Transform your Library: Join ALA’s Public Awareness Campaign, Libraries Transform

More than 2,700 of the nation’s libraries – public, school, academic, and special – have already joined Libraries Transform, ALA’s new public awareness campaign designed to spread the message about the critical role libraries play in the digital age.

This powerful tool provides libraries with unified messaging and resources to communicate with the public, the media, and legislators. ALA Annual Conference attendees can learn more in Orlando about how to join the campaign and make the most of the tools offered.

“Librarians and library professionals who attend our annual conference will have another opportunity to discover Libraries Transform and join us in telling policymakers, stakeholders, and funders that libraries are essential,” said ALA President Sari Feldman.

Launched in October 2015, the campaign provides numerous free resources through the website, http://librariestransform.org. Central to the campaign messaging are the “Because” statements. These incisive and powerful sentences use bright bold type and colorful backgrounds to draw attention to how and why libraries are transforming – for example, “Because More Than A Quarter Of U.S. Households Don’t Have A Computer With An Internet Connection.”

The Ohio Library Council (OLC), a statewide professional association which represents the interests of Ohio’s 251 public libraries, their trustees, Friends, and staffs, adopted the theme Ohio Libraries Transform for this year’s OLC Legislative Day. A key component of OLC’s efforts will be the campaign’s “Because” statements.

“There were three or four of the ‘Because’ statements that our Government Relations Committee really liked and

Celebrate with Winners of the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence

Viet Thanh Nguyen and Sally Mann, authors of the winning titles of the 2016 Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction, will join Annual Conference attendees at the celebratory 2016 event on Saturday, June 25, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m., at the Hilton Orlando. Billy Collins, U.S. Poet Laureate 2001-2003 – described by Bruce Weber in the New York Times as “the most popular poet in America” – will be the featured speaker. Nguyen’s novel The Sympathizer won the fiction medal, and Mann’s memoir, Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs won the nonfiction medal. Mann and Nguyen will each speak after accepting their medals and $5,000 checks. The winning titles were announced for the first time at the Midwinter Meeting in January, 2016.

A conference highlight now in its fifth year, this popular Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence event includes the program hosted by the current selection committee chair, Donna Seaman, and a lively dessert and drinks reception where attendees mingle with winning authors, speakers, colleagues, editors, and ALA leaders. Other winners who have attended the event include Anthony Doerr, Timothy Egan, Richard Ford, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Donna Tartt, and Bryan Stevenson (of whose speech Publishers Weekly asked, “Is This the Greatest Book Award Acceptance Speech Ever?”). Featured speakers
Transform
» from page 1

Center for the Future of Libraries Connects Libraries and Communities

In 2013, ALA created its Center for the Future of Libraries to help libraries, library professionals, and the communities that they serve better understand the trends that are shaping the future and to build connections with experts and innovators that can help address emerging issues. Since its creation, the Center has worked to identify and promote trends that point toward possible futures for library services, spaces, collections, and partnerships.

“Accurately predicting the future can be tough, but from wherever we are, we have access to signals that point toward the likely futures that our institutions and communities can pursue and create,” said Center Director Miguel Figueroa. We see evidence of this in libraries that have embraced the maker trend to introduce maker spaces in their libraries so that community members can evolve from being consumers to creators. Or libraries that have joined with other cultural organizations to promote connected learning (learning that is “highly social, interest-driven, and oriented toward educational, economic, or civic opportunity”) that happens outside of traditional classrooms in libraries, museums, theaters, parks, and other spaces. By capitalizing on these and other trends, libraries are creating important futures that advance our missions and values.

Figueroa and the Center are monitoring trends, offering a growing collection of over 20 trends that point to possible directions for the library of the future. Each trend entry features information about how the trend is developing and what it might mean for libraries, with links to the articles and reports that help inform understanding of the trend. Used as a whole, the collection can help libraries in strategic or long-range planning. Used individually, single trends can be an easy step in professional development for those who might want to know more about resilience, robots, or haptic technology. And many librarians are using the trends to social media, telling stories about how your library transforms your community, or displaying a Libraries Transform banner on your blog.

Join the campaign today at http://librariestransform.org and plan to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando to learn more about Libraries Transform and participate in the many related sessions and events.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Celebrated at ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion. These three small words are more meaningful than the sum of their parts. We hear them thrown around daily in the news, in the media, in sports, in education, across the world. Intellectually, it is understood that these are important tenets of society. These three words are often included in the visions and/or mission of an organization. ALA lists diversity as one of its Key Action Areas. Often, it is not until challenged by an individual or a community that equity, diversity, and inclusion suddenly challenge us to try and deconstruct what it looks like in practice to truthfully embrace these concepts as principles of an organization.

In 2013, ALA President Barbara Stripling convened a Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (TFEDI), in response to concerns raised by members of BCALA and supported by AILSA, APALA, CALA, and REFORMA in a joint statement to ALA’s Executive Board in regard to holding the 2016 Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The concerns were directly related to Stand Your Ground Laws that exist in Florida that many believe create an unsafe environment for African American men. The TFEDI was charged to assess and address how ALA can be more intentional about the way it addresses issues surrounding equity, diversity, and inclusion within the organization, and how to increase the impact. The task force has held discussions, taken surveys, reviewed policies, and at the conference in Orlando, they will unveil recommendations for ALA to continue improving in identified areas.

In addition to the work done by the Task Force, a plethora of committees, divisions, affiliates, and individual members have designed programs intended to continue dialogue around these complicated issues, provide best practices, and share stories from the field.

“"For progress to happen in the areas of equity, diversity, and inclusion, every person needs to be at the table.”

— Jody Gray, Director of the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach

Authors, Authors Everywhere!

The ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition is the reading, book, and library event of the year, with hundreds of bestselling and emerging authors, thousands of reading soulmates, a profusion of events, and programs for librarians working in collection development and readers’ advisory, and much more. Here’s some of what you can look forward to at the 2016 conference and exhibition.

Featured authors include Margaret Atwood, avi, Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Eric Dyson, Diane Guerrero, Debra Free, John Hart, Jazz Jennings, Congressman John Lewis with Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell, Brad Meltzer, Holly Robinson Peete and her twins Ryan Elizabeth and RJ, Maya Penn, and William Ury.

800+ authors and illustrators on live exhibit hall stages, in pavilions, and in publishers’ booths, including Book Buzz Theater and Meet the Authors. The We Need Diverse Books campaign will be featured.

900+ exhibitors highlighting new titles (ARC alert!), products, technology, and services.

Winning authors, illustrators, and publishers celebrating numerous ALA book and media awards in the exhibits and at special events, including Sally Mann, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Bryan Collier, Matt de la Peña, Rita Williams-Garcia, David Levithan, Sophie Blackall, Jerry Pinkney, Duncan Tonatiuh, Kevin Henkes, David Bowles, Margarita Engle, Lynda Blackmon Lowery, Elspeth Leacock, and Susan Buckley.

More related continuing education than any other event, including thought-leaders on ebooks, digital content, self-publishing, diversity and inclusion, book groups, and emerging trends.
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March with Congressman John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell

Congressman John Lewis — renowned civil rights leader and co-author of the acclaimed graphic novel series March — will make a special appearance with his award-winning March co-creators at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition in observation of the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), on Saturday, June 25, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Lewis and March co-creators Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell will discuss the legacy of the civil rights movement, the power of visual literature to educate and inspire today’s youth, and the crucial role of libraries in our democracy. NEH Chairman William D. Adams will introduce the event, and a one-hour book signing will immediately follow.

Often called “one of the most courageous persons the civil rights movement ever produced,” Lewis has dedicated his life to protecting human rights and securing civil liberties. Despite physical

Immigration Reform Advocate, Actress Diane Guerrero on ALA President’s Program

Diane Guerrero will be the featured speaker at ALA President Sari Feldman’s President’s Program during the 2016 Annual Conference. “Americas libraries have advanced the American Dream by providing services and resources that welcome and support all immigrants,” said Feldman. Diane Guerrero’s personal story is a powerful reminder of the library’s essential role in creating individual opportunity and community progress.” The President’s Program will take place on Sunday, June 26, 5:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Well known as an actress on the hit shows “Orange is the New Black” and “Jane the Virgin,” Guerrero also volunteers with the nonprofit Immigrant Legal Resource Center and in 2015 was named a White House Ambassador for Citizenship and Naturalization. An outspoken advocate for commonsense, comprehensive immigration reform, Guerrero was taken in by other Colombian families in Boston after her family was deported without warning to Colombia when she was 14. She has worked with Immigrant Legal Resource Center and Mi Familia Vota, a nonpartisan Latino civic engagement organization, to promote citizenship and voter registration.

Guerrero, who has a degree in political science and communication as well as studying vocal music, has appeared on numerous TV series and in feature films. In 2015, Variety named her one of the top 10 Latina actresses to watch, and she received a Screen Actors Guild award for her role as Marizza Ramos on the award-winning Netflix series, “Orange is the New Black.”

Her forthcoming memoir, In the Country We Love: My Family Divided, will be published in May 2016 by Henry Holt & Co. Her appearance at the event is sponsored by Henry Holt & Co./Macmillan, and will be preceded by the ALA Awards.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Author Michael Eric Dyson Opens 2016 Annual Conference and Exhibition

Named by Essence magazine as one of the 50 most inspiring African Americans in the U.S., Michael Eric Dyson will open the ALA conference on Friday, June 24, 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. Dyson provides some of the most significant commentary on contemporary social and intellectual thought, interwoven with cultural criticism, race theory, religion, philosophical reflection, and gender studies, and was recommended by the ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to give the 2016 Annual Conference a stimulating and thought-provoking start.

Taking on tough and controversial issues, Dyson — one of the nation’s most renowned public intellectuals — is the author of 17 books including the American Book Award-winning Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster, a New York Times op-ed contributor, as MSNBC political analyst, and former host of NPR’s “The Michael Eric Dyson Show.”

His most recent book, The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America, is provoking wide and engaged discussion.

Dyson, a Georgetown University professor, bridges gaps between generations, connecting civil rights identity to hip-hop culture, and forging links between older and younger Americans, especially black Americans. As a cutting-edge historian, he reaches beyond race, addressing the universal commonality of American concern. Other recent topics have included racial profiling and its impact on black America, and Dr. King for the 21st Century. His appearance at the conference is sponsored by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Award-winning Author Margaret Atwood is Auditorium Speaker

Award-winning and bestselling author Margaret Atwood will appear as an Auditorium Speaker at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference on Sunday, June 25, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Atwood is the award-winning author of more than 40 books of fiction, poetry, children’s literature, and critical essays, including The Handmaid’s Tale, the Booker Prize-winning The Blind Assassin, The Heart Goes Last, and the MaddAddam trilogy that began with the Man-Booker prize nominated Oryx and Crake, continued with The Year of the Flood, and ended with MaddAddam.

Her forthcoming book The Tempest (October 2016), is part of the Hogarth Shakespeare project that sees Shakespeare’s works retold by acclaimed and bestselling novelists of today.

Atwood has consistently named William Shakespeare as one of the most important influences on her own work. Her first encounters with him took place in the 1950s at her Toronto high school. “The Tempest is, in some ways, an early multi-media musical,” she said. “If Shakespeare were working today he’d be using every special effect technology now makes available. The Tempest is especially intriguing because of the many questions it leaves unanswered. What a strenuous pleasure it has been to wrestle with it!”

Atwood’s work has been published in more than 40 languages, including Farsi, Japanese, Turkish, Finnish, Korean, Icelandic, and Estonian, and she has won many international awards. She has served as President of the Writers’ Union of Canada, President of the Canadian Centre (English Speaking) of PEN International, is a current Vice-President of PEN International, and has also worked as a cartoonist, illustrator, librettist, playwright, and puppeteer. Her appearance at the conference is sponsored by Penguin Random House.

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Author, TV Host Brad Meltzer Brings His Heroes to ALA Annual in Orlando

Brad Meltzer

Nonfiction, suspense novels for adults, children’s books, comic books, TV shows, and 2016 Honorary Chair of ALA’s Preservation Week – the multi-talented New York Times bestselling author Brad Meltzer does them all and more.

A core belief underpins and runs through each of his projects: ordinary people change the world. Hear him talk about that and more as an Auditorium Speaker on June 26, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. during this year’s American Library Association Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Heroes are important to Meltzer, and he has been inspired by wanting his own children to have better heroes to look up to as he encourages them to dream big, one great role model at a time. His collectible picture book biography series Ordinary People Change the World carries the message that we can all be heroes. Heroes for My Son, Heroes for My Daughter are collections that he has been working on since his children were born, and his newest illustrated children’s books include I Am Amelia Earhart and I Am Abraham Lincoln (to be followed later this year by I Am Lucille Ball and I Am Helen Keller).

Meltzer’s comic books include Justice League of America for which he won the Eisner Award. His suspense novels for adults include the latest political thriller, The President’s Shadow. His newest nonfiction book is History Decoded: The 10 Greatest Controversies of All Time. Based on his wide-ranging knowledge and research, the Department of Homeland Security recruited Meltzer to brainstorm different ways that terrorists might attack the U.S.

He was recently added by The Hollywood Reporter to their list of Hollywood’s 25 Most Powerful Authors. His television work includes hosting the History Channel shows “Brad Meltzer’s Decoded” and “Lost History,” and co-creating “Jack and Bobby.” His books have spent over a year on bestseller lists, and have been translated into more than 25 languages, from Hebrew to Bulgarian.

Meltzer’s appearance at the conference is sponsored by Penguin Young Readers.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Author, Autism Awareness Activist Holly Robinson Peete, Twins to Speak June 27

Holly Robinson Peete, and her twins RJ and Ryan Elizabeth.

Actress, author, talk show host, activist, and philanthropist Holly Robinson Peete has devoted her life and career to autism awareness. Most recently she has coauthored the timely young adult novel Same But Different: Teen Life on the Autism Express recently she has coauthored the timely young adult novel with her 18-year-old daughter.

Same But Different explores the funny, painful, and unexpected aspects of teen autism while underscoring tolerance, love, and understanding that everybody’s unique. Meltzer’s comic books include Justice

She has worked tirelessly to help families everywhere who are raising children with autism. With her husband, former NFL quarterback Rodney Peete, she founded the HollyRod Foundation, dedicated to offering help through compassionate care to families living with autism and Parkinson’s disease. Her picture book about living with autism, My Brother Charlie, co-written with Ryan Elizabeth and illustrated by Shane Evans, received an NAACP Image Award.

Ryan Elizabeth Peete is a college student and avid world traveler who has devoted herself to advocacy for children with special needs. Rodney Jackson Peete, “RJ,” serves as a mentor at the Los Angeles Speech and Language Therapy Center, where he provides support and help to young people like himself on the autism spectrum. The Peetes invited viewers into their bustling family life in the docuseries “For Peete’s Sake,” which premiered on the Oprah Winfrey Network, in March 2016. The Peetes’ appearance at the conference is sponsored by Scholastic.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

United for Libraries to Present ‘Nuts & Bolts for Trustees, Friends and Foundations’

United for Libraries will host ”Nuts & Bolts for Trustees, Friends and Foundations” from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 24.

Library Trustees, Friends groups, Foundations, and staff are invited to join a day of information and resource sharing, roundtable discussions, and learning opportunities. Coffee and meet and greet will begin at 8:30 a.m. The day will feature a variety of speakers as well as roundtable discussions. Attendees will bring their own lunch (or purchase on site). Those planning to attend the Nuts & Bolts program should RSVP to united@ala.org.

Bestselling Author, Actress Jamie Lee Curtis to Close out 2016 ALA Annual

Jamie Lee Curtis

Award-winning actress and New York Times bestselling children’s author Jamie Lee Curtis will close out the 2016 conference after current ALA President Sari Feldman passes the gavel to the 2016 – 2017 ALA President Julie Tocharo and introduces the new ALA Division Presidents. The Closing General Session will take place 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 28.

A Golden Globe and BAFTA Award winner, Curtis has starred in many films including “True Lies,” “A Fish Called Wanda,” “Trading Places,” and “Halloween.” Most recently, she returned to her horror roots as a lead in the TV series ’Scream Queens,” for which she received a Golden Globe nomination.

Curtis works with illustrator Laura Cornell on all her children’s books, which address core childhood subjects and life lessons in a playful, accessible way. She was inspired to write the first one, When I Was Little: A Four-Year Old’s Memoir of Her Youth, by her then-four-year-old daughter’s boast that she was no longer “little.” Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born is a celebration of adoption and the start of a new family, inspired by the adoption of her own two children.

