastes and textures here are always surprising and delightful.

**D daily \$\$\$**

## QUEEN ANNE

### Canlis

2576 Aurora Ave. N.

206-283-3313

[canlis.com](http://canlis.com)

A Seattle fine-dining destination for more than six decades, dinner-only Canlis was the first restaurant in Seattle to serve what is now referred to as "contemporary Northwest cuisine." Foie gras, malted pancakes, rabbit, salmon, *haiga* rice, and prawns are among the selections in its four-course

## ONLINE MAP

Finding these restaurants is easy at [bit.ly/ALSeattleDiningMap](http://bit.ly/ALSeattleDiningMap)



meals. There's a comprehensive wine list, including delicious Northwest vintages. Reservations essential. No casual attire. **D (M-Sat) \$\$\$\$**

## LAKE UNION

### Ivar's Salmon House

401 NE Northlake Way  
206-632-0767

[ivars.com/locations/salmon-house](http://ivars.com/locations/salmon-house)

Ivar's on Lake Union is one of Seattle's most iconic restaurants and made its name with the fish most closely identified with the Pacific Northwest. Although the restaurant serves other dishes, it's the salmon—grilled or roasted—that defines the place, as does the creamy clam chowder. Native American tribes in this region developed the alder wood-smoked cooking method that is the signature style at Ivar's. As you dine you'll be able to watch boat traffic on Lake Union. **L, D daily \$\$\$**



The view (above) and grilled wild king salmon at Ray's Boathouse Café

brunch, when the Ballard Farmers Market is in full swing right outside Bastille's door.

**Brunch (Sun), D daily \$\$**

### La Carta de Oaxaca

5431 Ballard Ave. NW

206-782-8722

[lacartadeoaxaca.com](http://lacartadeoaxaca.com)

Seattle's most popular Mexican restaurant is known for its hand-mashed guacamole with house-fried tortilla chips and for the tender chicken in Oaxaca's signature sweet-spicy black mole. Tacos, empanadas, tamales, chile rellenos—they're all here, and they're all excellent. **L (Tue-Sat), D (M-Sat) \$\$**

### Ray's Boathouse Café

6049 Seaview Ave. NW

206-789-3770

[rays.com/cafe](http://rays.com/cafe)

Ray's sits on the water's edge with stunning views of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. Skip the formal and more expensive restaurant on the first floor and head upstairs to

the casual second-floor café with its huge, heated deck. You'll enjoy ultra-fresh seafood dishes and salads with plenty of vegetarian and gluten-free offerings. There's also a pleasant happy hour here with small bites and lower prices for wine and beer. **L, D daily \$\$**

## WEST SEATTLE

### Salty's on Alki Beach

1936 Harbor Ave. SW

206-937-1600

[saltys.com](http://saltys.com)

If you want to enjoy food with a view and combine it with a bit of adventure, hop in the water taxi at the Seattle Ferry Terminal for the 10-minute ride to Alki Beach in West Seattle and enjoy the short scenic walk to Salty's. From the dining room and outdoor decks overlooking Elliott Bay, you'll see the downtown towers gleaming across the water. Salty's is famous for its weekend brunch buffet, laden with fresh seafood and sweeter specialties like gingerbread pancakes and a chocolate fountain that will give you a sugar high. We also recommend happy hour at Salty's Café-Bar, where you can dine for half of what it would cost for dinner and still enjoy that memorable view.

**Brunch (Sat, Sun), L (M-F), D daily \$\$\$ AL**



**DONALD STEVEN OLSON** is author of *Frommer's Seattle Day by Day*:

*28 Smart Ways to See the City* (FrommerMedia, 2014).

Photos: Ray's Boathouse Café

## INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT/CHINATOWN

### Jade Garden

424 Seventh Ave. S.

206-622-8181

[jadegardenseattle.com](http://jadegardenseattle.com)

In a town blessed with many good dim sum spots, this inexpensive restaurant is one of the best, though the ambience is practical rather than fancy. Start with some basics like *humbow* (steamed buns stuffed with sweet barbecued

pork), *ha gao* (shrimp dumpling), and sticky rice wrapped in lotus leaves. If you like all those, you might want to sample other offerings. **B, L, D daily \$**

## BALLARD

### Bastille

5307 Ballard Ave. NW

206-453-5014

[bastilleseattle.com](http://bastilleseattle.com)

The best choices at this Parisian-style brasserie in the atmospheric Ballard neighborhood are the *plats du jour*, such as lamb Bolognese or Dungeness crab salad, but the *plats principaux* won't disappoint either—they include French classics like cassoulet, roasted chicken, mussels in white wine sauce, and steak frites. This is a great place to come for Sunday



# RDA

## IN TRANSITION

The **RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project**, also known as the **3R Project**, aims to significantly improve the functionality and utility of both RDA and RDA Toolkit. As the 3R Project moves closer to completion, gain some practical insight into the changes and share your perspective at the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle.

