



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum and Committee Reports

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will have meetings on the following dates in 2021-22: 9/23/21, 11/18/21, 1/13/22 (mid-year “mini meeting;” no report necessary unless you are requesting board action), 3/17/22, 5/19/22. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison and the ILA office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401, Chicago, IL 60654-6799; fax: 312-644-1899; email: ila@ila.org.

Forum or Committee: Reaching Forward Forum

Report completed by: Joy Lang

Date: 08/31/2021

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

The Reaching Forward Conference was held virtually on May 7, 2021. Reaching Forward South had its virtual conference on April 15-16 and was included in the price of the RF May conference; attendees were able to attend both through our virtual platform, Pheedloop. Pheedloop was a successful platform and will be used in the future as needed.

We had over 550 registered attendees and an average view rate of 204 per conference session, with the highest at 400!

Our follow up meeting was held on June 18, 2021 to discuss the RF conference. The subcommittees reported on how the conference went for them; no problems or issues were reported. The first meeting for the 2022 planning season will be held on September 17, 2021.

Proposed incoming chairs were suggested and email invitations were sent to three current committee members. Sara Horn from Green Hills Library in Palos Hills accepted the position and we are excited to have her join the team.

The Call for Program Proposals has been created and shared with the committee. The Call went out after Labor Day and submissions are due November 22. We hope to hold the conference in person, but we know things can change quickly. If we are not able to meet in person, Reaching Forward will pivot to a virtual conference. A decision will be made by January 31, 2022.

Out of the 15 people that showed interest in joining the committee, 8 will be joining the committee to replace the outgoing committee members.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

Committee members will be promoting the call for proposals and encouraging library staff to submit proposals.

Set up Subcommittees.

Discuss timeline for key milestone dates.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board: