Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum and Committee Reports
This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will have meetings on the following dates in 2021-22: 9/23/21, 11/18/21, 1/13/22 (mid-year "mini meeting;" no report necessary unless you are requesting board action), 3/17/22, 5/19/22. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison and the ILA office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401, Chicago, IL 60654-6799; fax: 312-644-1899; email: ila@ila.org.

Forum or Committee: Advocacy Committee

Report completed by: Magan Szwarek & Nanette Donohue   Date: 3/15/22

Activities underway or completed since the last report:
The 2022 Legislative Meetups have been successfully concluded. This was the 2nd year that the meet-ups were held virtually. There were a total of six meetups, 423 attendees and 72 legislators. Consultant Marci Merola worked with the local teams to develop content for each event, focusing on the work libraries are engaged in as we exit the pandemic as well as ILA's legislative agenda. Director Foote's summary document has more details about the individual events. A robust discussion about future events, timing and strategies for continued success was had at the March Advocacy committee meeting.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:
Committee members will be presenting an introductory version of Ready, Set Advocate at both Reaching Forward South and Reaching Forward. A proposal for a double session has been submitted for annual conference. We look forward to being able to create an interactive experience for conference attendees at all three events.

Revision of ILA Bigger Than a Building campaign to reflect and support current library conditions in a post-stay at home order environment. A subcommittee has been formed to evaluate the materials and we look forward to launching a fresh tool for library advocates to use.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board: n/a