



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: ILA Reporter Advisory Committee

Report completed by: Alissa T. Henkel

Date: 05/06/2021

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

This committee has met two times – Thursdays, March 18, and April 15, at 2:00 pm. At all meetings, the committee checked in to see how the individual articles were advancing.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

The June 2021 issue features an article from Committee Member, Sarah Rice, *A Year After COVID: Where Are We Now?* and an article requested by the Committee and submitted by Mary Beth Riedner, *Understanding Your Patrons Living with Dementia: How Dementia Awareness Training Can Make Your Library More Dementia Friendly*. The article by Jennifer Robertson and Alissa Henkel, *Social Justice and Anti-Racism*, will be published at a later date. The Committee agrees that the article should be done “right” rather than “quickly”. * Additional articles have been submitted, evaluated, and recommendations have been made.

*At the March 18 meeting, a productive conversation ensued regarding the Social Justice and Anti-Racism article. Based upon this conversation and further guidance from our Board Liaison, Jennifer and Alissa have changed the shape of their article. They are inviting 2-3 additional authors to join them. They want to showcase 4-5 libraries with a successful program that that supports Social Justice and Anti-Racism. They are hoping to find 2-3 BIPOC authors to share in the article. Each writing their own section.

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

The goal of the above projects is for the committee to have at least two articles for each issue within our committee year. The authors, viewpoints and information published should reflect the diversity of our Illinois libraries as well as highlighting the diverse communities we serve. Our articles should not focus upon an individual library, but showcase diverse voices and geography.

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

The public deadline for the June issue was March 20, 2021 and the committee deadline was April 20, 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

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

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

Goal area: Delivery of Member Value

Goal area: Leadership

The ILA Reporter Advisory Committee seeks to include authors, viewpoints and information from a wide variety of Illinois libraries to include both city and rural, both small and large, both upstate and downstate, and any library in between. This committee also recognizes that Illinois libraries serve diverse and various communities. Diversity and inclusion refer not just to the libraries, but also to populations they serve. Concerning the events of 2020, we acknowledge that Illinois libraries have under-served populations to highlight.

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):

None at this time.

THANK YOU for your service to ILA and Illinois librarianship!