

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments
As of 12/15/25 Final

OLA unit: Academic Division – no report submitted

Name: Jane Nichols

Work or Primary Email: acrlor@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Jane Nichols, President; Ginny Blackson, Vice President/President-Elect; Carly Lamphere, Past President; Diana Castillo, Public Universities Rep became Legislative Rep; Ross Fuqua, State Library Rep; Lori Walmsley, Member at Large; Beth Caldwell, Community College Rep; Kim Olson-Charles, Member at Large; Summer Steele, Communications; Caleah James, Private Colleges Representative

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The Academic Division of OLA serves a dual role as the Oregon chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). The Academic Division/ACRL-OR seeks to foster communication among academic library personnel; to promote the development of Oregon's academic libraries; to sponsor educational programs of interest to academic library personnel; to serve as liaison between academic personnel and various other academic and library constituencies; and to advocate for academic libraries and library personnel on the state level.

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

ACRL OR / WA joint annual conference, "New Connections", provided opportunities for library staff to share their research, projects, and other work with regional colleagues. After cancelling due to COVID, the conference was held in person in Oregon in Fall 2024. Approximately, 80 people attended. The conference was held at Reed College.

Ann Matsushima Chiu received an ACRL OR Scholarship to support her and her colleagues as they plan and hold an Assessment of Library Outreach Events unconference in Summer 2025. Funds will be used to purchase materials for attendees to use. The unconference focus on assessment of library outreach is timely and will guide library work in this area. Because many outreach activities occur through a library's parent institution, this will support understanding of impact and value within this context.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

ACRL OR held a successful one-day conference at Reed College, fall 2024. We tried a new thing where the ACRL OR President held an information session to promote awareness about the unit and to encourage participation.

ACRL OR tabled at the OLA Annual Conference in Eugene and held an enjoyable Happy Hour. Several folks stopped by the table and about 20 people attended the happy hour.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

An ongoing issue is our overall participation in ACRL OR. It continues to be limited for a few reasons: post-COVID-19 pandemic there is just not the same level of engagement and academic libraries and librarians are experiencing financial pressures. Added to this, we have learned that we need to spend more energy on updating our list of active members in MemberClicks. To address this, we reached out

to ACRL National to update our list of active Oregon academic librarians. The next step is to reach out to them to invite them to become OLA and ACRL OR members.

Another challenge we experienced was the need for our Vice-President/President-Elect to step down. In response, we asked the in-coming Vice-President to step into the President position. She, fortunately, agreed to do so. We now are recruiting for another Vice-President/President-Elect.

Also, our legislative representative needed to step down in the middle of the year. In response we asked if any board members were open to switching their roles. The Public Universities Representative volunteered so she moved into the legislative position, we left the public universities position open despite recruiting for it.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

We continued to hold regular meetings by Zoom, an effective strategy to support participation across the state.

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.

Continued to recognize work from colleagues as part of our Award for Excellence. We made two awards:

1. Oregon State University Special Collections and Archives Research Center were awarded for their project, *Anti-Racist Description Activities in the Oregon State University*. This project addresses harmful descriptions and imagery in their collections and finding aids and applauds their work to share out their experiences through their LibGuide and other venues.
2. The second award went to Reed College librarians led by Angie Berienger in their project: *Getting Students Back into the Library: Management and Advocacy for Increased Outreach and Engagement to Students*. This project focused on “re-welcoming” students to Reed’s library through student centered programming and outreach, focusing on the whole student, aligning their budget to support outreach programming, and, by employing user experience activities to assess usage of library spaces.

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.

No activities undertaken during this time.

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.

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.

Offered social events and invested in swag to encourage member engagement.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Children's Services Division

Name: Jaime Thoreson

Work or Primary Email: csd@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Board Members: Jaime Thoreson(Chair), Monica Hoffman (Past Chair), Aurora Ropp (Secretary), Jackie Partch (Scholarships Chair), Anna Bruce (Oregon Library Presenters Directory), Deborah VanDetta, Haley Rockwell, Laura Baca (Scholarships Committee), Jennifer Knight (ad hoc).

Chair Elect (vacant). Lampman Committee Chair (vacant) (no committee this year, no official award); Communications Chair (vacant)

The 2024 2025 was a challenging year for CSD. We were held together by determined members to do what was needed to maintain basic engagement of the board.

One CSD Chair's goal, before taking on the role, was to build community and camaraderie through bi-monthly meet-up meetings, regular blog posts, regular Kids-lib posts and regular Memberclicks posts. She wanted Oregon youth librarians to know CSD is listening and could be a place to share, meet-up, and connect.

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

CSD champions children's literacy and provides continuing education for Oregon library staff serving children and families. Our goals are to promote the joy of reading; participate in conversations with families, community organizations, and stakeholders to provide subject matter expertise; and to provide opportunities for peer collaboration and resource sharing.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

- CSD sponsored five programs at the Oregon Library Association's annual conference and was able to recruit interest in providing 16 youth-centered programs overall. School and public librarians learned about diverse picture books in storytime at Storytime Book Roundup: Selecting Picture Books with Intention; they learned to identify the elements of decodable books and show how they support new readers in Deciphering Decodable Books; they learned strategies to conserve energy yet still serve patrons 0-17 at Storytime in the Morning, Teens in the Afternoon; and they learned how to select music and movement songs with intention at Refresh Your Songbook: Music in Storytime Workshop. CSD provided supplementary felt at Felt It! Storytime Prep where youth librarians were able to create felt stories to take back to their libraries and use during storytime. Roxanne Renteria generously donated die-cuts, felt, glue, and taught attendees tips and tricks on how to make engaging felt stories for preschoolers and their caregivers. We heard back from several attendees that they found the sessions for youth at OLA valuable in the work they do for youth, useful in their day-to-day work, and meaningful for the communities they serve.
- Supercharged Storytime Cohort Series was a success thanks to Emily West and Greta Bergquist - See attached for details.

