



TRANSFORMING LEARNING

American Association of School Librarians
A Division of the American Library Association

www.aasl.org

2023-2024 ALA CD#28.1
2024 ALA Annual Conference

Division Report to ALA Council and ALA Executive Board **American Association of School Librarians (AASL)** **Courtney Pentland, President**

The report highlights and summarizes AASL's activities over the last year.

Building Relationships

Building Relationships has been my focus as the AASL President this year. I shared this with AASL members and the profession through the president's column in an issue of AASL's Knowledge Quest journal (one of the only print journals dedicated to school librarianship available today and one of the perks of AASL membership). "Building relationships is one of the fundamental skills of school librarians and the foundation of the majority of our work. We are, by nature, people who work with others. Without the people we serve, we have no purpose. And, the people we work with go beyond the walls of our libraries, beyond the walls of our schools, and beyond the boundaries of districts.

The last 3+ years have presented unique challenges that we have not had to navigate before. Our school library training did not prepare us for a global pandemic that was closely followed by deliberate acts of misinformation about the people who work in, and the resources present, in the school library.

We cannot predict what the future holds. I wish I had a crystal ball that would alert us to any difficulties that may lie ahead or a magic wand that I could wave to make those difficulties disappear, not to make my/our life easier necessarily but so that every learner in every school across the country could benefit from having a certified school librarian embedded in their school life from PreK all the way through graduation.

Since we can't force school leaders to hire certified school librarians and we can't make people fact check information before they believe it, we instead have to do what we do best. We need to build relationships with our learners, with our communities at large, and with each other.

In order to grow and activate advocates and allies and life-long library users, we need to first build relationships with them. We need to share our story so that they understand what a school library can offer for their specific needs and interests. Even more so, we need to listen to *their* stories so we know what to offer them. And, we need all of us to come together so we can create the best environment for all learners to think, create, share, and grow." (Excerpt from the March/April Issue of Knowledge Quest article - Building Relationships: The Foundation of School Librarianship)

All AASL articles, Town Halls, Webinars, and more I have worked on this year have centered around the focus of building relationships.

Publications

KQ Print Edition President's Column

- (Sept/Oct) ISSUE TITLE: The Intentionality of School Librarianship
(president's article) School Librarians ARE Teachers and Instructional Leaders
- (Nov/Dec) ISSUE TITLE: Soft Censorship
(president's article) Curating Collections Our Learners Need and Deserve
- (Jan/Feb) ISSUE TITLE: School Librarians as Leaders in the Digital Landscape
(president's article) School Librarians Build Relationships through Their Role as Technology Leaders
- (March/April) ISSUE TITLE: Building Relationships
(president's article) Building Relationships: The Foundation of School Librarianship
- (May/June) ISSUE TITLE: Futurecasting
(president's article) What Does the Future Hold?

KQ Blog

- July: [Building Relationships Matters Now More Than Ever](#)
- August: [Finding Joy in the Journey](#)
- September: [Building Relationships is a Marathon, Not a Sprint](#)
- October: [Building Relationships Conference Style](#)
- October: [Welcome to AASL23!](#)
- November: [AASL 2023 Opening Session Speech](#)
- December: [Building Relationships While on Tour](#)
- January: [Building Relationships BINGO Fun](#)
- February: [Building Connections with Students](#)
- March: [Building Relationships - The Gift of Story an AASL Town Hall Event](#)
- March: [Your AASL Board of Directors Needs Your Input](#)
- April: [Happy School Librarian Day!](#)
- May: [School Libraries and a Natural Connection with Mental Health](#)
- May: [A Gift of Many Stories with John Schu & You!](#)
- June: [You're Invited to the Virtual Annual Membership Meeting & I Need Your Help with a Special Project!](#)
- June: [President's Program & Crystal Apple Recognition](#) (To be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 12th. This blog will post on June 13th.)

