

ALA Nominating Committee report

June 24, 2023

ALA Council I

Hello, my name is Aliqae Geraci, and I am the chair of the ALA Nominating Committee for the 2023-2024 Election cycle. The 9-member Nominating Committee is tasked with soliciting and recruiting candidates for the roles of ALA President and ALA Councilor-At-Large. Thank you to ALA Council for welcoming me today.

There are changes to the process this year that are worthy of review today. Recent changes to the ALA Bylaws (ALA Bylaws, Article VI. Council Section 2.E.) have resulted in a smaller number of Councilor-At-Large seats to recruit for. ALA membership voted in favor of language stating, states, “*Further, if the ALA membership votes in favor of rescinding the Constitution and adopting the new Bylaws, the ALA Executive Board will follow a three-year transition plan for adjusting the size and composition of both the Executive Board and the ALA Council as called for in the new Bylaws by a process of attrition.*” Instead of the Nominating Committee seeking 50 candidates for Couch to place on the ballot as they have traditionally done in the past, we will be searching for 18 candidates for 12 spots. Please note that Councilors recently elected in 2023 will serve their designated term. The natural process of attrition (for the desired number of 36 Councilors-At-Large) will be achieved in 2026, see table below.

The Nominating Committee is present at ALA Annual 2023, with a designated table in the ALA Connect Lounge with informational literature and Committee members to speak with prospective candidates. We invite those interested in the roles or the process to leave contact information for follow-up. The official call for nominations will be shared after Annual through ALA outlets, including American Libraries, and nominations will be accepted for 3 months: July 1 through September 30. The Committee is also hosting an online informational Town Hall in early August, with recording available on demand. The Committee's priority in the coming months is soliciting interest from potential candidates that are well-prepared to meet the current moment and reviewing nominations for selection to candidacy, with the perspective that our association should reflect the diversity of our membership, including diverse experiences, races, genders, ethnicities, and both new and experienced members. Candidate nominations will be finalized in October 2023 and announced Nov. 1.

On October 1, the three month period for petition candidates begins, with a corresponding announcement for those interested in pursuing candidacy via this second route. The ALA Election opens March 11, 2024 (2nd Mon in March) and closes April 3, 2024 (1st Wed in April) and all ALA members who renew their membership by January 31 are eligible to vote.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have, and thank you to ALA Executive Board and Council for the opportunity to serve the association through the nominations process.

Election Year	Councilor Term	Elected (# of Councilor at Large candidates to elect. Info for Nominating Committee)	Total Councilor at Large
2021	2021-2024	34	100
2022	2022-2025	34	100
2023	2023-2026	32	100
2024	2024-2027	12	78
2025	2025-2028	12	56
2026	2026-2029	12	36*
2027	2027-2030	12	36
2028	2028-2031	12	36
2029	2029-2032	12	36