- OYAN and CSD tabled at 2024 OASL annual conference where we were able to promote our committees, highlight activities being done by OYAN and CSD, polled OASL members for ideas on how OYAN and CSD can collaborate more with school librarians, as well as demonstrate our commitment to OASL.
- Provided Scholarships for librarians serving youth in their community to attend the OLA conference.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

- An ongoing question: How can the Children's Services Division contribute to learning for library workers in a meaningful way?
- We were operating with limited capacity as a board during the 2024-2025 year.
- How can we engage members in meaningful ways that inspire them to give back by getting involved on the CSD Board?
- Lampman was not awarded due to the Lampman Chair position being vacant. Efforts were made to hold a type of Lampman where anyone attending could praise and uplift youth librarians in their community doing good work.
- Without a Communications Chair, creating regular emails to members and regular blog posts was challenging. The CSD Chair made efforts to cover the work of sending messages to the blog, Kids-lib, and memberclicks, but publicity and marketing of CSD news was at the bare minimum.
- With three vacant positions for all of 2024-2025, many original goals were not achieved.
- Rather than creating an easy place of dedicated time to share out success and failures in the workplace as youth librarians, offering bi-monthly meet-and-greet meetings was taxing and created a hardship for board members.
- Many CSD members face time constraints within their institution, making it difficult to engage with CSD as a whole because of their limited resources.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

- Our annual book auction fundraiser was a success. We held it online through Auctria. Peyton Stafford, Kate Carter, and Jackie Partch donated books to help make it a success. The CSD Chair, with the help of Past Chair, spent many hours creating bundles of books, placing them online with photos of each book and ensuring that the books were provided to their new owners. This year's auction raised over \$1200.00
- Oregon Library Presenters Directory continues to be a resource for librarians across the state to hire performers.
- CSD Booth at the OLA conference operating under limited capacity with the booth being unsupported most of the conference.

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.

- Held our workshops and board meetings virtually as a way to give access to library workers around the state of Oregon.

- In awarding the CSD scholarships, the highest preference was given to
 1. Applicants from diverse cultural/ethnic backgrounds and/or historically marginalized groups,
 2. Applicants employed at institutions or in positions serving under-represented groups, (Like, for example, our for hispanic serving institutions in Oregon).
- Streamlined the scholarship process to make it more accessible.
- Sponsored Refresh Your Songbook: Music in Storytime Workshop which educated attendees on songs that have racist backgrounds and presented songs that inspire anti-racism in storytime.
- Sponsored OLA presentation Storytime Book Roundup: Selecting Picture Books with Intention which highlighted fun and engaging picture books for storytime with representation.

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.

- Sponsored Supercharged Storytimes
- CSD sponsored books for Legislation Day and delivered them to the State Library.
- CSD paid for five scholarships to attend the 2025 OLA conference.

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.

- It was challenging to increase engagement without the help of a Communications Chair.

Other comments

- The CSD did not have a theme for 2024-2025, as in years past.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Association of School Libraries (OASL)

Name: Amy Page and Kate Dutro

Work or Primary Email: oaslpresident@oasl.olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

EXECUTIVE BOARD: President: Amy Page, president@oasl.olaweb.org; Secretary: Jenny Takeda secretary@oasl.olaweb.org; Treasurer: Kristina Cevallos, treasurer@oasl.olaweb.org; President-Elect: Kate Dutro, presidentelect@oasl.olaweb.org; Past President: Jennifer McKenzie, pastpresident@oasl.olaweb.org; Members-at-Large: Elaine Ferrell-Burns, Jean Gritter; List of Past Presidents; BOARD REPRESENTATIVES Region I Rep: Keely Nudo; Region II Rep: Roger Gage; Region III Rep: Jill Myers Region; IV Rep: Lori Lieberman; Region V Rep: Vacant; Region VI Rep: Delia Fields Region; VII Rep: Jessica Lorentz Smith; Higher Ed Rep: Pam Kessinger; Classified Library Staff Rep: Gigi Michaels

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Our mission is: To provide leadership to ensure that Oregon students and educators are effective users of ideas and information, and to pursue excellence in school library media programs. Our Purpose is: Empowering Oregon students by supporting school libraries.

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

This year brought both significant challenges and inspiring resilience within our membership. Jennifer McKenzie, OASL Past President, was RIFed from her position as District Librarian in Siuslaw School District, a stark reflection of the increasing elimination of school library positions across Oregon. Despite this setback, Jennifer successfully completed her Ph.D. and has since accepted a new role as Dean of Students in Mapleton School District, demonstrating the strength and leadership our members continue to bring to Oregon schools. Statewide reductions in school librarian positions have made membership retention increasingly difficult, and this remains one of our most pressing challenges. In response, our Advocacy Committee produced and distributed the 2025 State of the Libraries in Oregon Report (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uSa_W-UPD2xGfZwCTTBUREJMauiM0VKt/view), which was shared broadly across the state. This report has become an important tool for raising awareness, supporting local advocacy efforts, and helping to communicate the critical need for strong, well-staffed school libraries.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

This year saw important advocacy wins and encouraging momentum for school libraries across Oregon. A major statewide achievement was the passage of SB 1098, legislation that protects diverse, inclusive, and anti-racist literature in school libraries and classrooms. This bill strengthens librarians' ability to provide students with a wide range of perspectives and ensures that historically marginalized voices remain represented in Oregon's collections. Its passage reflects the effectiveness of coordinated advocacy efforts and the ongoing commitment to intellectual freedom and equitable access to information. At the district level, one of the most significant successes came from Eugene School District 4J, which announced the addition of a part-time certified elementary librarian in every elementary school. This marks a substantial reinvestment in school library programs and demonstrates district recognition of the essential role librarians play in literacy development, information skills, and student support. This decision serves as a hopeful model for other Oregon districts and is a meaningful step toward rebuilding a strong statewide library ecosystem.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Oregon's school library community continues to face significant systemic challenges that impact student access, staffing stability, and statewide program support. A primary concern is the lack of dedicated state support for school libraries. Without consistent statewide funding or mandated staffing requirements, library programs remain vulnerable to local budget fluctuations. This leads directly to the second major challenge: deep inequities in student access. Depending on the district, and often the specific school within a district, students may or may not have access to a certified school librarian, a fully functioning library program, or even open library hours. These disparities disproportionately affect students in rural and under-resourced communities. Additionally, statewide budget cuts continue to eliminate or reduce school librarian positions, weaken library program capacity, and restrict the ability to maintain updated, relevant collections. Many districts have slashed budgets to the point where even basic library services are difficult to sustain. Another serious concern is the funding instability for statewide programs such as OSLIS (Oregon School Library Information System) and OBOB (Oregon Battle of the Books). Reductions in federal support from IMLS have created uncertainty around the long-term viability of these essential statewide resources, which provide equitable access to research tools, reading engagement programs, and high-quality materials for all Oregon students. Suggested Solutions Advocate for dedicated state-level funding and stronger policy language that recognizes school libraries and certified librarians as essential components of a well-rounded education. Promote OASL's standards or guidelines that ensure every student, regardless of geography or district wealth, has access to a robust school library program. Strengthen statewide partnerships and coalitions to pursue legislative solutions that protect library staffing and budgets during district financial downturns. Expand opportunities for public awareness and advocacy training, empowering community members, educators, and families to speak up on behalf of school libraries.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