### RDA TOOLKIT REDESIGN WORKSHOP

Friday | January 25th  
ALA MIDWINTER  
MEETING

This daylong event will provide a workshop-style examination of the revised RDA and redesigned RDA Toolkit. RDA Experts will guide attendees through real world cataloging examples and lead discussions of critical issues addressed by the 3R Project. Lunch will be provided.

**Learn more about the event and register at** <http://2019.alamidwinter.org/registration/ticketed-events>.

- Sign up for your free 30-day trial today at **[access.rdatoolkit.org/freetrial](http://access.rdatoolkit.org/freetrial)**.
- The trial includes access to the beta site **[beta.rdatoolkit.org](http://beta.rdatoolkit.org)**.
- Questions? Contact us at **[rdatoolkit@ala.org](mailto:rdatoolkit@ala.org)**.



# To Move Forward, Look Back

Improving our work through reflective practice

As a child, I received many diaries as gifts—the cute ones from the 1980s that included a tiny lock and key. I'd write in them for a few days or maybe even a few weeks, but I was never able to build a habit of writing about my life, primarily because I couldn't understand the purpose. I'm now in awe of friends who captured decades of memories in books.

I've similarly struggled to develop a regular practice of reflecting on my work, though I can now see why it's so valuable. Reflective practice is the act of looking back on what you did so that you can learn from it and inform what you do in the future ([bit.ly/AL-Reflect1](http://bit.ly/AL-Reflect1)). Many of us do this informally in our day-to-day work. When we have a bad interaction at the reference desk, we think about how we can keep it from happening again. It's how we improve. However, we are often so busy that unless we make reflection a formal part of our work, it's easy to rush from one task to another without thinking about how we might change.

This means we can continue making the same mistakes. I used to think that being in a service profession meant focusing on others rather than thinking of ourselves. But we bring ourselves to every interaction with patrons. Not examining how the values and assumptions that underlie our thinking influence our actions can keep us from recognizing and changing negative patterns.

Reflective practice can help librarians and other professionals become more culturally competent by uncovering biases and assumptions that influence our interactions with our diverse community



members, but only if we are willing to examine the roles power and privilege play in our lives and worldview ([bit.ly/AL-Reflect2](http://bit.ly/AL-Reflect2)). Because librarianship is still a rather homogeneous profession, critical reflection can help us foster inclusive environments for all our patrons ([bit.ly/AL-Reflect3](http://bit.ly/AL-Reflect3)).

I struggle with anxiety, an insidious disease. It will keep me awake for hours at night worrying about something I said in a meeting or class that everyone else has already forgotten. I've found reflective practice helpful in interrupting that cycle of negative thinking. Taking time to slow down and analyze a bad experience helps me focus on what I can do to improve rather than dwell on things I can't change. When a class I taught last spring went horribly, rather than beating myself up for it, I considered what aspects of what went

wrong were actually within my control and how I could respond better in the moment next time. Reflection can also help me recognize and amplify what I'm doing well.

I also recently started a Google Doc where I answer reflective questions about every class I teach. When a class went well or badly, I used to think I'd be able to remember what happened for the next time I collaborated with that instructor. But without writing it down, I often found myself scouring my memory and coming up empty.

While reflective practice is often recommended for librarians who teach, it can be a useful tool for all areas of librarianship—both to improve our work and how we think about it. Jan Connell, adult services librarian at Toledo Lucas County (Ohio) Public Library, wrote about integrating reflective practice into her assessment of a children's art program at her library ([bit.ly/AL-Reflect4](http://bit.ly/AL-Reflect4)). Reflective practice can help us become more thoughtful about any aspect of our work in libraries.

Despite the potential benefits, there are barriers to reflective practice. It requires us to carve time out of our day and be willing to examine ourselves and our actions in ways that might prove uncomfortable. Providing time and support to help staffers develop their own reflective practice is essential for a library to become a true learning organization. **AL**

Reflective  
practice can  
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work in libraries.

**MEREDITH FARKAS** is a faculty librarian at Portland (Oreg.) Community College and a lecturer at San José (Calif.) State University School of Information. She blogs at [InformationWantsToBeFree.com](http://InformationWantsToBeFree.com). Email: [librarysuccess@gmail.com](mailto:librarysuccess@gmail.com)

# Discovery Services

## Bundled or separate?

Throughout much of the history of library automation, online catalogs were the primary subject-based search tool for academic libraries. But because of their complex interfaces, many libraries moved away from catalogs when internet search engines—sporting simplified interfaces and sophisticated search-and-retrieval technologies—came on the scene. Libraries today have many different options to enable their users to discover and gain access to their collections of information resources.

An academic library can assemble several combinations of products, depending on the ways in which it organizes its website and discovery environment and the types of resource management systems it has in place. One critical debate has recently emerged: Should discovery services be bundled or acquired à la carte? Perspectives differ regarding the benefits of pairing a discovery service (for example, Ex Libris Primo or OCLC's WorldCat Discovery Service) with the resource management system from the same vendor (Ex Libris Alma or OCLC's WorldShare Management Services).

Two arguments prevail. From one point of view, discovery services should be selected independently. Libraries want the most appropriate patron-facing service based on usability, content, and other criteria. They should be able to evaluate and acquire preferred products in each category and not be locked into a bundled package. Ideally, a library's technical infrastructure would be modular so that it can assemble the most suitable components. Each of the discovery



dispatches

BY Marshall Breeding

services offers distinctive capabilities, justifying the additional effort needed for systems integration.

Others contend that discovery services and resource management systems from the same provider are better integrated in ways that improve the patron's experience and produce search results with more reliable linking to full text. User profiles govern such functions as circulation within the resource management system as well as requests, fulfillment, and personalized features in the discovery service. Many libraries are offered financial incentives to accept the discovery service bundled with a new library services platform (LSP), rather than purchase a product from another vendor that would require extra system tinkering.

Academic libraries that are replacing existing systems currently tend to select an LSP paired with a discovery service from the same vendor. Acquiring a discovery service as part of a broader suite

of products is a growing trend. Discovery services represent a relatively small portion of the investment in the core library automation environment. Resource management systems can be expected to cost three to five times more than a discovery service. This differential could mean that, for some libraries, the choice of a resource management system may drive the selection of a discovery service.

In the future, we will likely see academic libraries moving away from older integrated library systems and adopting newer LSPs, which will naturally come with an increased pairing of components from the same vendor.

Yet this scenario is still hazy. Though important, the broad search capabilities powered by an index-based discovery service may not be the primary way that most users gain access to library resources. Many studies reveal that only a small portion of research begins at the library website.

Even the most compelling search service delivered through the library's website is unlikely to affect the relatively high number of researchers who prefer Google Scholar or discipline-specific search tools. The limited amount of research conducted through vendor products is likely to reduce the financial and technical resources that academic libraries devote to them. [AL](#)

Should discovery  
services be  
bundled or  
acquired à la carte?  
Perspectives differ.

**MARSHALL BREEDING** is an independent consultant, speaker, and author. He is editor of *Smart Libraries Newsletter* and the website *Library Technology Guides*. Adapted from "Index-Based Discovery Services: Current Market Positions and Trends," *Library Technology Reports* vol. 54, no. 8 (Nov./Dec. 2018).



# Career Readiness for Teens

To prepare young adults for the workforce, don't overlook the soft skills

What does it take to prepare teens for career success after high school? Providence (R.I.) Public Library (PPL) has an answer.

"Our Teen Squad programs are driven by youth interests while focusing on work readiness and 21st-century skills development," says Kate Aubin, teen educator at PPL. "With our diverse community partners, we provide interactive and engaging competency-based programming that builds relationships and connects teens to workforce development opportunities."

One such offering under the umbrella of Teen Squad is PPL's summer internship program, My City, My Place ([provlib.org/education/teen-squad](http://provlib.org/education/teen-squad)). Funded by the City of Providence Office of Economic Opportunity and an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, it is an example of how a library can implement a job-readiness internship that goes beyond traditional programming of this type.

In the internship, 40 teens earn wages by performing research about the history and tourism of Providence. They learn how to use PowerPoint and video, design, and creation tools to develop a product that promotes the city. They discover what it takes to work with others to conceptualize marketing plans and materials. Throughout the process, teens are mentored and coached by library staffers and communications professionals from a variety of local businesses. This instruction and support give them a chance to integrate feedback into their final products. Ultimately, the teens incorporate everything they learn into a pitch that they present to a panel of experts, including staffers from the City of Providence Office of Art, Culture, and



Tourism; the Providence Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau; the *Providence Journal* newspaper; and members of PPL's own marketing department.

Though the teens who participate in My City, My Place aren't in a library job where they shelve books or assist staffers with day-to-day operations, they are still in a role where they have to report to work on time, successfully collaborate with peers and supervisors, and behave professionally.

The on-the-job skills that are the foundation of PPL's internship program are also at the core of Denver Public Schools' "Traits of a Young Professional" framework ([bit.ly/AL-DPStraits](http://bit.ly/AL-DPStraits)), developed as part of its college and career readiness services. The traits—professionalism, communication, perseverance, self-direction, and collaboration—are what the school system sees as necessary to be prepared for the workplace.

