**OLA Annual Reports 2020-21**

**Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments**

**OLA unit:  Public Library Division (PLD)**

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**Division, RT, Committee Board Members**ChairLaura Kimberly, Newport Public Library, [l.kimberly@newportlibrary.org](mailto:l.kimberly@newportlibrary.org); Vice Chair/Chair Elect Halsted Bernard, Tigard Public Library, [HalstedB@tigard-or.gov](mailto:HalstedB@tigard-or.gov); Past Chair Erin Wells, Walla Walla Public Library[ewells@wallawallawa.gov](mailto:ewells@wallawallawa.gov); Secretary Chris Myers, Lake Oswego Public Library, [pldsecretary@olaweb.org](mailto:pldsecretary@olaweb.org);Position #1 - 2019-2021 (2-year term, elected in odd-numbered years) Haley Lagasse, North Bend Public Library, [hlagasse@coastlinelibrarynetwork.org](mailto:hlagasse@coastlinelibrarynetwork.org); Position #2 - 2019-2021 (2-year term, elected in odd-numbered years) Glenn Ferdman, Beaverton City Library, [gferdman@beavertonoregon.gov](mailto:gferdman@beavertonoregon.gov); Position #3 - 2020-2022 (2-year term, elected in even-numbered years) Will O'Hearn, Eugene Public Library, WO'[hearn@eugene-or.gov](mailto:hearn@eugene-or.gov); Position #4 - 2020-2022 (2-year term, elected in even-numbered years) Amanda Bressler, Albany Public Library, [Amanda.Bressler@cityofalbany.net](mailto:Amanda.Bressler@cityofalbany.net).

**Overall Goals & Responsibilities**

The purpose of the Public Library Division is to promote public library service and development, to promote the potential for increasing cooperation among public libraries, to represent the interests and concerns of public libraries in relation to the Oregon Library Association and the Oregon State Library, and to develop legislative priorities for public libraries and other issues as may be pertinent to the Division.

**Stories -** stories highlighting annual member or committee successes and challenges.

Shirley Roberts offered an introduction to the OLA, using the OLA’s webpage as a framework. Points of emphasis were the financials page, with reimbursement forms and the monthly statement of balances in the enterprise accounts of all of OLA’s divisions and units, including PLD; the resources page for board members, including video tutorials on OLA and Memberclicks: and the spreadsheet of new members of OLA. Shirley encouraged board members to spend some time looking around the OLA webpage. PLD Officer Duties Erin Wells and Laura Kimberly met (virtually) to discuss duties of PLD officers, with the idea of taking some responsibilities off the chair and vice-chair and help everyone on the board feel they have a role and some tasks. Some of the ideas they generated for responsibilities, with the board member who volunteered to be responsible for that: • Public Library Standards: Haley Lagasse • Conference Liaison (Conference, PLD Dinner): Halsted Bernard • Pearl Award: Glenn Ferdman • Training (Fall/Spring Director's Meetings/other training): Laura Kimberly• Public Library Directors’ Notebook: Will O’Hearn • Budget: Erin Wells and Laura Kimberly • Communication: Amanda Bressler **Successes -** highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Quarterly PLD Sponsored Training Sessions: October 23, 2020, 10 a.m.-noon: Directors’ training by Buzzy Nielsen on library advocacy; January 29, 2021, 10 am-1 pm. Topic was the OLA’s EDI Anti-Racism Toolkit. This training will be open to State Library staff, as well as academic and research library staff. The training will be recorded, and we are still trying to figure out how to post it. (The Q&A after the training will not be recorded.); PLD Virtual Training at 10 am-noon Friday, June 18: Our topic will be Working with Library Boards and will feature a panel of library directors from around the state. 2021 OLA Conference Follow Up); Pearl Award▪ Six applications, total▪ Winner: Lanel Jackson, Multnomah County Library▪ Award presentation was recorded by Laura and delivered at OLA conference▪ Award (i.e., the plaque) was prepared and sent to the awardee); Virtual Unit Exhibitor Booth-Haley, Haley reported on our virtual booth at the OLA Conference. It included the Pearl Award video, contact information for board members. She said that if we are going to have a virtual conference next year we should, investigate the various features of the hosting software); Happy Hour Game Night Event and Author Presentation (PLD co-sponsored the author event at the OLA Conference featuring Fonda Lee and Kim Johnson; PLD agreed to host a happy hour style event at 5:30 on Friday (Conference Closing Time online game night). Halsted said Game Night (we played Blather ‘Round) was fun, and technological piece was smooth.• PLD had an Unit Exhibitor Booth: Haley said she has had some experience with this at a previous conference, and volunteered to edit the information in the Whova site. Public Library Standards Update: Haley: Darcy and Haley completed first round of revisions sent from Stover, and sent back for further revisions.