This year, 19 OASL members attended the national AASL Conference, strengthening professional learning and national connections. We are also excited that Portland has been selected to host the AASL Conference in 2027, offering a major opportunity to showcase Oregon's school library community. OASL is currently developing a refreshed advocacy plan aimed at increasing member engagement and expanding participation from librarians and supporters across the state. This work includes identifying clearer action steps, improving communication, and creating more accessible entry points for involvement. Additionally, OASL is placing a renewed focus on updating teaching and learning standards to incorporate AI literacy. Efforts are underway to ensure these updated standards are widely shared and integrated into professional development and instructional practice.

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.

A major focus of our work this year was supporting and celebrating the passage of Oregon SB 1098, landmark legislation that strengthens statewide commitments to equity, diversity, inclusion, and antiracism in school libraries. SB 1098 provides critical protections for diverse, culturally responsive, and anti-racist instructional and library materials. At a time when challenges to books, particularly those representing marginalized communities, are rising across the country, this legislation ensures that Oregon students retain access to literature that reflects a wide range of identities, histories, and lived experiences. The bill reinforces the role of school libraries as inclusive learning environments where all students can see themselves represented and can learn about the experiences of others. By safeguarding these materials, SB 1098 directly supports educators and librarians in their work to promote belonging, combat bias, and uphold students' rights to read. The passage of SB 1098 stands as a significant step forward in protecting intellectual freedom and in strengthening Oregon's commitment to equitable access to information for every student.

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.

This year, OASL worked to improve transparency, communication, and access to information for both members and the broader school library community. One key effort was the publication of four newsletters distributed throughout the year. These newsletters served as an essential communication tool, providing updates on OASL initiatives, highlighting statewide and national advocacy efforts, and sharing resources designed to support both licensed school librarians and library support staff. Each issue intentionally included practical tools, such as lesson resources, policy updates, professional development opportunities, and advocacy guidance, to ensure that members had clear insight into the work of the organization and how to get involved. By sharing these newsletters widely, OASL also aimed to make its work more visible to non-members and potential volunteers, helping to build a more connected and informed community. This consistent communication strengthens organizational transparency and supports a more accessible pathway for participation in OLA and OASL activities.

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.

OASL continued to strengthen engagement within OLA by encouraging members to actively contribute to statewide professional learning opportunities. This year, several OASL members submitted session proposals for the upcoming OLA/PNLA Joint Conference in April 2026, demonstrating a growing commitment to sharing expertise, elevating school library voices, and contributing to the overall quality of the conference program.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Young Adult Network (OYAN)

Name: Ruth Headley

Work or Primary Email: lisae@tigard-or.gov

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Co-chairs: Victoria Husted and Lisa Elliott; Past Chairs: Mark Richardson and Ian Duncanson; Incoming Chairs: Brianna Sowinski and Ruth Headley, Secretary: Lindsey Quigley-Johnson Publications Managers: Brianna Sowinski and Meagan Looney, Summer Reading Liaison: Rachel Timmons, Book and Graphic Rave Coordinators: Ruth Headley, Lily Hawley, and Chloe St. Claire, Mock Printz Planner: Kristy Kemper Hodge

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

OYAN exists to provide a network for communications and growth among people who provide library services to teens, to increase awareness of teen library services in the state of Oregon, and to promote cooperation between school and public libraries.

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

Our Mock Printz workshops are simply the best! This afternoon of passionate yet friendly debate on the merits of some of the most acclaimed YA literature of the year brings in library staff as well as actual teenagers eager to defend the honor of their favorite books. One young Mock Printz frequent flyer has attended every year since middle school, and continued that record to attend this year as a Salem Public Library staff member! One of our honor books, *Brownstone*, won the actual Printz Award, and our top pick, *Compound Fracture*, won an honor! It's always gratifying when the real committee agrees with our selections. A couple dozen of our friends and colleagues skipped the PLD dinner (or an evening of rest) at the conference this year in order to join our OYAN You're Excellent Award reception. It's no surprise that so many people wanted to celebrate this year's recipient, Sara Ryan. After 28 working in teen services in Multnomah County, Sara's colleagues were moved to credit their leadership and unrelenting advocacy for the exceptional library resources, outreach, and mentorship teens can access in the Portland area. The author Kyle Lukoff wrote, "On some fundamental level, everything I do is walking in Sara Ryan's footsteps, and I am so grateful to them for leaving them for me years before anyone knew where we might go together.", Our OYEA selection committee was proud to recognize Sara, and equally delighted that there were three more nominations for fabulous Oregon librarians. In a time of uncertainty, when equitable access to spaces and resources that meet teen developmental needs and reading interests are threatened, how cool is it that there are so many Oregonians in our field creatively, collaboratively, and kindly ensuring that teens have a voice in libraries?