For teens to be truly job ready, libraries should provide services that support the soft skills valued in the workplace.

The emphasis that PPL's My City, My Place puts on these attributes sets it in a different category from many other library-based youth job readiness programs, which often highlight such skills as résumé writing, interview preparation, and financial literacy. Yet evidence suggests that those proficiencies may not truly result in on-the-job success.

*Job Readiness Skills for Youth: A Clear and Actionable Definition* ([bit.ly/job\\_career\\_report](http://bit.ly/job_career_report)), a report sponsored by the City of Seattle, Washington State's King County, and the Seattle Regional Partnership, accentuates the need to prepare youth for the workforce by focusing more specifically on soft skills. The report notes, "Although [résumé writing, career interest development, and outreach to prospective employers] help students build their writing, speaking, and analytical skills, we do not consider them to be job-readiness skills. For example, having a résumé serves as a demonstration of writing ability and critical thinking skills and is necessary to access many internship opportunities, but the act of creating a résumé does not mean a person is job ready."

For teens to be truly job ready, libraries should provide services that support the traits and soft skills valued in the workplace, in addition to technical knowledge and proficiencies. My City, My Place demonstrates that approaches can be combined to provide youth with a rich learning experience that better equips them for life after high school. **AL**

**LINDA W. BRAUN** is a Seattle-based consultant and a past president of ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association.

# Disability and Equity

Librarians with disabilities face barriers to accessibility and inclusion

Not many discussions on equity and inclusion in librarianship have focused on disability. Equity issues do exist for librarians with disabilities, though, and many stem from views prevalent in our society. In popular culture, disability is often represented negatively and seen as a personal tragedy or a problem to overcome.

Many people with disabilities challenge these attitudes and advocate for change. They point out that cultural attitudes often create more difficulties for them than the disability itself. Despite their efforts, stereotypes persist—even in the workplace.

I recently surveyed 288 librarians, interviewing 10 who identified as having a disability, about their experiences working at academic libraries in Canada. Though most were positive about their workplaces, nearly all reported equity issues related to their disability. These ranged from misunderstandings and negative judgments to discrimination and harassment. Compared with nondisabled colleagues, librarians with disabilities found work to be more stressful, reported less support and acceptance, and felt their workplaces to be less inclusive.

Nearly everyone I interviewed commented that colleagues do not actually understand what disability is. To many people, disability consists of visible, physical impairment. But in reality a majority of disabilities are invisible. Librarians in my study, for example, reported chronic illness, mobility issues, pain disorders, hearing loss, mental health issues, and learning disabilities.

This lack of awareness often gives rise to stereotypes and misconceptions at



work. Librarians with invisible disabilities reported sometimes encountering suspicion or disbelief because they are not seen as having “real” disabilities. Some talked about being perceived as lazy, making excuses, causing trouble, or being less reliable or productive.

Fearing negative judgments, librarians with invisible disabilities are often reluctant to tell people about them. My study found that only half had disclosed their disability fully to their supervisor and only 30% to their coworkers. Many tell only a few people they trust. This means that disability in our workplaces is likely more common than we think.

Librarians with disabilities are also reluctant to request accommodations, though workplaces have a legal duty to create them. Nondisabled people often assume that the accommodation process

fully addresses issues of disability, but the reality is more complex. Most participants said they wouldn’t ask for accommodations unless they absolutely had to, because they feared negative consequences. These fears are indeed justified: Some participants who requested accommodations reported repercussions, including being perceived as a whiner or troublemaker, seen as trying to get out of doing work, and threatened with job loss. Though accommodation is meant to level the playing field, it is commonly misunderstood as asking for special treatment, receiving unearned privileges, or gaming the system.

The legal accommodation process is not working in libraries. It also isn’t enough. There are limitations to what individual workplace accommodations can do because they are reactive and don’t address the larger systemic barriers that create difficulties for librarians with disabilities in the first place.

Though many of the librarians I talked to mentioned supportive coworkers, positive attitudes are not enough to ensure an equitable and accessible workplace. In the words of disability advocate Stella Young, “No amount of smiling at a flight of stairs has ever made it turn into a ramp.”

If we are serious about equity and inclusion in our profession, we need a better understanding of the barriers faced by librarians with disabilities and a commitment to minimize them. **AL**

Fearing negative judgments, librarians with invisible disabilities are often reluctant to tell people about them.

**JOANNE OUD** is instructional technology librarian at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. For more on Oud’s study and methodology, read “Systemic Workplace Barriers for Academic Librarians with Disabilities” ([bit.ly/AL-OudStudy](http://bit.ly/AL-OudStudy)) in *College and Research Libraries* (expected in March).