Webinars/Town Halls (AASL president was directly involved in bolded dated items)

- Sept 13** – Town Hall - Finding Joy in the Journey
- Sept 25** – Webinar - Building Relationships Grows Advocates & Allies with Len Bryan (HISD)
- Oct 3 – "Off the Shelf: Book Bans, Challenges and Promoting Inclusive Literature" with Anti-Defamation League
- Oct 25** – Freedom to Read Statement Listening Session - approached by FTRF
- Nov 15** – Webinar - Building Relationships Locally - Karen Smith (School Board Member); Tim Salem (principal), David Page (state legislator); Mary Kunesh (state senator); Jordan Fuhrman (state level lobbyist)
- Jan 24 – Webinar - [The State of Advocacy](#) co-hosted with Project Thrive
- Feb 1** – Webinar - Building Relationships with Student Advocates - Ivan, Jane, & Christopher
- March 27** -- Webinar - Relationship Building Stories from School Librarians With AASL Award Winners & Committee Members:
Stephanie Charlefour; Molly Dettmann; Tanisha "Tiki" Love; Jillian Rudes

April 24 – Building Relationships/Partnerships between K-12 & Academic Librarians

Approached by and partnered with LIRT

May 1 – Webinar - Books and Beyond: How Librarians Can Address Climate Emotions with Climate Mental Health Network; Approached by ALA Sustainability Round Table

May 7 – Town Hall – Conversation with John Schu about The Gift of Story - 100 books purchased through funding from Emily Drabinski and mailed to librarians across the country

Conferences & Workshop Leadership Visits (AASL president)

The AASL presidential trio (president-elect, president, immediate past-president) provides [in person visits to AASL chapters on a rotating basis](#). This is a time where AASL leadership has the opportunity to connect with members across the country to determine what the needs and celebrations are in their states and to potentially recruit new members. For some of the AASL Chapters that are not a part of their state ALA Chapter, this may be the only direct visit school librarians have from ALA leadership. In many locations, in addition to a presentation about AASL, I provided a presentation about how to Build Relationships by Sharing Your Story, which connects with my focus for this year. I also had the opportunity to speak with folks individually during each visit about AASL and the benefits of membership, and several indicated they were interested in joining (especially in Montana!) and those that were already members were keen to volunteer for a committee.

7/10-12 Tennessee Association of School Librarians, TASL (AASL leadership visit)

10/4 Information & Technology Educators of Minnesota, ITEM (AASL leadership visit)

10/6 Ohio Educational Library Media Association, OELMA Panel – Effective Communication with Decision Makers (Virtual)

10/13-14 Oregon Association of School Libraries, OASL (AASL leadership visit)

10/17-21 AASL National Conference in Tampa, FL

11/5-6 Tennessee Association of School Librarians, TASL(AASL Leadership Visit)

12/8-10 ALA/AASL Advocacy Training in Chicago (Sylvia and I helped plan the event)

3/6-7 Congressional Fly-In

3/14 Nebraska School Librarians Association, NSLA

4/18-19 Montana Library Association- School Library Division, MLA-SLD (AASL leadership visit) – **NEWEST AASL CHAPTER!**

5/16-18 New York Library Association- Section of School Librarians, NYLA-SSL (invited)

5/23 School Librarians of Rhode Island, SLRI (AASL leadership visit)

8/1-8/3 Alaska Association of School Librarians, AKASL (AASL leadership visit)

Courtney Pentland is completing the visits to Alaska and Montana as there were scheduling conflicts for Lester and Calzada.

Kathy Lester's Leadership Visit: Maine April 20-May 2, 2024

Becky Calzada's Leadership Visit: Kansas Nov 1-3, 2023

Welcome Recordings for State Conferences – Welcome Videos include information about the benefits of being a member, how to get involved with AASL, and an invitation to become a member if folks are not already.

July Wyoming School Librarian Summit, Wyoming Library Association- School Library Interest Group

November Association of Illinois School Library Educators, AISLE (Illinois)

March Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association, WETMA (Wisconsin)

April New Jersey Association of School Librarians, NJASL (New Jersey)

April Pennsylvania School Librarians Association, PSLA (Pennsylvania)
June Arkansas Association of Instructional Media, AAIM (Arkansas)

AASL President Connecting with Others

Department of Education (Homeroom Blog) – request from DOE

[Why Your School Librarian is Your Best \(Back to\) School Resource](#)

Project Thrive Blog Post (AASL Partner)

[Parental Rights and Involvement in Students' Reading Lives](#)

University of Alabama

Interview/Presentation with school candidates

National Council of Social Studies Equity Summit

[Panel with PEN America and National Council for Teachers of English](#)

San Jose State University Online Conference

Submitted a video presentation - The Best Part of My Week: Life Skills Reading Classes

AASL Publications

Published by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and ALA Editions, "[Assessing Learners: Using the AASL Standards to Measure Competency and Growth](#)" unpacks a complex and critical area of school library instruction aligned to the National School Library Standards. Readers will be able to appropriately select or design assessment tools to measure learner understanding and growth.

[Using brand behavior to elevate the school library](#)

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Branding isn't just for celebrities and corporations. Published by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and ALA Editions, "[Elevating the School Library: Building Positive Perceptions through Brand Behavior](#)" by Susan D. Ballard and Sara Kelly Johns shows how school librarians can raise and deepen positive perceptions of school libraries through developing a brand in alignment with the AASL Standards.

[AASL's exploration of the Shared Foundations concludes with Curate](#)

OCTOBER 30, 2023

Published by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and ALA Editions, "[Curate](#)" helps to connect learners to resources in more thoughtful, meaningful ways. Through teaching learners and other educators to curate—to overcome their own biases to find, organize, and share the best information—school librarians build connections between learners, knowledge, and the world. Written by Daniella LaShaun Smith and Len Bryan.

Support for Intellectual Freedom

[FTRF, AASL Join Amicus Brief in Support of Publishers, Booksellers and Authors Challenging Texas School Book Censorship Law](#)

AUGUST 18, 2023

The Freedom to Read Foundation and the American Association of School Librarians have joined the Association of University Presses, Barnes & Noble Booksellers and Freedom to Learn Advocates in filing an [amicus curiae brief](#) that supports the request by the American Booksellers Association, the Association of American Publishers, the Authors Guild, the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and two Texas bookstores to halt enforcement of the Texas law HB 900.

[FTRF, AASL Join Brief Supporting Students, Publishers, and Authors Challenging Iowa Legislation](#)

April 25, 2024

The Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF), the Iowa Library Association (ILA), and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) have joined in filing an amicus curiae brief in two cases currently pending before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

[Reintroduction of the Right to Read Act](#)

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and Representative Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ-03) reintroduced the Right to Read act on April 26, 2023. This legislation has the potential to impact millions of students across the country, providing a much-needed infusion of funding for school libraries, and a huge step forward in the fight against censorship. AASL and ALA is urging members of Congress to stand with school librarians, students, and other educators nationwide by cosponsoring this legislation.

Connecting with All Learners

[New Research Examines LGBTQIA+ Inclusive School Library Services for Youth](#)

AUGUST 8, 2023

Newly published research study from the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) peer-reviewed online journal, School Library Research (SLR), used systematic literature review methodology to examine international empirical research in the field of school and youth librarianship to identify and categorize published empirical research on LGBTQIA+ topics. Articles can be accessed for free at www.ala.org/aasl/slr.

[AASL Announces Jewish American Heritage Month \(JAHM\) Collection Development Grants](#)

MAY 7, 2024

Ten collection development grants are available to AASL members to create or expand their collection with content to provide context and content that explores Jewish experience, Jewish achievement, and Jewish identity as an antidote to antisemitism. Sponsored by The Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History, the "Jewish American Heritage Month (JAHM) Collection Development Grants," will offer ten AASL members \$500 in grant funds to create or expand their collection.

Letters of Support for School Libraries

CT – Eliminated Positions

IL – No longer supporting state student selected book award

MI (Request from MASL - Michigan) – Hiring a Certified School Librarian

MI – Eliminated K-8 Positions

MN – Elimination of and reassignment of school librarians

PA – Eliminated Position

PA – Removing items from library & updating policies

PA – Eliminated Positions

MD (Request from MASL - Maryland) – Intellectual Freedom Issues

TX – Cutting librarian positions and turning school libraries and repurposing libraries

[ALA and AASL Respond to Houston Independent School District’s Decision to Eliminate 28 School Libraries and Respective School Librarians in Houston](#)

AUGUST 1, 2023

On Monday, the American Library Association (ALA) and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) sent the following letter to the superintendent and school board members of the Houston Independent School District and the Texas Education Commissioner in response to their decision to eliminate school librarians and convert 28 school libraries to detention centers, predominantly in Houston’s underserved communities. (see link above)

AASL President Interviews

May [Publisher’s Weekly](#)

July EdWeek – [Want Kids to Read in the Summer? School Librarians Can Help](#)

July EdWeek – Comment about HISD

Aug Assoc Press - Classroom & library restrictions

Aug Des Moines Register – [An Iowa school official needed to know if 42 books contained sex. She asked ChatGPT for help](#)

Aug [Perry Peltz Show](#) – {[Sirius XM RadioLink](#)}

Oct New York Times – Decision to hold conference in Florida

- Oct [San Diego Tribune](#) – Book challenges & decision for school to shut for 2 weeks
- Oct [Interview with NPR Tampa about AASL Conference](#)
- Nov Submitted responses to questions from German News Service <http://epd.de/>
- Nov [PNS stories for American Education Week](#) - Nebraska News Connection/Public News Service
- Jan [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#) - (my quote was removed for length)
- May Teach Magazine – challenges in a book banning environment; what school librarians can do
- May School Library Journal - Article about Becky Calzada’s upcoming presidency
- May Edweek – Alternatives to the traditional book fair
- June Edweek – School library collections, curation, and challenges

AASL National School Library Standards

Published in conjunction with ALA Editions, the AASL *National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries* was launched at the 2017 AASL National Conference. The Shared Foundations and Domains for three integrated frameworks with competencies for learners, school librarians, and school libraries have been adopted/adapted in numerous states. After considering the changes of the last few years, AASL issued a call to members for the AASL Standards Committee a two-year project plan for a 3rd edition. work. The Task Force sought out feedback from school librarians and administrators through a series of surveys and focus groups. Drafts of the new manuscript are in process and AASL anticipates publication in time for the 2025 AASL National Conference.

[AASL launches new research into content supporting the national standards](#)

NOVEMBER 6, 2023

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has launched new research into the content and materials of the “National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries.” A set of online surveys for school library professionals, collaborators, and AASL Chapters is open from November 6-20, 2023. Survey links and more information can be found at standards.aasl.org/research.

KQ Blog Post: [Let’s Revitalize Our Guiding Document for Your Everyday Practice](#)

AASL National Conference – Tampa, FL Oct 2023 School Librarians Standing Together

Excerpt from KQ Blog Post – Welcome to AASL203!

“My presidential focus for this year is on building relationships, and there is no better time to do so than at our national conference. You are going to spend the next few days with people who GET you. You are going to make connections that could potentially last a lifetime, or at the very least have a positive impact on you and your students. As you prepare to attend one of the happiest places on earth – the AASL National Conference – I hope you are getting just as excited as I am to be surrounded by school librarians and immersed in all things school library.”

The AASL National Conference is a magical place for school librarians. It is the only professional learning event of its size that is focused solely on school librarianship – every session, every vendor, every interaction. Anyone who attends once tries their best to make it to another when possible. There truly is nothing like it for people in our profession.

