



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 Szwerek & Nanette Donohue

Date: May 4, 2022

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

An introductory session of Ready, Set Advocate was successfully presented at Reaching Forward South on April 8th. The attendee feedback was largely positive and will be incorporated into the second introductory session presentation at Reaching Forward on May 6th.

We are excited to have had three proposals approved for ILA Annual Conference: Legislator Panel, to be moderated by committee member and library trustee Matt Fruth, and a double session presenting each Ready, Set, Advocate module in more detail, followed by a series of small group exercises leading attendees through creating a story, developing your library message and creating your advocacy action plan.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

- Revision of ILA Bigger Than a Building campaign to reflect and support current library conditions in a post-stay at home order environment. A preliminary review of the existing documents have been completed and the subcommittee plans to reconvene to develop updated drafts for review. In collaboration with ILA staff, preliminary plans to solicit and capture library stories that will support the bigger than a building message and that could be used in a variety of ways to support future legislative priorities during the meet-ups, etc. are underway.
- The development of a train the trainer program to support the ongoing work of the committee in presenting Ready, Set, Advocate and any other advocacy projects that may develop out of the Bigger Than a Building refresh.
- We will continue to work closely with the PPC to consider ways to adjust our project deadlines, as necessary, to be in better alignment with the state legislative calendar, as they determine the priorities to bring to the ILA Executive Board for consideration.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board: N/A