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

In the last year, our annual Rave booklists attracted 160 nominations and votes throughout the collaborative selection process. The Book Rave was presented at the OLA conference with three hours of dynamic book talks to dozens of attendees. The Graphic Rave presentation at the OASL conference was another popular session. Our raffle fundraiser was bigger and better than ever this year, with librarians and partners throughout the state buying tickets to help grow our scholarship fund. This spring we awarded a scholarship to a college student who was working as an Americorps Digital Navigator, bringing technology education opportunities to WCCLS library patrons. Mari's scholarship allowed her to attend OLA where she learned more about library services and shared her expertise while leading a session on AI. Our publications managers continued to expand our presence on social media and engage

our audience with more posts on our blog and listserv. OYAN executive board members planned and presented five different conferences sessions and OYAN members were involved in several others, demonstrating how much we truly value learning from each other and sharing our knowledge with the Oregon library community. The Co-chairs this year set a goal to reach out to both CSD and OASL to learn how we can better collaborate and serve one another. This led to a hybrid OYAN/CSD meeting and happy hour and more involvement with the OASL conference, as well as adjusted OYAN meeting times to try to accommodate teacher-librarian schedules, and a collaborative conference session for folks who work with the full spectrum of youth from birth to teen. The Mock Printz Workshop was a highlight of the year, as usual. Finally, we braved the Personify gauntlet to make some overdue website updates, and we improved our efficiency by reorganizing our unit's Google Drive.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

It is challenging getting folks involved when we are being pulled in many directions. We know we are not the only unit that struggles to find people to fill the executive board and to participate in meetings and other activities. Most folks would love to participate, but they are not allotted paid time to travel and attend meetings, or do the work that becoming a board member or project leader would require. We have tried to mitigate this obstacle by creating more accessible opportunities for participation, like leading a smaller project rather than committing to an executive role, or attending meetings virtually. We would like to see more support from library management encouraging their staff to engage with OLA leadership and professional development opportunities. Statewide networking and collaboration is essential for maintaining cutting-edge teen services. In addition, many Oregon libraries are facing unstable funding, increasing challenges to materials, displays, and programming, and trying to help a growing population of young people who are dealing with uncertain social and psychological safety as well as housing insecurity. It's rough out there, and we are fired up, but we're also tired. Slow librarianship and self-care is a key focus in this climate, as is advocacy and creative problem solving.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

OYAN's collaborative selection process for the Book Rave, Graphic Rave, and Mock Printz lists very intentionally prioritize diverse representation. We plan and present conference sessions that highlight the needs of our most vulnerable populations. This year we worked with Lindsay Delaney on a lightning talk about creating safe and welcoming programming for youth with life-threatening allergies. We're also determined to break down barriers that prevent young people from having a voice in developing services to meet their own needs. We engage teens directly in our research and planning processes for professional development, and teens are an essential part of our Mock Printz workshop.

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.

This year we made some changes to our website, making it easier to navigate and bringing it up to date. We post all the resources we create, like our booklists, to the website, and we feature other resources, like Summer Reading Records, from across the state and program ideas, on our blog.

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.

Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to participate in OYAN. This year we continued to offer "pod" style meetings in the winter, where we encourage regional gatherings to join virtually and then meet together to discuss local issues. We surveyed OASL members to learn more about when they are

available to attend meetings and we adjusted our online meeting schedule accordingly. We also worked with CSD to plan a joint meeting, both actions that we hoped would bring more members to OYAN. We always invite teens and teachers to our Mock Printz workshop, extending our reach to include potential and future members. Folks far and wide are drawn to our raffle, which we advertise broadly. Social media engagement is up, with a more active Instagram account and frequent, substantive offerings on our blog and listserv. Our 18 blog posts this year included a Teen Internship Experiences funded by grants from the State Library of Oregon piece written by two Oregon teens, and a Summer Reading log share post featuring 9 teen reading logs from across Oregon.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Public Library Division (PLD) – no report submitted

Name:

Work or Primary Email: pld@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

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.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: REFORMA Oregon

Name: Rachel Diego Leon-Kalnins

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Rachel Diego Leon-Kalnins; Kristen Cure; Millie Wilson; Star Khan; Brandace Rojo

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The main purpose of the REFORMA Oregon Division is to promote the advancement, growth, improvement, and implementation of library and information services to the Latino and the Spanish speaking community in the State of Oregon. As a division, REFORMA Oregon will provide a space for sharing information, continuing education opportunities, resources, networking, and supporting librarians around the state to better the quality of services and programs for the Latino/Spanish speaking community

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

This year, our chapter strengthened statewide collaboration through culturally responsive programming and community-focused events. Highlights included hosting the Mock Pura Belpre at Happy Valley Public Library sponsored by State Library of Oregon's LSTA grant where attendees received new bilingual books and coordinating an author talk with Duncan Tonatiuh that brought library staff together in celebration of Latinx storytelling. We also offered a member seminar, Resilience in Practice: Emotional Intelligence & Cultural Values for Oregon Libraries, which provided space for reflection, skill-building, and shared learning.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

- Hosted a guest speaker at the OLA Conference 2025 session "Welcoming Communities: Immigration Resources and Legal Advocacy in Oregon Libraries."
- Held the Mock Pura Belpre event and provided bilingual books to participants.
- Organized an author talk with award-winning creator Duncan Tonatiuh at Happy Valley Library.
- Updated and rebranded the REFORMA Oregon website to improve accessibility and visual clarity
- Offered the Resilience in Practice workshop for members.
- Improved meeting attendance by shifting two quarterly meetings to Mondays.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Leadership availability for required board meetings continues to be difficult due to conflicting schedules and professional obligations, which has occasionally disrupted continuity and timely decision-making.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

The updated REFORMA Oregon website now offers easier access to announcements, events, and resources. Adjusting quarterly meeting days resulted in noticeably better attendance and engagement. Our participation in OLA Conference 2025 helped elevate conversations around immigration services and welcoming practices statewide.

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.

We advanced EDI and antiracism through programming centered on Latinx, Mesoamerican, bilingual, and immigrant communities. Events such as the Mock Pura Belpre[√]©, Duncan Tonatiuh, author talk,

and the Resilience in Practice workshop uplifted diverse voices while promoting inclusive service models. Our OLA Conference session on immigration resources provided libraries with tools to better support immigrant patrons.

