



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: Intellectual Freedom Committee

Report completed by: Leigh Anne Wilson Date: 11/10/20

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

The committee met 10/15/20 via Zoom to plan events for the year. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting date set for January 2021.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

Three Zoom webinars are being planned, and are led and coordinated by committee members. Suzanne Arist will be presenting Chicago historian Timuel Black on January 6<sup>th</sup> (contract pending) as a speaker. Barbara Posinger will be presenting "Intellectual Freedom vs. Fake News" as a webinar topic in April, and Ed Remus is presenting a webinar topic in July, topic not yet decided.

The group is planning to present a panel discussion for the annual ILA conference in Peoria in October 2021. The plan is to have three speakers. Possible panelists include: Scott Bonner, director of Ferguson Municipal Public Library in Ferguson, MO, Jerod Grant of Cultures Connecting, Ltd., Andrea Jamison, board member of ALA's Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Roundtable, and author Nadine Strossen, author of *HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*. This is still in the inquiry stage.

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

We feel these webinars throughout the year and the panel discussion for the annual conference meet the strategic goals adopted in the most recent plan. The webinars will advance equity, diversity, and inclusion, ILA members will have access to participate and be heard, it will give ILA members value for their membership, they will be able to collaboratively share and create knowledge all year.

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

The informal webinars will drop January, April, and July. We will begin the planning stages of the panel discussion for the annual conference in October that will be carried to the end by the 2021-22 committee.

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** We want to provide tools to professionals to better serve their communities in times of political and racial confusion and strife.

**Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession** Through our choice of topics and speakers, we hope to provide education and tools to help both professionals and the communities they serve move forward towards a culture of equity and inclusion.

**Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association** Through our choice of topics and speakers, we hope to provide education and tools to help both professionals and the communities they serve move forward towards a culture of equity and inclusion.

**Goal area: Delivery of Member Value** We invite members of the ILA to participate in our programs and create, collaborate, and learn from our speakers, panelists, and each other.

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!**