The AASL National Conference in Tampa in 2023 was a success in a number of ways.

First, [vendors](#) were so pleased with the experience that many signed up during the 2023 conference for the 2025 conference (82% onsite renewal rate). I personally thanked almost all of the vendors in person for attending. Many that have been attending for years, said they never miss AASL, and there were several new vendors who said they were very pleased with the engagement they were receiving from attendees.

The conference provided an opportunity to speak with many attendees and state leaders, and many shared that this was the most positive experience they've had at a professional learning event for quite a while. Folks struggled to decide which sessions to attend because so many were of interest to them. I overheard several pairs or groups of folks making a plan to divide and conquer so they could get information from as many sessions as possible. Every large group event had a liveliness and sense of camaraderie to it that made it feel like everyone in the room was connected to each other. Despite many of the sessions and conversations focusing on tough topics, there was a sense of joy and harmony among the attendees.

Featured Keynote Speakers included: Nikolas Smith (Artist, Author, & Illustrator); Campaign for Our Shared Future Panel - Heather Harding, Cameron Samuels, & Karen Smith; Nic Stone (Author); and We Need Diverse Books Author Panel - Samira Ahmed, Phil Bildner, Tracey Baptiste; & Cornelius Minor.

Concurrent sessions included topics ranging from: [authors](#), [collaboration](#), [collection development](#), [design & create](#), [leadership & advocacy](#), [literacy](#), [research empowering practice](#), [teaching & learning](#), [vendors](#), and [more](#). And, there were further opportunities to connect and learn through the [IdeaLab](#) and the [Poster Sessions](#). In addition, a workshop was held for school librarians who attended with their administrator that was led by the second cohort of the AASL School Leader Collaborative which is made up of superintendents and principals. Each member of the AASL School Leader Collaborative also presented a concurrent session with their school librarian.

While there was some conversation about the state legislation relating to learners and school libraries in Florida, the AASL Board of Directors made a purposeful decision to retain the conference location as we support school librarians in every state, especially during challenging times.

*****Check out this Video** to see how school librarians were standing together at the 2023 AASL National Conference. It makes me tear up every time I watch it. Make sure you watch all the way to the end! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53ld-hrPGDw>

AASL Conference Numbers: Total Attendance- 2,513 ; Attendees- 2,045 ; Exhibitors- 468

[AASL National Conference General Session Explores Censorship and Equity in Education](#)

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

Presented by the Campaign for Our Shared Future (COSF) and sponsored by Sora by OverDrive Education, the Friday General Session during the 2023 AASL National Conference will explore how curriculum censorship can diminish a learner's access to high-quality, age-appropriate instruction. The session will also share strategies for crafting effective messaging to fight censorship and promote equity in education.

[Nic Stone to Keynote AASL National Conference General Session](#)

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Acclaimed author, Nic Stone, will keynote the Saturday general session during the 2023 AASL National Conference. Stone's appearance is made possible by Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House. Full conference information and programming can be found at national.aasl.org.

[AASL National Conference Closing Session Features Authors on the Right to Read](#)

AUGUST 29, 2023

A panel of authors sponsored by We Need Diverse Books (WNDB) will close out the 2023 AASL National Conference taking place October 19-21 in Tampa, Florida. The moderated panel will include bestselling authors Samira Ahmed, Phil Bildner, and Tracey Baptiste and the authors will present concrete ideas for how to respond to censorship attempts in the school library. More information on the conference and closing session can be found at national.aasl.org.

Growing Leaders

[AASL Collaborate Project selected for ALA Emerging Leader Work](#)

JANUARY 8, 2024

Developing Creative Collaborators, Flexible Partners, and Resilient Citizens, a project proposed by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), has been selected as a part of the 2024 American Library Association (ALA) Emerging Leaders program. AASL's project tasks an Emerging Leaders team to develop materials that support professional development and instruction around the National School Library Standards Shared Foundation of Collaborate.