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.

The redesign and rebranding of our website significantly improved transparency and accessibility by making updates, resources, and opportunities easier to find. Adjusting meeting schedules to accommodate more members also strengthened accessibility and participation within the unit. We continue to clarify pathways for involvement and provide open communication to both members and non-members.

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

Engagement increased through our strong presence at OLA Conference 2025, culturally relevant events, and ongoing professional development. Our workshops and author centered programming encouraged collaboration across units and drew participation from libraries statewide. Updated communication channels and improved meeting attendance further supported meaningful member engagement.

Other comments

REFORMA Oregon looks forward to building on this year's momentum and continuing to support multilingual, multicultural, and immigrant communities through advocacy, collaboration, and culturally grounded library services.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Support Staff Division (SSD)

Name: Rinny Lakin

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Chair, Rinny Lakin; Treasurer, Jordan Popoff; Secretary, Karen Brennan; Archivist, Deanna Kohn; Members at Large: Rima Reeves

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The purpose of the Support Staff Division shall be to provide a framework for information sharing, continuing education and moral support for all library support staff. Specifically, the aims are to provide a forum to encourage new ideas, discuss concerns and solve problems; promote awareness of library issues; inspire and promote professional growth through networking, conferences, workshops and mentoring; exchange ideas on processes, systems, and policies; provide a medium for the exploration of new ideas and technologies; foster cooperation among all Oregon libraries in all the various public and technical areas throughout the library; and to increase awareness in the library community of the evolving roles played by support staff.

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

We are moving the needle on support staff in Oregon earning a living wage, which is the issue we hear about the most.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

We are moving the needle on support staff in Oregon earning a living wage, which is the issue we hear about the most.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Tightening budgets; raising costs; politically motivated efforts to disrupt and defund libraries; burn out.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

-Jordan Popoff, SSD Treasurer, was voted in as the OLA Treasurer!

-Rinny attended the exciting grand opening of the Gladstone Library to show support.

-Rinny was nominated for a 5th Multnomah County award as part of the Central PICs work group, but even with 5 nominations in 2025, did not win an award.

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.

-Jordan continued to cultivate relationships with the Southern Oregon Library Federation-

We had board members bringing perspectives from public and academic libraries from populated areas in Oregon like the Portland metro area, the I-5 corridor, around Bend, multiple places on the Oregon Coast to help us understand what is happening and how we can support staff in Oregon libraries.

-Outreach to library staff and groups of staff when we heard they may need support Rinny's mission, working towards pay equity

-Chair Rinny Lakin served as a Lead for AFSCME Local 88's Market Adjustments/Compensation studies for support staff positions in Multnomah County, a two-year process that resulted in pay increases for Library Assistants and Access Services Assistants, and 4 Multnomah County award nominations; --Worked on what contract changes to recommend in bargaining, including how to raise pay for the lowest paid groups in the county (mostly at the library); --Presented in writing Market Adjustment data to the Clackamas County board of commissioners for the Oak Lodge/Gladstone Library Assistant position being 16% below market and wrote in support of the CCEA contract and receiving their COLA; --Rinny was preparing to strike with the CCEA to show solidarity, but the strike was averted; --Attended both the OLA Legislative Day and AFSCME's Lobby Day to talk with Oregon leaders about Library budgets and chronically low wages for support staff; --Raised awareness of the background for why libraries have poor funding, the importance of libraries in a democracy, the value it brings to the economy, and the persistently low wages for most library staff. I showed examples of 14 hour/week positions spread over 5 days a week, paying minimum wage while requiring a Master's degree. I shared that there are staff living with relatives, living in cars, relying on public aid, food boxes, clothes closets and that it is a trend we need help reversing. I talked about how libraries have been actively trying to bring in diversity more recently in hiring practices, but, at poverty level wages. When lay-offs happen, the most impacted are the newer staff who are disproportionately from minority and marginalized groups, creating a cycle of trauma that is not meeting the intentions; --Raised awareness of organized and politically motivated targeting to limit intellectual freedom, disrupt access to information and undermine library funding in the backdrop of increasingly being the front line in serving the growing population experiencing poverty, food and housing insecurity. Some of those folks being in need of mental health, drug addiction and/or legal supports that are not adequate in the community to meet the need; --Focused on active legislation that was coming up that touched the edges of these issues and why it was important to support them; ---Raised awareness of the reduced wages West Slope library staff were facing in their transition from Washington County to GHCLA, a non-profit; ---Explained how many library staff in Oregon felt there was no higher authority to appeal to when they could not get anywhere trying to advocate for themselves with their employers. That a condition of employment is that you are not allowed to go to the media, and unless there was a legal reason, there is no one to report them to. I suggested that there is cooperation between States and local municipalities that could be a way to influence advocating for staff to make a living wage in backroom conversations and that there could be a state level required minimum wage for the library sector; ---Raised that AI could be highly disruptive to library work, and there are many ethical issues that need to be worked out.

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.

- Moved meetings to the first Tuesdays, 2:45-4:00 to not conflict with the EDIA Committee
- Explored moving the SSD conference to September 2026 to reduce barriers to attendance
- Suspended the 2025 elections as a barrier to accessing board positions

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.