# Copyright through the Ages

Charting the evolution of intellectual property rights

In library school, I took a graduate-level British history course as an elective. My term paper was on the Stationers' Company in London, which set and enforced publishing industry regulations during the Tudor and Stuart periods, and the 1710 Statute of Anne, a law enacted during the reign of Queen Anne that saw copyright ownership move out of the hands of printers to authors. The battle for intellectual property rights is long—and ongoing. The books below show how it has evolved over the years to encompass a variety of concerns.

*Copyright: What Everyone Needs to Know*, by Neil Weinstock Netanel, is intended for the general public and explores the various rationales for copyright. One goes back to the Statute of Anne—the first law to provide for copyright regulated by the government. Another is to compensate authors for the work of creating content. But even the use of such terms as “works” and “content” shows the evolution of copyright from protecting books and



maps to covering databases, recorded sound, and digital images—all forms of content unheard of when the laws were first established. This book is a road map to the aspects of copyright

law being discussed in courtrooms and legislative chambers today—a guide to the policy issues, not how the law might be applied. Oxford University Press, 2018. 248 P. \$74. 978-0-19-994114-8.

Netanel's book presents a straightforward explanation of what is at stake with



copyright law, but *Copyright Class Struggle: Creative Economies in a Social Media Age*, by Hannibal Travis, looks at the politics of internet and media governance through the lens of

class, taking the position that copyright systems benefit the corporate creator. Travis examines intellectual property disparities, such as work for hire; the strength of corporate media giants in protecting intellectual property even if it draws on already established creative concepts; and the idea that upstart creators benefit from looser interpretation, despite being constricted by corporate interests. He concludes with an exploration of a universal digital library, noting the ways current copyright enforcement undermines efforts to broaden access to works, even those out of print. Cambridge University Press, 2018. 230 P. \$29.99. PBK. 978-1-316-64503-1.

## THE BESTSELLERS LIST

### TOP 3 IN PRINT

#### 1 | National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries

by American Association of School Librarians



The *Standards* enable school librarians to influence and lead their schools, districts, and states and develop plans that meet today's educational landscape.

#### 2 | LGBTQAI+ Books for Children and Teens: Providing a Window for All

by Christina Dorr and Liz Deskins



This resource gives school, children's, and young adult librarians the guidance and tools they need to confidently share LGBTQAI+ books with the patrons they support.

#### 3 | Guide to Streaming Video Acquisitions

by Eric Hartnett, editor

This concise collection from the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services presents a balanced, strategic approach to meeting institutions' video streaming needs.





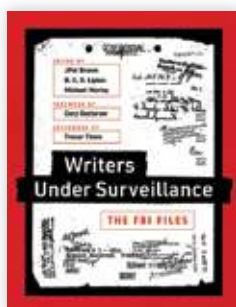


*Open Divide: Critical Studies on Open Access*, edited by Joachim Schöpfel and Ulrich Herb, also looks at disparities in access to information but focuses on those due to open access

practices. The 13 featured essayists seek to clarify the ongoing transformation of scientific communication through open access. The first part of the collection deals with general open access issues, such as the extent to which it is driven by commercial and institutional interests, new initiatives, and disruptions to the transfer of research, and a more hopeful vision of a cooperative future. The second set of essays looks at disparities in access around the world. Litwin Books, 2018. 196 P. \$35. 978-1-63400-029-1.

Open access takes on a slightly different meaning in *Writers Under Surveillance: The FBI Files*, edited by JPat Brown, B. C. D. Lipton, and Michael Morisy. In this text, it means “government files the public paid for and should be able to see,” according to the authors. The book includes selections from FBI files, obtained by MuckRock through the

The battle for intellectual property rights is long—and ongoing. These books show how it has evolved over the years.



Freedom of Information Act, on well-known writers, from James Baldwin to Allen Ginsberg to Hunter S. Thompson. Many of the excerpts are heavily redacted, but they make interesting, sometimes humorous reading, particularly at a distance of several decades. MIT Press, 2018. 400 P. \$24.95. PBK. 978-0-262-53638-7.

*Government Information Essentials*, edited by Susanne Caro, is a guide to



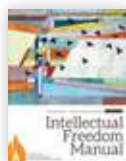
administering a government documents library, written for the new government documents librarian. The 17 essays are grouped into five themes. The first is a managerial overview: how to gain additional knowledge about this specialized collection and manage it while being part of a larger institution. Managing the collection—often with multiple classification systems for documents from agencies at different levels of government and in a mix of print, microform, and digital formats—requires specific accommodations explained here. Two sections cover skills for locating materials within the collection and helping others access information. The last section covers advocacy and outreach. Government information may be freely distributed and typically not subject to copyright, but it may be up to the librarian to keep it available and used. ALA Editions, 2018. 256 P. \$75. PBK. 978-0-8389-1597-4. (Also available as an ebook.) [AL](#)

**KAREN MULLER** was librarian and knowledge management specialist for the ALA Library until her retirement in December 2017.

