



ILA Committee and Forum

Illinois Library Association 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: Intellectual Freedom

Report completed by: Leigh Anne Wilson

Date: March 2, 2021

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

- *First webinar presented by the committee as part of the Noon Network was held on January 4. Over 120 members registered for webinar, 84 attended. Chicago historian and author Timuel Black was the featured speaker. ILA received very positive feedback about the event, including complimentary emails from Library workers after the webinar ended.*
- *The committee is currently working on putting together a panel for the annual conference. We have two confirmed speakers: Andrea Q. Jamison and Chuck Stone. Professor Jamison teaches at U of I and speaks about the need for diversity and inclusion in Libraries. Chuck Stone is the chair of the Illinois Chapter of Braver Angels, a grassroots organization devoted to depolarizing dialogue and work to bring people together.*
- *The committee is currently publicizing the Intellectual Freedom Award to our colleagues and networks to gather names for nominees for this year's award.*
- *The committee's next quarterly meeting is scheduled for April 1st*

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

- *Second webinar is scheduled for April 12st, featuring authors Nadine Strossen and Emily Knox.*
- *Third webinar to be held in July and will feature author James LaRue.*

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

We hope to have a panel put together for submission for the annual conference by the March 31st deadline.

We look forward to another successful webinar in April with the Noon Network.

We hope to gather names for consideration to receive the Intellectual Freedom Award

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

Submission for Annual Conference – to be turned in late March

Noon Network – scheduled for 4/12

Award nominees – May 1

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 – our proposed panel is centered around the importance of having libraries that are committed to the principles of diversity and inclusion regarding matters of intellectual freedom in the community and profession.

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

Goal area: Delivery of Member Value – We have assembled top quality speakers for these free webinars, and we think they will really deliver in the areas of professional development, education, and issues of intellectual freedom.

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!