



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: Best Practices Committee

Report completed by: Jennifer Hovanec

Date: 11/16/2020

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

- Wrote a [Statement of Honor and a Land Acknowledgement](#) that will accompany all presentations and work that the BPC puts forward this year.
- Refined topics for presentation and decided how to subdivide the work of presenting and preparing these topics
- Prepared to meet with (and subsequently met with) the ILA Advocacy and Diversity Committees
- Set meetings for preparing proposals for Reaching Forward, set dates for Noon Networking events and next committee meeting to begin breaking into working subgroups

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

- Committed to the following outlets for the information we are curating:
  - 1-2 Noon Networking Events through ILA (February and March 2021)
  - 1-2 Program presentations submitted for Reaching Forward (May 2021)
  - Article submission for the ILA Reporter (submission due June 2021)

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

The group is currently curating a list of resources and is asking members to divide up to provide a wider berth of information dissemination. Due to the COVID-19 landscape, we have chosen to activate through a larger number of activities to provide information in a more consumable way to the library workforce.

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

Other than what is stated above, the project work will continue throughout the year and within the subgroups based on what due dates.

Overall, all projects should be completed by June 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**

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

**Goal area: Delivery of Member Value**

Goal area: Leadership

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!**

The ILA Best Practices Committee would like to acknowledge and honor the many professionals who preceded us and the traction they gained and continue to gain by shedding light on the necessity of more equitable, diverse, inclusive, and accessible library environments, which impact individuals on all fronts of library service: staff, patrons, and communities.

The intention of the Best Practices Committee is not to recreate or replace the work of our predecessors and/or current trail blazers, but to augment, and continue to propel forward the excellence of the Illinois library community by endeavoring to ensure inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) in our institutions by means of establishing best practices.

This guide is intended to be a living, breathing document that will hopefully assist library staff and administrators on their continual and evolving journey to the successful implementation and procurement of safe spaces for all. It outlines action steps for individuals, groups, and institutions at all stages on the IDEA journey. Think of this not as a complete or exhaustive set of ideas or resources, but a roadmap to help administrators and staff identify: a starting point, where they are along the journey, or which direction to go.

As part of our commitment to IDEA, it is also important to note that the ILA Best Practices Committee recognizes that Illinois libraries exist on the ancestral lands of the Peoria and Miami nations, and honors their stewardship of this land.

In 1795, the people of the Miami nation, having lived on these lands for hundreds of years, ceded their vast stretches of land to the states now known as Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan and were forcibly and violently relocated to what is current day Oklahoma.

The Peoria, were part of the Illinois Confederation, which is a collective of many nations who joined together and that existed for thousands of years on the lands now known as Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Missouri. They ceded their lands in 1832 and were relocated first to Kansas, then Oklahoma.

<https://www.peoriatribes.com/>

<http://www.miamination.com/>

<http://www.miamiindians.org/>