[Mia Gittlen selected as 2024 AASL Emerging Leader](#)

JANUARY 9, 2024

Mia Gittlen has been selected as one of two participants sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) in the American Library Association's (ALA) 2024 Emerging Leaders program. The Emerging Leaders program enables library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. Gittlen and Dawn Shirk will join 48 of their peers as the program kicks off during ALA's LibLearnX event in Baltimore, MD.

[Dawn Shirk selected as 2024 AASL Emerging Leader](#)

JANUARY 9, 2024

Dawn Shirk has been selected as one of two participants sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) in the American Library Association's (ALA) 2024 Emerging Leaders program. The Emerging Leaders program enables library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. Shirk and Mia Gittlen will join 48 of their peers as the program kicks off during ALA's LibLearnX event in Baltimore, MD.

[AASL STEM Special Event Grants Awarded](#)

JANUARY 16, 2024

Five STEM Special Event Grants have been awarded by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL). Supported by the Danaher Foundation, the STEM Special Event Grant Program supports a special event to increase student engagement by providing direct assistance funding to middle or high school libraries for special short-term projects or events that would engage students to promote STEM education and student interest in a career in the STEM field. Each recipient will receive a \$3,000 grant to fund their project or event.

[Rosetta G. Le receives AASL Distinguished School Administrator Award](#)

MARCH 13, 2024

Rosetta G. Le, Principal at Suncrest Elementary School, is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Distinguished School Administrator Award. Sponsored by ProQuest, part of Clarivate, the \$2,000 award recognizes and honors a school administrator who has made worthy contributions to the operations of exemplary school libraries and to advancing the role of the school library in the educational program.

[Washington Library Association- School Library Division Awarded AASL ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant](#)

MARCH 20, 2024

The Washington Library Association (WLA) - School Library Division is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians (AASL) ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant. Sponsored by ABC-CLIO, the \$1,750 grant is given to an AASL Chapter for planning and implementing leadership programs at the state, regional, or local level.

[Cathi Fuhrman receives the AASL Intellectual Freedom Award](#)

MARCH 21, 2024

Cathi Fuhrman, a school librarian at State College Area High School, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) Intellectual Freedom Award.

Established in 1982 and sponsored by ProQuest, the award is given for upholding the principles of intellectual freedom as set forth by AASL and ALA.

[Wendy Gassaway receives AASL Innovative Reading Grant](#)

APRIL 2, 2024

Wendy Gassaway, school librarian at Alder Elementary School in Portland, Oregon, is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) Innovative Reading Grant. Sponsored by Capstone, the \$2,500 grant supports the planning and implementation of a unique and innovative program for children that motivates and encourages reading, especially with struggling readers.

["The First Amendment and the Freedom to Read" receives AASL Roald Dahl's Miss Honey Social Justice Award](#)

APRIL 3, 2024

"The First Amendment and the Freedom to Read" project from Townsend Harris High School in Flushing, New York, is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) Roald Dahl's Miss Honey Social Justice Award. Sponsored by Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House, the Roald Dahl Award recognizes collaboration between school librarians and teachers in the instruction of social justice using school library resources.

[Gabriela Gualano receives AASL Frances Henne Award](#)

APRIL 15, 2024

Gabriela Gualano, teacher librarian at Paul Revere Middle School in Los Angeles, California, is the recipient of the 2024 American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) Frances Henne Award. Sponsored by Bloomsbury Libraries Unlimited, the \$1,250 award recognizes a school librarian with five years or less experience who demonstrates leadership qualities with students, teachers, and administrators. The award will enable Gualano to attend an AASL National Conference for the first time.

[Syosset High School named National School Library of the Year](#)

MAY 7, 2024

Syosset High School, located in Syosset, New York, is the recipient of the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) 2024 National School Library of the Year (NSLY) Award. Sponsored by Follett Content Solutions, the NSLY Award annually honors a school library that exemplifies the implementation of AASL's National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries. Syosset High School will receive a crystal obelisk – the symbol of school library excellence – and \$10,000 toward its school library.

