



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 2019-20: 11/21/19, 1/30/20, 4/30/20, and 6/11/20. 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: dfoote@ila.org).

Committee or Forum: iREAD Committee

Report completed by: Portia Latalladi

Date: 4/17/2020

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

The iREAD Committee met on February 21st at the RAILS offices in Burr Ridge, IL. The meeting included updates from 2020 Publicity Coordinator, Lindsey Herron and her diligent efforts to increase iREAD's social media presence, the ILA Office's inclusion of the 2020 iREAD Catalog in the ALSC Journal as well as catalog mailings to State Librarians/Executive Directors in each state. At the time of the February 21st meeting, product and catalog sales were on par with sales from 2019. The shipment of products was expected to proceed smoothly as most early orders were scheduled to arrive by the first of March.

2021 iREAD Chair Alex Annen, shared final drafts of the posters illustrating the 2021 theme, "Reading Colors Your World". Jill Donovan and Rob Bagstad of JDRB Designs brought items for the committee to review and select for inclusion in the 2021 iREAD catalog.

2022 iREAD Chair Becca Boland discussed artist selections for the 2022 theme, "Read Beyond the Beaten Path". One of the possible illustrators is Dav Pilkey of the *Captain Underpants* series.

There was a discussion of iREAD having a presence at Reaching Forward South on March 20th in Champaign; Reaching Forward on May 1st in Rosemont; ALA Annual in June; Alaska/Pacific Northwest at the end of this summer and ILA Annual in October.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

The iREAD Program had a successful presence at the PLA National Conference held February 25 – 29 in Nashville. Many conference attendees specifically stopped by the iREAD Booth in the exhibit hall to request information about the iREAD program. Current users of the program also stopped by to express their support of the program.

There was a drastic shift in the committee's activities following the PLA conference as the COVID-19 epidemic became a pandemic and many states began shelter-in-place and social distancing policies to slow and mitigate the spread of the virus. As states shut down and libraries closed their physical doors, delivery of iREAD product was affected as the delivery of medical supplies became paramount.

On April 3rd, the iREAD Committee met virtually via Zoom to discuss how to prepare for the possibility of major changes in how summer reading programs operate. During the meeting, it was

suggested that a home edition (abridged version) of the 2020 Resource Guide be created for families to use at home.

Intended outcome / goals of project(s):

The home edition of the 2020 iREAD Resource Guide will provide engaging activities for families during this unprecedented time. Ashley Stewart, Library Director of the Caseyville Public Library and Lindsey Herron, Library Director of the Wood River Public Library, (iREAD Committee members from Illinois) presented a webinar on April 10th regarding conducting virtual summer reading programs. The webinar was sponsored by the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS).

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

N/A

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

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

Goal area: Delivery of Member Value

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!