



Illinois Library Association
2021 Annual Conference
October 12–14, 2021

CONFERENCE PREVIEW

For full conference information and to register online: ila.org/conference
#ILAAC21

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On behalf of the 2021 ILA Conference Program Committee, we invite you to join us at this year's conference **Breaking Down Barriers, Building Up Communities**. The conference will be held virtually for the second year in a row.

We are well into our second pandemic year and, perhaps more than ever before, it is critical for Illinois library staff to share knowledge, resources, and expertise with each other and their communities. The goal of the conference is to create an environment that enables attendees to learn from each other and leave with ideas, themes, and mindsets that they can take back to their own organizations and communities.

Awarding-winning author Clint Smith will kick off the conference with his keynote address. He is a staff writer at *The Atlantic* and his debut nonfiction book *How the Word Is Passed*, debuted at #1 on *New York Times* Bestseller List. The President's Program will feature ALA Executive Director Tracie D. Hall. Twanna K. Hodge, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Librarian at the University of Florida Libraries, will present the annual DiversiTEA address, sponsored by the ILA Diversity Committee. The Youth Services Forum welcomes Steenz, a St. Louis based cartoonist, editor, and professor.

The three-day conference will feature more than 60 sessions, which will be recorded and available for later viewing. **(Please note that Clint Smith's keynote will not be recorded.)** The exhibit hall will be open from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. each day of the conference and networking opportunities will be available throughout the conference. Be sure to join us for the ILA Awards Ceremony, which will be the closing event of the conference.

Throughout time, libraries have been steadfast institutions — providing services to people of all backgrounds and walks of life. In times of struggle — economic recessions, disasters, and pandemics — libraries lean into this role, overcoming challenges through creative thinking. Becoming a source of inspiration and a beacon of hope by **Breaking Down Barriers: Building Up Communities**.

Be sure to mark your calendars for October 18–20, 2022, when we hope to finally meet in person at the Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.

Jeanne Hamilton
ILA President

Amanda McKay
Conference Co-Chair

Rachel M. Park
Conference Co-Chair



2021 ILA Annual Conference Program Committee

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Sarah Rice
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Belleville Public Library

Susan Wolf
Northbrook Public Library

Featured Speakers



Clint Smith
Opening General Session
Tuesday, October 12
10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

Clint Smith is staff writer at *The Atlantic* while also teaching writing and literature at the DC Central Detention Facility. He is the author of *Counting Descent*, which won the 2017 Literary Award for Best Poetry Book from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and was a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. Clint has received fellowships from New America, the Art For Justice Fund, Cave Canem, and the National Science Foundation. His writing has been published in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Poetry Magazine*, *The Paris Review* and elsewhere. His debut nonfiction book *How the Word Is Passed*, which explores how different historical sites reckon with—or fail to reckon with—their relationship to the history of slavery, was published by Little, Brown in June 2021. He received his B.A. in English from Davidson College and his Ph.D. in Education from Harvard University.



Tracie D. Hall
President's Program
Wednesday, October 13
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

In February 2020, Tracie D. Hall was appointed the American Library Association's tenth executive director in its 143-year history. In her new role, Hall oversees the oldest and largest library association in the world, made up of 57,000 members and more than 200 staffers. Hall is the first female African American executive director in ALA's history. Upon Hall's appointment ALA President Wanda K. Brown observed that "Her unique combination of philanthropy and library know-how position her to be the leader ALA needs today. She is optimistic, energizing, and innovative, qualities that will serve the association well as it continues its investments in advocacy, development, and information technology."



Steenz

Youth & Young Adult Keynote
Wednesday, October 13
10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Steenz is a St. Louis based cartoonist, editor, and professor. She's the cartoonist on the syndicated comic strip "Heart Of The City", the co-creator of Dwayne McDuffie Award winning *GN Archival Quality*, and is featured in short story anthologies such as Eisner and Ignatz Award-winning *Elements: Fire, Mine!*, and *Dead Beats*. Steenz launched and edited the popular RPG periodical *Rolled & Told*. She participates in and creates community building comics related programming, and is a frequent panelist at comic cons. Steenz currently teaches cartooning at Webster University while editing titles from Mad Cave Studios. She lives with her husband, two cats, and watches a lot of esoteric social documentaries. She is one of the iREAD® 2022 illustrators.



Twanna K. Hodge

DiversiTEA
Wednesday, October 13
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Twanna Hodge (she/her) is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Librarian at the University of Florida Libraries. She holds an MLIS from the University of Washington. Her research and professional interests include diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility issues and efforts in the workplace and LIS curriculum, library residencies and fellowships, cultural humility, and the retention of underrepresented and BIPOC library staff in librarianship. She is the National Conference of African American Librarians (NCAAL) XI Conference Programming Committee co-chair, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) 2021 Scholarship Committee, co-chair, and more. She is a 2013 Spectrum Scholar and 2018 ALA Emerging Leader.



Awards Ceremony

Thursday, October 14
4:00 P.M.

Join us to celebrate our colleagues and friends within the Illinois library community. As we do each year, we will honor and recognize the best in libraries throughout the state. This is an event you will not want to miss!

Program Schedule at a Glance

Tuesday, October 12

9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Exhibits Open
10:00 – 11:30 A.M.	TBS Opening General Session, featuring Clint Smith
NOON – 1:00 P.M.	Program Session 1
1:30 – 2:30 P.M.	Program Session 2
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.	Program Session 3

Wednesday, October 13

9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Exhibits Open
10:00 – 11:00 A.M.	Program Session 4
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.	Membership Meeting & President's Program
1:30 – 2:30 P.M.	Program Session 5
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.	Program Session 6

Thursday, October 14

9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Exhibits Open
10:00 – 11:00 A.M.	Program Session 7
11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	Program Session 8
1:00 – 2:00 P.M.	Program Session 9
2:30 – 3:30 P.M.	Program Session 10
4:00 – 5:00 P.M.	Awards Ceremony

Exhibits

The Exhibit Hall will be open 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. each day of the conference. Be sure to make time to visit our exhibitors.

Registration Rates & Deadlines

Your full conference registration includes access to all sessions, the exhibit hall, and networking. Conference sessions, **with the exception of Clint Smith's keynote address**, will be recorded and available for viewing until January.

	Early Bird	Advance	On-site
Full Conference Registration	by 9/13	by 10/14	10/5-10/8*
ILA Member (Personal or Institutional)**	\$125	\$150	\$175
Non-member	\$150	\$175	\$200
Full-time Student or Retired Librarian***	\$50	\$75	\$75

* Registrations will not be accepted after October 8.

** Attendees can register at the ILA Member rate if they have either a Personal Membership or work at a library that has an Institutional Membership. If you are not sure of your membership or member status, please email ila@ila.org.

*** This registrant type applies to full time students and retired librarians. If you do not fall into that category and you register at this rate, you will be billed for the appropriate level of registration and will not be allowed to fully register for the conference until the correct registration rate is paid in full.

Cancellation Policy

All refund requests must be received in writing by October 4, 2021.
No telephone cancellations/refund requests can be accepted.
Please email refund requests to ila@ila.org.

No refunds after October 4. All cancellations are subject to a \$15 processing fee.

If you have any questions regarding registration, please email ila@ila.org.



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33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401 | Chicago, IL 60654-6799 | phone: 224-698-1728 | fax: 312-644-1899 | email: ila@ila.org | www.ila.org