



Illinois Library Association

### **ILA Committee and Forum Reports**

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will meet on the following dates in 2020-21: 9/24/20, 12/3/20, 3/25/21, and 5/20/21. Reports should be submitted **two weeks before each board meeting** to the board and staff liaison (liaisons are listed on rosters at <http://www.ila.org/about/committees> or <http://www.ila.org/forums>) and the ILA office (email: [ila@ila.org](mailto:ila@ila.org)).

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Committee or Forum: ILA 2021 Conference Planning Committee

Report completed by: Rachel Park

Date: 09/16/2021

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

Committee met once, on 9/15/2021 to finalize plans for the conference in October.

We heard that the conference is in a financially good place and that our registration is on track for what we expected. We currently have 672 registrants, we targeted 800.

We reviewed conference arrangements and committee moderator assignments ensure that the conference will run smoothly.

We decided not to plan any evening social events for the conference. The committee felt that there was not much appetite for something like this, especially since an all day zoom conference is tiring and COVID prevents us from planning in person events.

The committee discussed the benefits of having a virtual conference, including increased participation and ease of access for members, especially from smaller libraries, and recommended that the following years' conference planning committee consider having a virtual element to the conference going forward.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

The Conference Ambiance subcommittee will brainstorm ideas to make the virtual conference more welcoming

The Speaker Education subcommittee will provide resources on how to successfully present at a virtual conference, including information on universal design for learning and accessibility.

We will have the annual conference October 12th – 14th!

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

Running a successful conference which furthers the goals of greater equity, diversity, and inclusion, both in ILA and in Illinois Libraries.

Anticipated timeline(s) and completion date(s) for each project:

Completion Date will be October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021!

Activities should be designed to advance the ILA Strategic Plan. Which strategic goal areas are best addressed by the activities above? Check all that apply and describe briefly how the activities will advance the goal(s). View the full plan at <http://www.ila.org/about/strategic-plan>.

Goal area: Advocacy—Legislative Advocacy

Goal area: Advocacy—Community Advocacy

**Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession and in the Association**

By focusing our conference on Diversity and Inclusion, we hope to highlight its importance in our profession and in our association. We hope the conference will provide opportunities for educating members about diversity and inclusion.

**Goal area: Delivery of Member Value**

The conference provides a tangible benefit for members. They are invited to network, present, and learn as a benefit of their membership in ILA. We have reassessed our subcommittees for the conference and will continue to evaluate the programs we will offer to ensure that members from all kinds of librarianship find value in the conference.

The 2021 conference committee will review feedback from the 2020 conference to ensure that the 2021 conference will provide as much value to members as possible.

**Goal area: Leadership**

The conference gives members an opportunity to connect with other partners from across the state. It encourages conversations and partnerships that can equip our members to break down barriers, expand access, and support each other as Illinois librarians.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Executive Board (**please discuss with your board or staff liaison first. Board liaisons can help with strategic, programmatic, policy-related and content-related questions; staff liaisons can help with procedural or business-related questions**):

**THANK YOU for your service to ILA and Illinois librarianship!**