**Challenges -** lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.  
Getting people involved on the subcommittee with public library standards. PLD Executive Board has been working on getting more people involved, the board involved, as well as letting people know about different volunteer opportunities available.

**General Updates -** include updates that do not fit in other categories**.**Shirley helped the PLD Board set up a PLD listserv to send out information and communications with PLD membership. We also set up a google drive with all of the PLD documents, which include the library standards documents. Election is currently open for the open positions on the PLD Executive Board. The ballot closed on August 10. We have one candidate for the Vice Chair/Chair Elect position as well as the secretary position. The PLD Executive Board approved moving forward with just one candidate for these positions after pushing the date back several times for interested individuals for 2021-2022.

**Focus Areas  
Focus 1 EDI and Antiracism:** Actively commit to being an equitable, diverse, inclusive, and anti-racist organization.  List project status in this area. Include progress toward goals and objectives from the strategic plan if applicable**.**OLA EDI Task Force • Alma Plasencia and Marci Ramiro-Jenkins, co-chairs of the OLA EDI Anti-Racism Special Committee, introduced and gave an overview of a draft of the committee’s Equity Diversity Inclusion Anti-Racism Toolkit. The toolkit will be finalized in late January and then disseminated to public and academic libraries in February.  PLD Virtual Library Directors’ Training •January 29, 2021, 10 am-1 pm. Topic was the OLA’s EDI Anti-Racism Toolkit. This training will be open to State Library staff, as well as academic and research library staff. The training will be recorded, and we are still trying to figure out how to post it. (The Q&A after the training will not be recorded.)  Libros for Oregon • Hannah Bostrom of Salem Public Library, current chair of Libros for Oregon, gave an overview of the program • Hannah began with some self-exploration questions about whom our libraries serve, how they might benefit from Spanish-language materials, and where libraries might want to go to • Deborah Gitlitz of Wilsonville Public Library, one of the founders of Libros for Oregon, reviewed the background, history, and aims of Libros. • Alma Plasencia of Salem Public Library, described the basics of the FIL (Feria Internacional de Libro de Guadalajara) • Hannah emphasized the importance of outreach. Participating libraries are required to stage at least three programs intended to publicize the books from Libros. • Libros for Oregon has applied for a new LSTA grant that would allow them to prioritize 10 libraries with at least 15% identified Latinx/Hispanic population. Would receive $1000 donations including shipping and $200 for cataloging assistance. • Libros has a new website, which is a great place to direct people for more information. Librosfororegon.org

**Focus 2 Advocacy:** Strengthen OLA’s leadership and advocacy role across the state. List project status in this area. Include progress toward goals and objectives from the strategic plan if applicable.   
October 23, 2020, 10 am.-noon: Directors’ training by Buzzy Nielsen on library advocacy. Shirley provided training to the PLD Executive Board at the first PLD board meeting. The PLD Board has been sponsoring and organizing quarterly trainings on topics of interest to public libraries. We have held quarterly trainings on topics of interest and need for public libraries. Shirley helped with creating a training page for PLD Trainings. We also are making sure our webpage is updated.

**Focus 3 Membership:** Increase engagement in OLA and enrich the membership experience. List project status in this area. Include progress toward goals and objectives from the strategic plan if applicable.2021 OLA Conference Follow Up:  Pearl Award▪ Six applications, total▪ Winner: Lanel Jackson, Multnomah County Library▪ Award presentation was recorded by Laura and delivered at OLA Conference▪ Award (i.e., the plaque) was prepared and sent to the awardee); Virtual Unit Exhibitor Booth-Haley: Haley reported on our virtual booth at the OLA Conference. It included the Pearl Award video, contact information for board members. She said that if we are going to have a virtual conference next year we should investigate the various features of the hosting software) Happy Hour Game Night Event and Author Presentation Unit Exhibit Booth at the OLA Conference PLD Executive Board has a PLD listserv so we can send out information and communication to PLD membership.  
 **Other comments**

PLD Fundraisers:  We had a free-floating discussion of possible fundraising projects. Landed on possibly creating a T-shirt or sweatshirt, maybe using a vendor like Bonfire) Halsted and Chris will investigate possible graphic designers in public libraries who would provide services for free) Halsted will use this project as a pilot for finding free or low-cost project management software that the PLD board could use to track planning. Follow Up from Previous Meetings) Draft Budget--Laura still working on this) Timeline--Laura still working on this) Webpage Updates (Chris and Halsted): Chris will review and update the PLD webpage before the next meeting and report back.