Her other titles include the New York Times bestseller Today I Feel Silly, and Other Moods That Make My Day. Curtis and Cornell’s next book, This Is Me. The Story of Who We Are and Where We Came From (Workman, September 2016), brings her whimsical verse to the subject of immigration and identity. She also blogs for The Huffington Post.

She is a staunch supporter of children’s hospitals and their advocacy efforts. Curtis’s appearance at the conference is sponsored by Workman.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Click here for REGISTRATION
Entrepreneur, Activist Maya Penn to Present Her ‘Ideas’

Remarkable teen entrepreneur and activist Maya Penn’s TEDWomen Talk has been viewed more than 1,200,000 million times. She has already given three TED Talks, created her own eco-friendly fashion line, developed animated films, is an award-winning philanthropist, a girls’ rights and environmental activist, and an artist, coder, illustrator, and writer. This inspiring young woman will appear as an Auditorium Speaker on Saturday, June 25, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Penn is the CEO of Maya’s Ideas, a company she started in 2008 when she was just eight years old; 10-20 percent of the profits go to local and global charities and environmental organizations. Her nonprofit, Maya’s Ideas 4 The Planet, contributes to girls in developing countries. She helps girls pursue their passions in technology and STEM fields. “At four years old, my dad showed me how to take apart a computer and put it back together again. That started my love for technology,” she said. “I’ve been drawing ever since I could hold a crayon... My mom taught me how to sew.”


In her forthcoming inspirational handbook, You Got This! Unleash Your Awesomeness, Find Your Path, and Change Your World (April 2016, North Star Way), Penn shares her journey and provides a creative blueprint for teens and young adults, along with the tools she has used to build an authentic, exciting, successful, and connected life. Her appearance at the conference is sponsored by Simon & Schuster.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Transgender Teen Author, Activist Jazz Jennings to Share Her Journey June 27

Jazz Jennings, one of the youngest and most prominent voices in the national discussion about gender identity, will be an Auditorium Speaker on Monday, June 27, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

At the age of five and with the support of her parents, Jennings transitioned to life as a girl. A year later, her first Barbara Walters interview aired, at a time when the public was much less knowledgeable or accepting of the transgender community. This groundbreaking interview was followed by other high-profile interviews, a documentary, the launch of her YouTube channel, a picture book, and her own reality TV series – “I Am Jazz” – making her one of the most recognizable activists for transgender teens, children, and adults.

In her memoir, Being Jazz: My Life as a Transgender Teen (June, 2016), Jennings reflects on these very public experiences and how they have helped shape mainstream attitudes toward the transgender community. She has faced challenges, bullying, discrimination, and rejection, yet perseveres as she educates others about her life as a transgender teen and learns to navigate the physical, social, and emotional upheavals of adolescence. Throughout, her family has supported her and stood against those who do not understand the true meaning of tolerance and unconditional love. Jennings, who hosts a series of videos about her life on YouTube, was named to Time magazine’s most influential teens list two years in a row, was one of The Huffington Post’s 14 most fearless teens, and was the youngest person ever featured on Out Magazine’s OUT100, as well as on The Advocate’s 40 under 40 list. In 2014, she was named a Human Rights Campaign Youth Ambassador and received LogoTV’s Youth Trailblazer Award.

Her appearance is sponsored by Random House Children’s Books.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

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Friday, June 24th
5:30–7:00 PM

Penguin Young Readers
Booth #2302

Meet Illustrator ERIN STEAD, get a book signed, and peruse interior art on display.

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EXHIBITS HOURS

Friday, June 24
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Opening Reception in the Exhibits

Saturday, June 25
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 26
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Exhibits Closing Events

Monday, June 27
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Brad Meltzer to Sign Latest Book at Preservation Week Booth

Top by the Preservation Week booth on Sunday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m., for a special book signing by New York Times best-selling author, television host, and library advocate Brad Meltzer. Meltzer is the 2016 Preservation Week Honorary Chair and will be an Auditorium Speaker on June 26, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Brad Meltzer’s catalogue of best-sellers include *The Inner Circle*, *The Book of Fate*, and several thrillers, including *The Truth Justice, Dead Even, The First Counsel*, *The Millionaires*, *The Zeron Game*, *The Book of Lies*, and *The Fifth Assassin*. His latest thriller *The President’s Shadow* will be available in June. In addition to writing thrillers, Meltzer has authored non-fiction, children’s books, and comics. His non-fiction titles *Decoded, Heroes for My Son*, and *Heroes for My Daughter* were best-sellers and his comic Justice League of America won the prestigious Eisner Award. The author of more than 20 books, Meltzer has penned novels for an array of audiences including history buffs and children. As the host of Brad Meltzer’s “Lost History” on H2 and Brad Meltzer’s “Decoded” on the History Channel, Meltzer has been a champion of historical preservation, making him the ideal Preservation Week Honorary Chair. As Honorary Chair, Meltzer has been featured in print and digital Preservation Week promotional materials and audio PSAs and has participated in interviews with the media.

Brad Meltzer will be doing his first book signing for Preservation Week at the 2016 Annual Conference in Orlando, and his appearance at the conference and Preservation Week booth is sponsored by Penguin Young Readers. Meltzer will be signing copies of *Ordinary People: I Am Martin Luther King, Jr.*, the latest book in his Ordinary People series, on Sunday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m. in the Preservation Week booth.

Established in 2010, Preservation Week is supported by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Preservation Week promotes the importance and understanding of protecting and caring for personal and community cultural heritage collections, including books, documents, photographs, textiles, artwork, furniture, and any other collectible items. Since its inception, Preservation Week has assisted libraries in providing their communities with a wide variety of resources and event ideas for furthering the public’s awareness and practice of preservation. Each year, libraries, archives, and museums across the U.S. and around the globe celebrate Preservation Week with a range of unique events and activities. For more information on Preservation Week, visit www.ala.org/alcts/preservationweek.

Step into the ALA Lounge

The ALA Lounge, sponsored by ALA membership, invites you to relax, regroup, and review during your time at the Annual Conference. The Lounge will be decked out in bright and engaging Libraryies Transform graphics, inviting you in to learn more about our new public awareness campaign. More than just an inviting space, the Lounge offers a wide selection of information about ALA divisions, round tables, offices, and more. ALA staff and volunteer Mentor Ambassadors will be on hand to guide you, to provide information, and to answer any questions you may have about the conference and about ALA.

For first-time conference attendees, volunteers in our Ambassador Program can help you get your feet on “solid ground” at the Annual Conference. The program offers three types of Ambassadors that will guide you throughout the conference. Ambassadors work alongside ALA staff in the Lounge to answer questions about the conference, meeting spaces, and other onsite amenities.

If you are walking around the exhibit floor, meeting rooms, or anywhere else in the convention center, Roaming Ambassadors sporting “ASK ME!” buttons are there to answer any conference inquiries you may have. Mentor Ambassadors are great for first timers, offering a wealth of information on the conference from their experience. They will also give you a tour of the main areas of activity at the convention center and talk to you about ALA divisions, round tables, volunteer opportunities, and more. The Ambassador Program is a great way for newbies (or anyone needing some assistance) to connect with someone who can help make the most of your time in Orlando.

Products Hot Off the Press, Special Events at the ALA Store

Located just inside the shuttle bus entrance at the Orange County Convention Center, the ALA Store offers products to meet the widest range of your promotional and continuing education/professional development needs, as well as fun gift items. Make sure to carve out some time in your schedule to stop by and examine the many new and bestselling items available! ALA Graphics will feature a number of popular posters, bookmarks, and promotional materials, including new 2016 Teen Read Week and Banned Book Week items. And stop by early to get your pick of conference t-shirts—they sell out fast!

ALA Editions and ALA divisions are excited to offer several new titles hot off the press, such as RDA Essentials by Thomas Brensneroder; *Engaging Babies in the Library: Putting Theory into Practice*, by Debra J. Knoll; and *The Librarian’s Nitty Gritty Guide to Content Marketing*, by Laura Solomon.

Come by the ALA Store for these special events. The Meet the Author events:

**Saturday, June 25**

11:00 a.m.

Richard Moniz, Jo Henry, and Joe Ehleman (authors, *Fundamentals for the Academic Librarian*)

12:00 p.m.


Remember that you can now find titles from ALA Neal-Schuman and Facet Publishing in the ALA Store. You can also get free shipping on all book orders placed in the ALA Store (posters, bookmarks, and other gift-type items are not eligible for this offer).

Stop by the ALA Store to learn more about our e-learning products, as well as take part in live demos of RDA Toolkit.

Prices at the ALA Store automatically reflect the ALA Member discount, so there’s no need to dig out your Member number. And remember that every dollar you spend at the ALA Store helps support library advocacy, awareness, and other key programs and initiatives!

Do You Want to Plan a Conference?

Conferences can be overwhelming. Registration details, hotel reservations, and planning can seem daunting. But what if you asked to help plan the conference? That’s what the anxiety and conference panic dreams* (CPD) set in. Whose job is it to print the name badges? Who chooses the tote bag? Do we want tote bags? How do we draw people into the Exhibit Hall? Conference planning hones your library skills – everything from program planning and scheduling to creating (and sticking to) a budget, down to conducting a reference interview with the hotel to make sure you understand their language (BE0! 15,000 square feet! What does that mean to me?).

If you are planning a conference for an ALA chapter, please join us on Saturday, June 25, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m., OCCC W205, for an overview of conference planning and discussions. We want to hear what you are doing in your chapter. Some of us have conferences every year, some every other year. Some of us have conference junkies. *CPD is not real; it’s just what Lisa calls it.*

ALA Lounge staff member answers questions from attendees during the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston.

ALA Store Hours

**Friday, June 24**

12:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, June 25**

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, June 26**

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Monday, June 27**

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*Click here for TRAVEL & HOUSING*
Addressing the Digital Divide
From the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's ConnectHome effort, to the Federal Communications Commission’s Lifeline Program, to citywide digital inclusion initiatives, libraries are playing leadership roles in connecting low-income Americans. Policy and library leaders will discuss public policy options and share examples of how libraries and allies are expanding digital opportunities at the 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference. During the conference session “Addressing Digital Disconnect for Low-Income Americans,” leaders will explore efforts to connect disadvantaged Americans to the digital world. The session takes place on Saturday, June 25, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Leaders Talk about Increases to Broadband Capacity at 2016 ALA Annual Conference
Five pilot states make up the Library E-rate Assessment Planning (LEAP) project to ensure libraries benefit from the $3.9 billion modernized E-rate program. Learn what steps these states have taken to increase broadband capacity among their libraries during the 2016 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference. The LEAP Ahead: 5 States Share their Broadband Success Stories” taking place on Sunday, June 26, library leaders will also discuss plans for future growth using the E-rate program as a catalyst. LEAP states will share their broadband goals and vision and the things that worked and the things that did not. Learn about how these experiences will provide the foundation for recommendations to ALA and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) as well as for the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), the agency that implements the E-rate program on behalf of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The session will be held from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Leaders to Discuss Innovative Coding Programs
Coding in libraries? Learn about the variety of programming in school and public libraries at the 2016 American Library Association’s Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla. During the conference session “Libraries Ready to Code: Increasing CS Opportunities for Young People,” a panel of library experts will share experiences gained through a yearlong look at what’s behind the scenes in coding programs for youth – especially for underrepresented groups in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and computer science fields. Panelists will also discuss “computational thinking” and the unique library perspective on successful learning models based on coding concepts. The session takes place on June 26, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Finding Government Services
Ever felt frustrated by the prospect of another unfunded mandate from the federal, local, or state government? Empower yourself, your library and your community by learning to navigate major egovernment resources and websites by attending “EGovernment Services At Your Library: Conquering An Unfunded Mandate,” a conference session that takes place Thursday, June 23, 2016, from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla. The session takes place on Learn about taxes, housing, aid to dependent families, social security, healthcare, services to veterans, legal issues facing librarians in egovernment and more.

Experts to Discuss Innovative Improvement in Ebook Access at 2016 ALA Annual Conference
There has been a shift in the way people access information. Ebooks and the widespread use of graphics to convey information have created a “new normal” for how we read and learn. While these resources are readily available, too many of them are not accessible. As a result, people with disabilities such as vision impairments, physical limitations and severe learning disabilities, often face barriers to information. During the session “Accessible Books for All” at the 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference, a panel of ebook and accessibility experts will discuss the successful partnership between Remedia, Bookshare, the New York Public Library, and others to provide free access to over 400,000 books, periodicals, and more to qualified library patrons. The session takes place Monday, June 27, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Successful Entrepreneurship Programs in Libraries
The library community does more to promote entrepreneurship than many realize. Libraries provide assistance at every stage of the effort to launch and operate a new venture – from writing a business plan, to raising capital, to managing workflow. Learn about best practices for supporting entrepreneurs in libraries during the session “The People’s Incubator: Libraries’ Contributions to Entrepreneurship.” A panel of experts will elucidate the value of this assistance to the entrepreneurship ecosystem, and discuss ways in which libraries might make an even greater impact on the innovation economy moving forward. The session takes place on Monday, June 27, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Get more information and add these to your schedule now.

Thomas Mullen, Lisa Fenn Among Authors at UniteforLibraries’ Gala Author Tea, Sponsored by ReferenceUSA

Authors Thomas Mullen, Lisa Fenn, Shari Lapeta, Susan Malley and Imbolo Mbue, among a tongue book narrator Jayne Entwistle, will be the featured authors at United for Libraries’ Gala Author Tea, sponsored by ReferenceUSA, at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 27, at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, Ballroom A.

Thomas Mullen was awarded the James Fenimore Cooper Prize for excellence in historical fiction for The Many Deaths of the Firefly Brothers and The Resonists. His works have been named to Year’s Best lists by The Chicago Tribune and USA Today, among others. His stories and essays have been published in Granta, Paste, and The Huffington Post.

Two-time Edward R. Murrow and six-time Emmy Award-winning feature producer Lisa Fenn reporting on professional sports for 13 years with ESPN. A graduate of Cornell University, she continues to produce sports stories and write about the redemptive power of love.

Shari Lapeta worked as a lawyer and as an English teacher before turning to writing fiction. She has written two award-winning literary novels, and The Couple Next Door is her suspense debut.

Susan Malley's books have made Booklist's Top 10 Romances list in four out of five consecutive years. With her popular Blackberry Island books in trade paperback and her ongoing Firefly Gold series, Susan has reached new heights on the bestseller lists and has won the hearts of countless new fans. Booklist said, "Novels don't get much better than Malley's expert blend of emotional nuance, humor and superb storytelling."

Original from the north of England, Jayne Entwistle is an award-winning audiobook narrator who puts her various British and American accents to work. She is the recipient of numerous AudioFile Earphone awards, a Voice Arts Award, an Odyssey Honor and the 2016 Odyssey Medal for The War that Saved My Life. She also works in commercials, film and television, most recently appearing with Shaquille O’Neal and Flea from The Red Hot Chili Peppers in a pilot for Amazon.

Imbolo Mbue is a native of Limbe, Cameroon. She holds a BS from Rutgers University and an MA from Columbia University. A resident of the United States for more than a decade, she lives in New York City with her husband and children.

Advance tickets to the event are $60, $55 for United for Libraries personal members. Onsite tickets cost $65, if available. Advance purchase is recommended. Event code: UNJ. For more information on United for Libraries events and meetings at the ALA Annual Conference, visit www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/annual. Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

ACRL Preconferences are Multifocal
ACRL is offering four preconferences in conjunction with the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando on Friday, June 24, 2016. Preconferences include "Building a Classroom on the Intersections of Scholarly Communications and Information Literacy," "Crossing the Threshold with Threshold Concepts: Redesigning a Library Instruction Lesson Plan," and “Teaching Data Information Literacy: A Hands-on Introduction.” Complete details, including descriptions, learning outcomes, and registration materials, are available on the ACRL website.
RUSA 101: Network, Get Oriented, Get Involved

T he Reference User Services Association (RUSA) along with all its sections will host RUSA 101, a networking and orientation event for librarians working in adult services, reference, reader’s advisory, collection development, genealogy, resource sharing, and technology.

Not members of RUSA looking for their “home” within the division, non-members interested in learning more about the divi-
sion, and current members with experience to share are all encouraged to attend this event! Join us on Friday, June 24 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Hilton Orlando hotel, Florida Ballroom 1-2.

Each special interest section will be rep-
resented at this event. Make your way to the table to meet others with your shared interests:

• BRASS: Business Reference and Services Section
• CODES: Collection Development and Evaluation Section (adult readers advisory, collection development)
• HS: History Section (genealogy, archives)
• ETS: Emerging Technologies in Reference Section (everything tech and reference)
• RSS: Reference Services Section (frontline reference, evaluation, and assessment of reference, management of reference)
• STARS: Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (ILL/interlibrary loan, resource-sharing)

This event will include a brief and informative presentation by Ann Brown orienting you to RUSA and how you can get involved. There will be refreshments, a raffle, and networking opportunities. Bring your business cards, your curiosity, and your passion for adult library services, and we’ll see you there!

