



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).

Committee or Forum: ILA 2021 Conference Planning Committee

Report completed by: Rachel Park

Date: 03/09/2021

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

Committee reviewed feedback from the 2020 conference, it was mostly positive! We will be trying a different way to engage exhibitors at the 2021 conference. A subcommittee to address exhibits was formed.

The call for program proposals was finalized and sent. Review of submitted program proposals has already begun. The deadline to submit program proposals is March 31st.

The committee worked with Cyndi to condense the program tracks

The committee wants to ensure that speakers are prepared for presenting in an online format. The speaker education subcommittee will work towards this goal.

The committee has invited Clint Smith to be our keynote speaker for the 2021 conference! Clint is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*, has previously received fellowships from New America, the Art for Justice Fund, Cave Canem, and the National Science Foundation. His debut nonfiction book, *How the World is Passed*, explores how different sites across the country reckon, or fail to reckon with, their relationship to the history of slavery; it will be published in June 2021.

Here is a link to more information about Clint: <https://www.clintsmithiii.com/>

*(description paraphrased from Clint's website)

The next committee meeting is set for March 23rd

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

Review and finalize program submissions, finalize a speaker for the President's program, begin subcommittee work to address exhibits engagement, speaker education, conference ambiance, and activities for Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

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 12th, 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!