[AASL Announces 2024 Best Digital Tools for Teaching & Learning | ALA](#)

[May 21, 2024](#)

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has released its annual list of Best Digital Tools for Teaching & Learning. The Best Digital Tools provide opportunities for school librarians to enhance learning, engage learners, and collaborate with educators. The list can be found at www.ala.org/aasl/awards/best. The recognition honors digital tools that foster innovation and collaboration, encourage exploration and participation, are user-friendly, and offer information and references. The technology resources are also evaluated for their application of AASL's *National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries*.

AASL Committees

Committee Reports will be completed after this report is submitted. Many highlights of committee work will be shared in upcoming press releases.

Commending Resolutions

Commending Resolutions are approved during the Board III meeting at ALA Annual. The commendations below were approved during Annual in 2023. Commendations are submitted by AASL Chapters for AASL Chapter Assembly to move forward to the AASL Board of Directors.

[AASL Commends Limitless Libraries](#)

AUGUST 1, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Tennessee Association of School Librarians (TASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Limitless Libraries](#). The partnership is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of South Carolina](#)

AUGUST 2, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of South Carolina](#). The organization is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends Borderlands Comics and Games](#)

AUGUST 3, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Borderlands Comics and Games](#). The shop is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Diversity Awareness Youth Literacy Organization](#)

AUGUST 4, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends Diversity Awareness Youth Literacy Organization (DAYLO). The organization is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and

products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Get Ready, Stay Ready: Community Action Toolkit](#)

AUGUST 7, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [Get Ready, Stay Ready: Community Action Toolkit](#). The toolkit is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products nominated in 2023 by AASL Chapters for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the South Carolina Education Association](#)

AUGUST 8, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the South Carolina Education Association (SCEA). The association is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends Book Riot's Weekly Censorship Roundup and Archives by Kelly Jensen](#)

AUGUST 9, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Louisiana Association of School Librarians (LASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Book Riot's Weekly Censorship Roundup and Archives](#) by Kelly Jensen. The news roundup is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends Louisiana Citizens Against Censorship](#)

AUGUST 10, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Louisiana Association of School Librarians (LASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Louisiana Citizens Against Censorship](#). The coalition is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Magic Book Bus of Rosman, North Carolina](#)

AUGUST 11, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the North Carolina School Library Media Association (NCSLMA) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the Magic Book Bus of Rosman, North Carolina. The program is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends Calvert Library](#)

AUGUST 14, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Maryland Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Calvert Library](#). The library is

one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends We Need Diverse Books](#)

AUGUST 16, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Maryland Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends We Need Diverse Books. The organization is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Maryland Library Association](#)

AUGUST 17, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Maryland Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the Maryland Library Association (MLA). The association is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Queen City Book Bank](#)

AUGUST 18, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [Queen City Book Bank](#). The program is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the As Told By Foundation](#)

AUGUST 21, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [As Told By Foundation](#). The foundation is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Delaware Library Association](#)

AUGUST 22, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Delaware Association of School Librarians (DASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends Delaware Library Association (DLA). The association is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Florida Freedom to Read Project](#)

AUGUST 31, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the Florida Freedom to Read Project. The project is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends Lead to Read KC](#)

OCTOBER 26, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends [Lead to Read KC](#). The nonprofit is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the Literacy and Justice Project](#)

OCTOBER 26, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [Literacy and Justice Project](#). The project is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.

[AASL Commends the American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of Missouri](#)

OCTOBER 26, 2023

Acting upon a resolution submitted by the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) formally commends the [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of Missouri](#). The organization is one of twenty outstanding programs, events, and products recognized in 2023 for their support of the school librarian profession and the learners the profession serves.