This event is sponsored by Spring-
share. Read more here.

Saturday, June 25

Come to the Reference User Services Association (RUSA) President’s Program. “Be Our Guest!” Creating Immersive Guest Experiences in Libraries, Saturday, June 25 from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. at the Orange County Convention Center, West 110 B. Join RUSA for a thoughtful discussion on how to create an effective “guest experience” in your library that both teaches and inspires your users. Keynote speaker Dave Cobb, Vice President for Creative Development of the Thinkwell Group, is an expert on designing immersive educational experiences for museums and theme parks. Cobb will talk about how libraries can tell stories with space and create emotional resonance with their users – drawing on examples from the library world, as well as local Orlando theme parks. This program is sponsored by RUSA and all its sections. Read more here.

Sunday June 26

Literary Tastes Author Event: Celebrating the Best Reading of the Year! Enjoy a light and refreshing breakfast while listening to some of the year’s best authors discuss their work and the craft of writing while enjoying the company of other book lovers. All Annual Conference registrants are invited to participate in this conference program on Sunday, June 26th from 8 – 10 a.m. at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Grand A. Read more here.

This year’s presenting authors are:
• Naomi Novik, author of Uproot-
ed, published by Del Rey, Winner of the 2016 Fantasy category of RUSA’s Reading List.
• James Hannaham, author of Deli-
• Joy Harjo, author of Conflict Resolu-
tion for Holy Beings: Poems, published by W.W. Norton and Company. 2016 RUSA Notable Book for Po-
etry.

Literary Tastes is the premier author event at the Annual Conference and is an opportunity to celebrate the year’s best books for adults as selected by readers’ advisory experts in the Reference and User Services Associa-
tion (RUSA). Authors will sign books following the presentation which 8:00 a.m. This event is sponsored by the Collection Development and Evaluation Section (CODES) of RUSA. Read more about the authors and their books here.

Celebrate this year’s winners of the Refer-
ence and User Services Associations (RUSA) achievement awards in adult reference and library services at the RUSA Awards Re-
ception and Volunteer Appreciation Party. Sunday, June 26 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Grand A.

Awards

Each year RUSA’s award committee reviews dozens of worthy nominations and proposals for the professions most notable librarians, libraries and library research in service references. Nearly two dozen awards, including the Isadore Gil-
bert Mudge Award: RUSA’s highest honor recognizing distinguished contributions to the field of reference librarianship, will be presented to honor this year’s most out-
standing reference service professionals and their efforts to provide exemplary services to their patrons in the changing information landscape.

RUSA Achievement Awards are a chance to give praise to the most notable librarians, libraries and library research in service references. Celebrate the winners of RUSA’s 2016 Achievement Awards and recognize the contributions of our valued member volunteers.

This event is sponsored by RUSA and all its sections. All conference attendees are invited to this event! Read more about the awards here.

Get more information and add these to your schedule now.

Paula Poundstone, Dave Barry

Among Lineup for ‘The Laugh’s On Us,’

Sponsored by SAGE Publishing

United for Libraries will host “The Laugh’s On Us,” sponsored by SAGE Publishing, featuring Paula Poundstone, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 26. Joining Poundstone will be Dave Barry, Phoebe Robinson, and Nora McInerny Purmort. Poundstone is a frequent panelist for NPR’s “Wait Wait… Don’t Tell Me!” Poundstone was the first woman to win an ACE Award for Best Standup Comedy performance and the first woman to be invited to perform at the distinguished White House Correspondents’ Association Dinner. An outspoken advocate for libraries, she works with friends of the library groups around the country to help them raise funds and raise awareness of the importance of libraries.

Dave Barry’s recent bestselling books include Life Right and Find Happiness (Although Beer is Much Faster), Insane City, I’ll Mourn When I’m Dead, his Peter Pan prequels, written with Ridley Pearson, and Dave Barry’s History of the Millennium (So Far). From 1983 to 2004, Barry wrote a weekly column for The Miami Herald that in 1988 won a Pulitzer Prize for commentary. He lives in Coral Gables, Fla. Phoebe Robinson is a stand-up comedian, writer, and actor. She has appeared on the “Last Comic Standing,” “The Today Show,” and “Late Night with Seth Meyers.” Nora McInerny Purmort is what at least one stranger would call “a tall glass of milk.” She was voted Most Humorous by the Annuncia-
tion Catholic School Class of 1998. It was mostly downhill after that, but she did get to spend three glorious years married to Aaron Joseph Purmort (aka Spider-Man), and she also pushed a live human being out of her body. She is a digital writer, strategist, and community manager, and lives in Min-
neapolis, Minn., with her son Ralph, (but swears every winter that she’s going to move somewhere warm).

Visit www.ala.org/united/events_confer-
ces/annual for ticket information.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.
Newbery Award Winner Avi to Headline AASL President’s Program

A battle winning author Avi will headline the American Association of School Librarians’ (AASL) President’s Program taking place at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 25, as part of the 2016 AAL Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla. During his presentation, Avi will speak about his work and his connection to readers and librarians.

Born into a literary family, Avi knew at a young age he would become a writer. He started his career as a playwright and worked for many years as a librarian at the New York Public Library. His first book, Things That Sometimes Happen, was published in 1979 when he was inspired to write books for young people after the birth of his first child.