- SSD had a focus of engaging library staff, raising our profile, populating the board, updating the website, ensuring quality content for support staff at the OLA conference and getting the word out that SSD is where library staff can bring issues and we will work to support library staff. Cross pollination with other OLA units:
- Refer library staff to OLA units that might fit their interests best
 - Rinny was the Sponsorship chair for the OLA conference, attended all of the conference planning meetings, STRT meetings, and the OLA board meetings
 - Continue to promote the Overdue Weeding out oppression podcast from the EDIA Committee through Facebook and the SSD newsletter

- Gene attends EDIA Committee meetings and helps with the Overdue Podcast
- Jordan is involved in the Leadership Committee and is serving as a 2025 LIOLA mentor
- Karen served on a LIOLA panel: Developing/Transitioning to a Leadership Mindset- Offered scholarships from a generous, anonymous donor and from the last SSD conference raffle for two people to attend the OLA conference and some travel expenses; --Challenge, it was not enough to convince their employer to allow them to attend- Offered a \$1,000 scholarship from a generous, anonymous donor to attend LIOLA; --Challenge, we had excellent candidates, but only one scholarship. We are so grateful the Leadership committee was able to fund the other candidates!
- Increased email newsletter content and Facebook engagement; --Challenge, newsletter and website updates are inconsistent (bandwidth constraints); --Challenge, Facebook is no longer popular and we need to reach a larger audience while current board bandwidth includes being adverse to social media.
- Outreach at the OLA conference:
 - Rinny donated a range of free snacks and drinks at the SSD information table to restock through the entire conference, and shared the ample supply with other OLA unit tables.
 - Purchased, assembled and sold about 20 book mending kits, the components and other items for sale at below market prices using our bulk purchasing power to get costs down. This was just to cover the cost, not to raise funds. Well attended SSD sponsored (or otherwise supported) presentations:
 - Rinny Presented DIY: Scalable In Service Days - 23 attendees
 - Rinny Presented, Jordan supported Support Staff Division: The Megaphone for Library Staff - 25 attendees
 - Jordan served on a panel - Gaining Leadership Skills Through LIOLA
 - 22 attendees-SSD sponsored Book Mending for Modern Book Problems, presented by Sophia Bogle, and organized the book mending kits to align with this session - 34 attendees

Other comments

With our small group, we were able to do a lot. It will be a lot easier when more people are on board.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Awards Committee

Name: Arlene Weible

Work or Primary Email: olaawards@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members:

Arlene Weible, Chair; Sonja Somerville, Salem Public Library; Jennifer McKenzie, OASL President; Bryan Miyagishima, Lincoln County Library District; Sara Trott, Oregon State University Libraries & Press

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The Awards Committee recognizes and honors outstanding individuals for their service to the Oregon library community.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Successful presentation of OLA Awards at 2025 conference.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

We would like to get more award nominations and will try a new strategy to send reminders to conference attendees that indicated they had ideas for nominations. We also hope to create stronger rubrics to use when choosing awardees.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

Oregon Library Association presents the 2025 Awards at Annual Conference in Eugene

On April 25, 2025, the Oregon Library Association (OLA) presented the following awards to individuals in recognition of their work in support of libraries in Oregon. OLA congratulates award recipients and is pleased to honor them for their commitment, support, and promotion of Oregon libraries. For more information about OLA Awards, see the Awards Committee website: <https://www.olaweb.org/awards-committee>

Librarian of the Year: Kate Lasky. Kate was recognized for outstanding leadership, ingenuity, grace, and fierce advocacy and dedication to library services in Josephine county and to OLA. She currently serves as the Library Director of the Josephine Community Library District and is co-chair of the OLA Legislative Committee.

Library Employee of the Year: Bahram Refaei. Bahram was recognized for his care for students, leadership and advocacy for library services, and outstanding service to Linfield University in McMinnville. He is currently the Director of Access Services and has served in many roles during his 35+ year career at the Nicholson Library.

OLA Library Supporter of the Year Award: Mary Beechler. Mary was recognized for her long standing advocacy and service to libraries in Wasco county. She spent three decades as a school librarian for the South Wasco County School District, has served four terms on the Wasco County Library District Board, and is a dedicated volunteer at the Southern Wasco County Library in Maupin.

OLA EDI Antiracism Recognition Award: **Alicia Pérez Ververa**. Alicia was recognized for her work to create welcoming library space for all communities and her commitment to creating a library profession that is diverse, supportive and inclusive of all. She is the Spanish Bilingual Adult Services Librarian at the Happy Valley Library.

OLA Past President Recognition: **Ericka Brunson-Rochette**. Ericka was recognized for her outstanding service and leadership as OLA Vice-President, President, and Past President from 2024-2025. She is the Community Engagement Consultant for the State Library of Oregon.

OLA President's Award: **Jean Gritter**. Jean was recognized by the OLA President Ayn Reyes Frazee for her significant work and lasting impact on school library advocacy. She is the Teacher-Librarian at West Albany High School and serves as the District Librarian for Greater Albany Public Schools.

OLA President's Accomplice Award: **Kristen Curé**. Kristen was recognized by OLA President Ayn Reyes Frazee for being a true accomplice to her BIPOC colleagues through her work, words, and actions. She is the Latino Liaison and Spanish Services Librarian at the Springfield Public Library & History Museum.

OLA Intellectual Freedom Champion of the Year Award: **Eva Pieper**. Eva was recognized for outstanding efforts in promoting the principles of intellectual freedom in Oregon by the OLA Intellectual Freedom Committee. She is the District Librarian for the Grants Pass School District.

The [Oregon Library Association](#) provides advocacy, education, leadership and collaboration to continually strengthen Oregon's libraries and the communities they serve. Approximately 1,000 librarians, library employees, and library supporters are part of the association.

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.
Working to create more robust criteria for evaluating award nominations with an eye toward EDIA values.

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.
Working to improve solicitation of award nominees.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Communications Committee – under reorganization during 24-25 no report

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The OLA Communications Committee is comprised of 18 library professionals working towards creating a civil society in Oregon and beyond through library service. We publish the OLA Quarterly professional journal, the OLA Hotline blog/newsletter, and the OLA Social Media channels. We assist the OLA Board and conference committee when they need help with promotional information.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Conference Committee

Name: Taylor Worley

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Taylor Worley, Ayn Frazee, Patrick Bodily, Aurora Ropp, Kris Wiley, Martha Sutherland, Michael Grutchfield, Brittany Young, Lindsey Quigley-Johnson, Abigail Crail, Michele Tierney, Tamara Ottum, Anne Campbell, Miriam Sisson, Rinny Lakin, Taylor Worley, Darci Hanning, Brian Peters, Shirley Roberts.