## The Top-Selling Books from ALA Publishing (Since November 1, 2018)

### TOP 3 IN EBOOKS

**1 | Intellectual Freedom Manual, 9th edition** by Trina Magi and Martin Garnar, editors



This is an invaluable compendium of guiding principles and policies on intellectual freedom as well as a resource for day-to-day guidance on maintaining free and equal access to information for all people.

**2 | The Neal-Schuman Library Technology Companion: A Basic Guide for Library Staff, 5th edition** by John J. Burke



This primer gives readers a sound and sensible way to consider, access, and use library technologies to better meet the needs of library users.

**3 | Becoming a Media Mentor: A Guide for Working with Children and Families** by Claudia Haines, Cen Campbell, and the Association for Library Service to Children



This book empowers youth services staff to assist families and caregivers as they navigate digital worlds.

# SOLUTIONS

*Products and services*



MetroNaps EnergyPod reclines and plays soothing sounds for 20-minute power naps.

## Pod Help Us

Modular pieces to diversify your library's spaces

By the time your library's interior remodeling project is finished, patron demands may have changed. That's why many libraries are shifting to modular solutions. By providing private spaces for nursing mothers, exam-weary students, or frequent phone callers, libraries are creating flexible options for patrons without modifying their buildings—or breaking the bank.

### MetroNaps EnergyPod

MetroNaps EnergyPods were designed for power-napping, and while they're most often seen in corporate offices, some academic libraries have adopted them for students.

The EnergyPod has a built-in timer that cycles through a 20-minute nap sequence, a length

some sleep studies have shown to improve alertness and possibly benefit learning. Through the built-in speakers or a user's headphones, music created specifically for the EnergyPod guides the user through sleep induction, rest, and waking. Users can also choose guided relaxation audio from MetroNaps' partner Pzizz if they don't plan to doze.

When in use, the unit reclines, elevating the feet to reduce stress on the cardiovascular system and induce relaxation. A privacy visor slides across the top half of the pod when it's occupied, darkening the area around the user and minimizing distraction without completely enclosing them. Inside the visor privacy area are two storage spaces for personal items, each large enough for a backpack.

A status indicator on the outside of the pod lets others know when the pod is in use and how much time is remaining on the nap cycle.

The interior is gray synthetic leather upholstery, which can be wiped clean after each use. The outer visor is white and can be upgraded with custom colors and graphics for an additional cost.

EnergyPods are 58 inches tall, 48 inches wide, and 85.3 inches long. MetroNaps recommends placing the pods at least three feet apart, facing away from high-traffic areas. The pods need a standard outlet to function.

EnergyPods start at \$10,750, plus installation. Visit [metronaps.com](http://metronaps.com) for more information.

### SnapCab Pod

SnapCab launched its series of standalone, movable privacy rooms in 2017. With enough room for one or two people in the small pod, or as many as six in the largest version, they're useful as study rooms, small meeting rooms, or phone booths.

The three pod sizes (small, medium, and large) come standard with white laminate panels and tempered glass doors and front wall. They can be upgraded with colored laminate, whiteboards, or panoramic images to coordinate with existing library interiors. Integrated tables and benches can be ordered with the pods, or libraries can install their own furniture, expanding the possibilities for use.

All pods are 91 inches tall, with the smallest on a 46-inch square base and the largest on a 77-inch square base. Modular

## SUBMISSIONS

To have a new product considered, contact Carrie Smith at [casmith@ala.org](mailto:casmith@ala.org).



SnapCab Pods are standalone privacy rooms that can be easily moved on their built-in caster wheels.

construction allows the pods to be installed quickly. They are shipped preassembled, with only a small number of tools needed to complete installation.

The pods sit on caster wheels for easy movement. Leveling feet screw down to stabilize the pods after placement and also work to keep them straight on uneven flooring.

SnapCab Pods include a motion sensor that activates the integrated downlighting and ventilation, minimizing energy use. Optional LED backlights can also be installed. Acoustic panels help to reduce noise from inside the pods, though they are not completely soundproof. An electrical strip with three AC outlets is standard in each pod.

Small pods with basic features start at \$13,000. Visit [snapcab.com/pods](http://snapcab.com/pods) for more information or contact Steelcase, the exclusive distributor of SnapCab Pods, for a full quote. **AL**

## CASE STUDY

# A Pod for New Moms

### How does your library use the Mamava lactation pod?

The Mamava is located at the entrance of the children's area. We keep it locked when not in use for safety and security. Nursing mothers can request the key at the circulation desk. In 2017, Santa Clara County Library District was the first public library in the country to offer the Mamava to our patrons.

**USER:** Diane Roche, director of marketing and communications, Milpitas Library, Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library District



**PRODUCT:** Mamava

**DETAILS:** Mamava lactation suites are modular pods that give new mothers a private space to breast-feed or express milk.

**How does the Mamava pod serve your library's needs?** Mamava is one way Santa Clara County Library District promotes a supportive environment for mothers and children. The library hosts approximately 1,800 visitors daily, and with many programs geared toward families with infants and young children, it was important to provide our new mothers with options for breast-feeding and pumping when visiting the library. Mamava provides the privacy and convenience some nursing mothers prefer when breast-feeding their babies and pumping milk.

Our staff also benefits from having the Mamava. One staff member, a new mother returning to work, was concerned about finding a comfortable and private space to pump. "Luckily, the Mamava had been installed at the library, and that was one less worry on my plate as a working mother," she says. "I do not think I would have been able to comfortably pump as long as I did (over a year) had there not been a Mamava at the library."



Mamava pods provide privacy for nursing mothers.

**What are the main benefits?** California mandates access to lactation stations for working women. The next step is to provide them with access to facilities in public spaces. Mamava is clean, safe, and private, and has room for additional young children and strollers. It also has AC power for pumping equipment.

**What would you have liked to see improved or added to the pod?** The seating in the Mamava could be improved with easy-to-clean cushions or pillows. The interior is

mostly beige, and would be more inviting with the addition of soft, welcoming colors that could produce a calming environment for both mother and baby. Finally, offering instructions in multiple languages would be helpful to members in diverse communities. ●



# PEOPLE

## Announcements

### ON THE MOVE

In September **Kristine Alpi** was named university librarian at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland.

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County named **Paula Brehm-Heeger** as Eva Jane Romaine Coombe director October 12.

**Meghan Carpenter** became children's librarian and teen advisor at Sylvester Memorial Wellston (Ohio) Public Library in November.

Bergen County (N.J.) Cooperative Library System appointed **David Hanson** as executive director October 26.



**Jennifer Gunter King** joined Emory University in Atlanta in October as director of the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.



September 10 **Carl Leak** joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Libraries as health sciences librarian.



Huron (Ohio) Public Library appointed **Vikki Morrow-Ritchie** director September 24.

The Library of Congress appointed **Suzanne Schadl** chief of its Hispanic Division October 15.

Glendale, California, appointed **Gary Shaffer** director of library, arts, and culture August 28.

**Neda Zeraatkar** became Middle East and Islamic studies librarian at Emory University's Woodruff Library in Atlanta in May.



### PROMOTIONS

Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City promoted **Julie Ballou** to executive director effective October 8.

Evergreen Community Library in Metamora, Ohio, promoted **Carrie Hulett** to director in October.

October 1 **Andrea Legg** was promoted to assistant director of Tuscarawas County (Ohio) Public Library.

### RETIREMENTS

**Jane Dominique** retired as director of Evergreen Community Library in Metamora, Ohio, October 19.

**Cecelia Freda** retired as library media specialist at Middletown (N.J.) High School South in September.

**Missy Lodge**, associate state librarian for library development at the State Library of Ohio in Columbus, retired September 30.



**Betty Anne Reiter** retired in October as director of library services at Groton (Conn.) Public Library, after 37 years with the library.

**Vickie Stephenson** retired as children's librarian and teen advisor at Sylvester Memorial Wellston (Ohio) Public Library November 2.

**Debbie Tristano** retired as assistant director of Tuscarawas County (Ohio) Public Library System in September.

### AT ALA

ALA Publishing promoted **Mary Jo Bolduc** to licensing and permissions manager November 2.

**Marsha Burgess** was appointed council secretariat November 5.

## Kudos

In October **Jennifer Gordon**, librarian at Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, received the 2018–2019 Milken Educator Award, which recognizes early- and mid-career education professionals. ●

**Alisha Dixon** was promoted to project coordinator in the Washington Office's Public Policy and Advocacy unit October 16.

October 1 **Stephanie M. Hlywak** joined ALA as director of communications and marketing.

**Alan Inouye** was promoted to senior director of public policy and government relations in ALA's Washington Office October 16.

Director of Membership **Ron Jankowski** left ALA October 15.

Office for Intellectual Freedom director **James LaRue** left ALA November 2.

**Lisa Lindle**, manager of grassroots and advocacy in the Public Policy and Advocacy unit, left ALA October 18.

September 17 **Madonna Mullikin** became payroll coordinator.

