

**American Library Association**

**Cindy Hohl, President-Elect Report**

**June 2024**

There has never been a better time to serve our communities within the roles of librarianship and we stand united in our approach to ensure equal access to information for all. As trusted information professionals, we continue to meet the information needs of library users and expand our reach outward as we provide summer reading, learning, and engagement across the field. As we view and participate in the many educational webinars and presentations on the topics of literacy, advocacy, and intellectual freedom, the tenets of librarianship bring us together and still ring true. The role of the library is to sustain the public good by upholding intellectual freedom through equitable access to information as we also preserve and archive stories for future generations to remember the lessons that have been shared. These are the core values of the association, and we will support our colleagues through acts of solidarity as we face this work together.

Thank you to President Drabinski for her steady leadership as she has served us through both challenges and triumphs. While some question the role of ALA or the leaders within, the role of the library remains solid, a community space where users can interact with accurate information from credible sources while hopefully living their best lives. Emily has met every opportunity to stand strong in the face of adversity with conviction for humanity and always seeking grace. When you look at leaders in times of change, it is the measure of their growth that inspires us to do better, and she has maintained dignity and great fortitude as she moved forward with intentional purpose. It has been a pleasure to watch her make decisions with fairness and she has served us in a good way. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside President Drabinski, and I also recognize the tremendous support of our executive committee members Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada and Peter Hepburn for always being the wind beneath our wings. The true mark of a leader is in their ability to serve others during times of uncertainty and this team has faced every opportunity to do so with cool heads and good hearts. Thank you all for your stellar performance and exemplary leadership as we move forward to strengthen our resolve regarding acts of censorship in America. It takes all of us to defend the rights of everyone to have a quality library experience and we invite all colleagues to join ALA and help us in this work. Inspiration surrounds us daily and people are worth fighting for in 2024 and beyond! The time is now to take action so that there will be no silenced voices in the USA.

As I submit this final report as ALA President-Elect, I also recognize the tremendous work of our member leaders across the association so that frontline library workers across the field will be supported and have better experiences in the workplace. We are always stronger together and we are poised to move forward in a good way, leaving no one to stand alone. Librarians are trusted professionals, and we will continue to stay the course no matter the latest distraction to detract support of these efforts. We know that we do good work and I give a major shout-out to our school librarians ensuring equal access to library materials and resources to help elevate the state of literacy so that our youth can make informed decisions and make good choices in a fast-paced society. It is everyone's responsibility to protect our youth and provide them with safe spaces for learning, growth, and development. An informed society is a healthy state of being and we all deserve to live in strong communities.

### Executive Board Support

Thank you to all of the ALA and ALA-APA staff for their assistance with scheduling meetings, notetaking, emails, and sending out the committee appointments. We appreciate all of your support!

- President, President-Elect, and Executive Director Meetings
- President, President-Elect, and Washington Office Briefing Meetings
- Executive Committee Meetings
- Executive Board Meetings
- Liaison, American Indian Library Association
- Liaison, ALA 150<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Committee Meetings
- Chair, Committee on Committees
- Chair, Committee on Appointments
- Meet with CMMO

### Presidential Advisory Committee Members:

Wopida Tanka, Many Thanks, to my amazing PAC team for all of your planning support as we look to the year ahead. I know how busy you all are, and I appreciate the calls, chats, texts, and emails. We are excited to welcome all of you to the inaugural luncheon in San Diego on July 2, 2024, at 11:30 am.

With an approved budget and library tour scheduled, we have our work plans set for a year of service to share information with all in a good way!

1. **Eileen K. Bosch**, Associate Dean, **Bowling Green State University**, Ohio
2. **Karim Boughida**, Dean, **Stony Brook University**, New York
3. **Sunny Branick**, Branch Manager, **The Kansas City Public Library**, Missouri
4. **Shauntee Burns Simpson**, Manager of School Outreach, **The New York Public Library**
5. **Carrie Cornelius**, Supervisory Librarian, **Haskell Indian Nations University**, Kansas
6. **Peter Coyl**, Executive Director/CEO, **Sacramento Public Library**, California
7. **Sukrit Goswami**, Executive Director, **Haverford Township Free Library**, Pennsylvania
8. **Nathan Hohl**, Manager, **Johnson County Library**, Kansas
9. **Libby Holtmann**, Executive Director, **Plano Public Library**, Texas
10. **Adriana Huertas**, Youth, Family and Equity Program Manager, **San Diego Public Library**, California
11. **David A. Hurley**, Associate Professor, Discovery and Web Librarian, **The University of New Mexico**
12. **Maria McCauley**, Executive Director, **Cambridge Public Library**, Massachusetts
13. **Sally Stieglitz**, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, **Long Island Library Resources Council**, New York

ALA Staff: Sheryl Reyes