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

To plan, coordinate, promote and execute the OLA Annual Conference a fiscally responsible conference around the theme of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. The conference committee strives to provide an annual conference that offers relevant programs, speakers, and networking opportunities for the diverse library staff from around the state. The overall goal is that every attendee will find substantive programs and current information to benefit and enhance their library work and professional development, as well as provide networking opportunities to meet and connect with library staff from around the state.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

[Click here to see 2025 OLA Conference Report](#)

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: EDI Antiracism Committee

Name: Roxanne M. Renteria and LaRee Dominguez

Work or Primary Email: edicommitte@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Ericka Brunson-Rochette, Kristen Cure, Gene Iparraguirre, Bryan Miyagishima, Constance Palaia-Marr, Joan Vigil, and Brittany Young.

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

An Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Task Force was created at the August 2019 OLA Board meeting with the charge of developing an EDI Plan for the Association. The purpose of the EDI Plan is to affirm OLA's commitment to EDI and set direction for OLA by identifying EDI priorities and strategies to achieve them. In April 2021 this Task Force was made an OLA Standing Committee at the OLA Annual Business Meeting, held during the OLA 2021 Virtual Conference.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

1) Season 3-4 of OVERDUE: Weeding Out Oppression in Libraries. 2) 2025 Oregon Library Association Conference (Eugene) Affinity Groups. 3) Awarded 7 EDIA related professional development scholarships (Scholarships are made possible in whole by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the State Library of Oregon).

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Challenges to address: inclusion and retention of diverse staff (particularly BIPOC), BIPOC mentorship, BIPOC professional development, trainings, affinity groups, leadership buy-in and support, disseminating information about opportunities, recruitment of committee members...

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

1) Currently gearing up to record and produce a number episodes for release over the next 6+ months. 2) Committee member Ericka Brunson-Rochette will coordinate an action team to produce The Equity, Diversity Inclusion & Antiracism Toolkit 2.0. 3) The committee is in the process of discussing recruitment and updating the application form. 4) We've begun discussing our role at the 2026 OLA Conference (Portland), including the buddy system and affinity groups.

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.
Everything our committee does is through an EDIA focused lens.

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.

The OLA EDIA Committee chairs worked with Darci Hanning (SLO) and committee members Ericka Brunson-Rochette (SLO) to include equity language in the professional scholarship application to remove barriers, including putting in caveats ("Applicants need not be OLA members to apply" or

"scholarships are issued on a reimbursement basis; if this presents a hardship, let us know in your application.").

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.

1) The OLD EDIA Committee members tabled at the 2025 OLA Conference in Eugene, answering questions and providing an activity and related drawing. 2) Members of the committee helped facilitate affinity groups. 3) The Committee provided additional funds to cover the purchase of felts, supplementing funds provided by CSD--ensuring those who attended the Felt It! Storytime Prep workshop had adequate access to materials. 4) Co-Chair Roxanne M. Renteria pushed for the creation of an OLA Online Storefront.

Other comments

This committee is thankful for the continued support of OLA, the State Library of Oregon, and Oregon library staff and professionals who are prioritizing EDI and Antiracism efforts in their libraries, communities and personal lives.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Finance / Investment Committee

Name: Stuart Levy

Work or Primary Email: olatreasurer@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Stuart Levy, OLA Treasurer; Jordan Popoff, Curry Public Library; Kristina Cevallos, OASL Treasurer; Lee Van Duzer, Ninth Circuit Library; Leigh Morlock, Jefferson High School (Portland); Lori Wamsley, Immediate Past OLA Treasurer; Lydia Harlan, University of Oregon Knight Library; Shirley Roberts, OLA Association Manager [non-voting member]

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Reviews all fiscal policies and procedures, responding to direction from the Executive Board. The Committee serves as the consulting body for the Treasurer, the Executive Board, and the Association Manager in such areas as Association investments, the budget, and other financial concerns of the Association.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

At our annual fall committee meeting, we heard the advice from our two different investment advisors and, based on that, we made a number of recommendations to the OLA board to improve our return on investments. First, we asked for the transfer of any balance above \$155,000 from the Hull Endowment to be moved to the Hull Earnings at the time of transfer. Second, per our investment policy, we asked to take a 3% distribution of our OLA Donovan Wealth investments to help pay for our annual expenses. Third, we asked for authorization for our association manager to set up a high yield savings account with Flourish Cash and transfer the bulk of our checking balance to that account, leaving a balance that covers at least 2 months of our expenses (per our financial policy). The board approved all of those recommendations.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

We met with our financial advisors (Donivan & Connected Wealth) to evaluate investment performance (e.g. year-over-year) and strategies (e.g. allocation percentages) to ensure OLA's ongoing financial stability for its members. Also, I recruited new finance/investment committee members from our general membership to replace outgoing ones

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Intellectual Freedom Committee

Name: Alyssa Donoho

Work or Primary Email: ifc.chair@olaweb.org

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Emily O'Neal, Perry Stokes, Alyssa Donoho, Marie Felgentrager, Zach Welhouse, Mackenzie Isaak, Shelby Paulson, Jen Maurer (ex-officio, State Library rep), Tamara Ottum (ex-officio, Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse rep). Four members served this year but exited the committee in April or May 2025: Steve Silver, Kim Olson-Charles, Conor Greaney, and Darin Stewart (ex-officio, PDSAL rep). Two new members were added as of early October 2025: Heather Hornor and Dante Buccieri. This report includes information from September 1, 2024- October 15, 2025

Overall Goals

- * To aid development of OLA's position on intellectual freedom, interpret it to the public, and act in support of this position.
- * To inform membership of pending legislation, present recommendations, and tender OLA's support of such legislation.
- * To promote development by libraries of policies related to intellectual freedom, including selection, privacy and electronic transmission.
- * To determine facts in cases of public controversy over censorship, develop a statement of OLA's position, and present OLA's position to all interested parties.
- * To develop liaison with other statewide organizations interested in intellectual freedom.
- * To respond to the OLA President's charge

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

Emily O'Neal: What comes to mind first is the overwhelming sense of gratitude, "the kind that you can feel radiating from someone when you finally meet face-to-face after standing beside them through a long, difficult censorship battle. I'll never forget being at the October 2025 OASL conference, watching the awards ceremony. One of the honorees was someone IFC had supported through one of the toughest challenges of their career. As the lunch wrapped up, they made a beeline across the room, eyes locked on me, and said, "I saw you there, and I had to come over and say thank you. Can I give you a hug?" that moment was powerful. They shared how much it meant to receive the OASL award, how the fight wasn't over, but how they couldn't have made it through without the support of the IFC. They said they didn't know how they would've done it alone, that having someone in their corner made all the difference. This work is hard. It's emotionally exhausting, time-consuming, and often invisible. But moments like that is when someone looks you in the eye and says, "thank you" with their whole heart remind me why we keep going. People need us. And we need to keep showing up."