**Julie Reese** became deputy director of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services October 22.

November 5 **Holly Robison** joined the Governance Office as governance associate.

**Beata Staruk** was promoted to payroll/human resources information system manager September 17.

**Eugenia Williamson**, *Booklist* associate editor of digital products, left ALA October 12. [AL](#)

## In Memory

**Patricia Senn Breivik**, 79, who held a variety of leadership positions in academic libraries over a 38-year career, died September 15. Breivik served as dean of university libraries at Wayne State University in Detroit; associate vice president for information resources at Towson (Md.) State University; director of Auraria Library at University of Colorado in Denver; dean of library services at Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois; and most recently dean of San José (Calif.) State University Library. She was 1995–1996 president of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy, and a member of the American Association for Higher Education board. Breivik published several books and articles, and received ACRL's Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award in 1997, among other awards.



**Edwin M. Cortez**, 66, professor in the School of Information Sciences at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, until his 2016 retirement, died October 6. He also taught at University of Wisconsin–Madison; Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.; Pratt Institute in New York City; and University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He chaired several American Library Association (ALA) committees, particularly those related to accreditation.

**Anne C. Edmonds**, 93, college librarian for 30 years at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, until her 1994 retirement, died October 30. Upon her retirement, the college awarded her an honorary doctorate. Prior to joining Mount Holyoke, she worked as children's assistant at Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore; reference librarian at the City College of New York and Goucher College in Towson, Maryland; and library director at Douglass College in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She also worked for a year as an exchange librarian at the European Services Library of the BBC in London, and for six months as a consultant at University of the North in South Africa.



**John William Ellison**, 76, a faculty member at State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo for 38 years,

died September 11. Ellison served as a Fulbright professor at University of the West Indies' Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago campuses, the National Library of Jamaica, and University of Cape Coast in Ghana. He was the first professor at SUNY Buffalo to deliver long-distance education via the internet.

**Beverly Goldberg**, 65, an editor for *American Libraries* from 1982 until her retirement in 2015, died October 5. Goldberg began as editor of the classified advertising section in *American Libraries*, then expanded her duties to include news and features as an associate editor in 1988. She started writing editorial content full-time in 1990 and was promoted to senior editor in 1996. Goldberg, who did not have a library degree, said upon her retirement that she "learned the lingo right away" and felt like an "honorary librarian."



**Helen Ives**, 78, librarian at American University in Washington, D.C., until retiring in 2003, died September 14. Ives began her career as a librarian at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, and then served as a librarian at University of Pittsburgh. In 1998, she was an ALA International Relations Office library fellow, spending four months at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan, helping to establish a model American reference library.

**Duane F. Johnson**, 78, state librarian of Kansas for 20 years until his 2004 retirement, died October 28. He previously served as director of libraries in Great Bend and Hutchinson. In the 1990s, he traveled to Tanzania to teach library science and library management. After retirement, he served as chair of the board of Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, and the Friends of Kansas Libraries established a leadership award in his honor.

**Claudia J. Morner**, 72, emerita dean of University of New Hampshire (UNH) Library, died October 27. As dean, she directed a \$19 million renovation of the university's Dimond Library. Before joining UNH, Morner was director of Osterville (Mass.) Free Library; associate librarian at Cape Cod Community College in West Barnstable, Massachusetts; and university librarian at Boston College. ●



## The Show Must Go On

**W**rangling a chorus, attending performances, and fielding reference questions backstage are all part of the job for Emily Cabaniss, company librarian and music assistant for the Seattle Opera.

"I hadn't realized this kind of work was possible," she says. "Every opera company has a person called a librarian, but they're usually an orchestra librarian"—typically a music preparation specialist with ensemble experience who doesn't, like Cabaniss, hold an MLIS.

Hired in 2014 as the company's first information professional, Cabaniss makes sure the artistic, music, and production departments have the materials they need—commercial recordings, scores for instrumentation, a last-minute copy of *La Dame aux Camélias* (a play by Alexandre Dumas) from the Library of Congress's digital holdings—to make a show come alive.

She also manages the company archives—videos, documents, and ephemera—using "super-deep Cutter numbers" and handles public requests that range from fiction authors wanting to know more about 19th-century opera houses to people trying to track down photos of loved ones who starred in past productions.

It helps that Cabaniss loves opera—the "well-paced feminist tragedy" *Tosca* is her favorite. She's also quick to mention that millennials are Seattle Opera's largest share of users.

"I don't think there's anyone in the world who can say 'I don't like opera,'" Cabaniss says. "You just haven't seen one that you like yet. That's like saying 'I don't like movies.'" **AL**

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**THE BOOKEND** showcases librarians, their work, and their work spaces. For consideration, please send press material to [americanlibraries@ala.org](mailto:americanlibraries@ala.org).



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