Since then, Avi has published over seventy books spanning different age levels and encompassing several different genres. “I never studied writing in any formal sense. I taught myself to write by reading, and by imitating what I was reading,” Avi said. “That’s how I learned that writers don’t write writing. They write reading. When I write my goal is to create, share, and support the gift of reading and literature, so as to give young people the gift of many worlds, within the gift of reading and literature, so as to give young people the gift of many worlds, within and without.”

Avi is the recipient of many awards, including the 2003 Newbery Award for Crispin: the Cross of Lead, two Newbery Honor Books, two Horn Book awards and an O’Dell award, as well as many children’s choice awards. He frequently travels to schools around the country to talk to his readers.

“I cannot express how pleased I am to have Avi speak at my president’s program,” said AASL President Leslie Preddy. “For years I have utilized his writings to inspire teachers and students to think about topics in a complex manner. His writing for adolescents contains power, voice, and integrity. I have also heard him speak to youth, school librarians, and as part of his readers theater troupe. His relatable and passionate manner never fails to move an audience.”

The AASL President’s Program is an annual event featuring prominent experts on issues relevant to school librarianship and is open to all registered conference attendees. For more information about this and other AASL programs at the 2016 AAL Annual Conference in Orlando, visit www.aala.org/aasl/annual.

The American Association of School Librarians www.aasl.org, a division of the American Library Association (ALA), empowers leaders to transform teaching and learning.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Check Out YALSA at Annual Conference

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) has a myriad of special events and programs planned for ALA Annual Conference 2016.

Highlights include:

- Booklist and YALSA Present: The Michael L. Printz Program and Reception Friday, June 24 | 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.
- Come listen to the 2016 Michael L. Printz winner, Laura Ruby speak about her writing. Afterward, Laura Ruby and honor book authors Marcus Sedgwick and Ashley Hope Pérez will respond to questions, followed by a reception. The annual award is administered by YALSA and sponsored by Booklist Publications. Tickets: $34

- Margaret A. Edwards Brunch-Saturday, June 25 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Come join us for lunch and listen to the winner of the 2016 Margaret A. Edwards Award, David Levithan, speak about his writing. The award honors the author’s significant and lasting contribution to writing for teens. The annual award is administered by YALSA and sponsored by School Library Journal magazine. Tickets: $39

- YA Authors Coffee Klatch Sunday, June 26 | 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Enjoy coffee and meet with YALSA’s award winning authors. This informal coffee klatch will give you an opportunity to meet authors who have appeared on one of YALSA’s six annual selected lists or have received one of YALSA’s five literary awards. Attendees will sit at a table and every few minutes, a new author will arrive at each table to talk about their current projects! Tickets: $25

Learn more about all the special events and programs YALSA will be offering at ALA Annual Conference 2016 at http://tinyurl.com/YALSAac16.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Registration for YALSA’s 2016 Young Adult Services Symposium Now Open

Register for YALSA's 2016 Young Adult Services Symposium, which takes place November 4 – 6 in Pittsburgh, Penn. is now open. Individuals can register for the symposium with early bird rates now through September 15, 2016 at www.ala.org/yalsaprogramregistration.

Early bird rates are as follows:

- $199 YALSA Personal Member
- $199 Pennsylvania Library Association Members
- $199 Pennsylvania School Librarians Association Members
- $249 ALA Personal Member
- $310 Nonmembers
- $59 Students (enrolled full-time in a library program)

Register early to take advantage of up to $50 in savings. Registration includes:

- Opening session and reception Friday evening
- Educational programming Saturday and Sunday
- Option to register for additional events

This year’s symposium theme is “Empowering Teens to Increase your Library’s Impact.” The Symposium will gather together school and public library staff, educators, researchers, young adult authors, and other teen advocates to discuss the role of libraries in engaging and empowering teens within the library and beyond. Learn more about the symposium at www.ala.org/yalsa/yassymposium and follow the conversation on social media with #yalssa16.

Start Your Conference Right by Attending One of RUSA’s Preconferences!

Friday June 24
8:00 - 12:00 p.m.
OCCC West 303C

A Spoonful of Data-Driven Sugar: Using Big Business Research to Improve Customer Satisfaction in Easy-to-Implement, Single-Serving Packet

This all day workshop delves into the ins and outs of big business research needed to improve your patron satisfaction. Hear how our experts have tested and incorporated specific communicative techniques into their workflows and patron interfaces, improving, customer satisfaction and their own understanding of user needs, wants, and stress behaviors.

This workshop will benefit library support staff and administrators from public, academic, and special libraries.

This preconference is sponsored by the Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS) of RUSA. Read more here and register here. Add to my schedule.

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
OCCC West 303 A/B

Business Data for Librarians

This interactive program will focus on conducting a data reference interview – probing the issues of data validity and data information literacy – and, working with data tools and datasets.

Designed for academic, public, and special librarians and all interested in this topic. This preconference is sponsored by the Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) of RUSA. Read more and register here. Add to my schedule.

Lewis from page 4

attacks, serious injuries, and more than 40 arrests, he has remained a devoted advocate of the philosophy of nonviolence.

Born near Troy, Alabama, on Feb. 21, 1940, Lewis grew up in an era of segregation. Inspired by Martin Luther King Jr., he went on to lead sit-ins, become a Freedom Rider, and speak at 1963’s March on Washington as the chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Together with Hosea Williams, he led the landmark “Bloody Sunday” march in Selma, Alabama, paving the way for the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He was elected to Congress in 1986 and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011.

Now, in collaboration with Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell, he is sharing his story in March, an award-winning, New York Times best-selling graphic novel trilogy. The final volume, March: Book Three, will be released in August 2016.

Get more information and add this to your schedule now.

Congressman John Lewis, Nate Powell and Andrew Aydin Saturday, June 25, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

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