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Provided training to:

- Emily O'Neal: Training provided to Siuslaw SD administration; Grants Pass SD; Three Rivers SD; Neighbors4Redmond community training; League of Women Voters, Deschutes County; Senior Studies Institute with Portland Community College; Knowledge in Peril community presentation in Deschutes County; hosted an IF training at a local "social justice discussion group" in Bend; Rotary Club of Mt. Bachelor
- Alyssa: Training, listening session Three Rivers SD teachers, Siuslaw School Board training, Strong

IFC presence at conferences, Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) conference, February 2025

- Emily O'Neal presented Intellectual Freedom Policies for Special Districts. OLA conference, April 2025, Lots of connections and learning.
- Emily O'Neal presented two sessions on intellectual freedom topics: "Navigating Collection Development and Materials Reconsideration Policies: Best Practices and Intellectual Freedom, Beyond the Books."
- Additionally, IFC staffed a table in the vendor area and connected with many library staff. OASL conference, October 2025, Strengthening connections with school library staff and the Oregon Association of School Libraries.
- IFC members presented on intellectual freedom topics, this time in the context of school libraries.
- Emily O'Neal presented a session titled "Intellectual Freedom for Schools - Laws You Should Know;"
- Heather Hornor presented Law for Librarians: The Laws that Govern Borrower Privacy, the Internet, and Social Media,
- Jen Maurer presented Exploring Core Library Tenets Through the Lens of the ALA Code of Ethics which was aimed at classified school library staff with no formal library education. Provided intellectual freedom resources and advocacy in a wide range of contexts (e.g. public libraries, school libraries, etc.) in support of libraries and library staff across Oregon
- Started a new effort to send Oregon library staff involved in especially contentious book challenges a small gift to say we are thinking about them
- Supported the Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse by sharing information about book challenges and other intellectual freedom situations
- Promoted Banned Books Week and entered those who shared their library's promotions for a chance to win a prize
- Finished working with the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) to update their instructional materials policy and administrative regulations, and promoted the new templates via a Tuesday Topic and listserv posts
- Published two draft policies for public libraries' Collection Development Policies; Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials' on the IFC Toolkit, and promoted the new templates via a listserv post
- SB1098, also known as the Freedom to Read bill, passed with support from the OLA Legislative Committee and IFC, among others
- IFC member, Alyssa Donoho, accepted into an upcoming Law for Librarians cohort, which will bring the number of members with L4L training to three
- Maintained an active social media presence on Facebook

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Issued a statement commending the McMinnville School Board for voting to retain seven challenged library books and a statement about the Grants Pass School District's new policy allowing for public comment on potential library purchases

- Parents Defending Schools and Libraries (PDSAL) is shutting down; it's a nonprofit aimed at supporting intellectual freedom in Oregon and whose creator won an OLA award a few years ago; Darin, the creator, could not keep up with the responsibilities after his work and personal situations changed and could not find someone to take over; PDSAL.org will forward to the IFC website for about a year; PDSAL donated their funds, about \$640, to IFC to use for mini-grants
- Member recruitment has been difficult, currently running at half member capacity, even with two new committee members. Burnout/lack of time for committee members continues to be an issue, exacerbated by the lack of members.
- Committee activity continues to increase but our ability to respond has not

- People reaching out for support sometimes disappear, we do not know the outcomes of their challenge situations. Fear dictates reaction and quiet censorship, absence of diverse materials being purchased
- Books have been removed despite the committee's best efforts which can be disheartening
- SB1098 passed but without the requirement for the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to hire a school library support specialist; instead the Legislative Fiscal Office (?) decided that existing staff at ODE could take on the school library and intellectual freedom technical assistance responsibilities

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

Supporting ongoing intellectual freedom efforts, especially since so many book challenges are centered around books by or about LGBTQ+ and BIPOC topics. Support of SB1098 Statewide and nationwide conference attendance

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.

- Strong presence at conferences as a form of outreach.
- Positive and active social media presence.
- Tuesday Topics, a monthly post on topics relevant to intellectual freedom, posted to the IFC webpage, and amplified on multiple listservs
- Worked to improve processes and communication internally and with those outside of the IFC
- Finished / Published the updated OSBA policies
- Published on the IFC Toolkit draft policies for public libraries: Collection Development Policies; Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

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.

- Statewide conference attendance IFC members presented at OLA, OASL conferences
- Continue to publish Tuesday Topics covering a variety of intellectual freedom topics
 - Positive and active social media presence

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Leadership Committee

Name: Liisa Sjoblom

Work or Primary Email: liisas@dpls.lib.or.us

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Michelle Cottrell (resigned 12/25); Holly Freewyn, Amy Honisett (resigned 7/25), Jessica Otto, Jordan Popoff, Elizabeth Sonstegaard, Valerie Stephenson, Brystan Strong, Lori Wamsley

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The Leadership Committee oversees leadership development opportunities for the OLA membership, including creating and managing leadership trainings and programs, coordinating leadership mentors, and administering Leadership Development Scholarships. Purpose: To provide opportunities for the development of leadership abilities of all OLA members.

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

LIOLA 2025 concluded in August with 19 graduates led by 8 mentors during in-person (held at Mt. Hood Resort) and virtual sessions. Lori Wamsley and Liisa Sjoblom completely revamped the curriculum and presented the materials. With some minor tweaks it is hoped that this will be the curriculum moving forward using Leadership Committee and OLA members as presenters. This is a significant cost savings to OLA given that presenters Lori and Liisa created and presented the content on a volunteer basis. We were also able to reduce the cost to \$750 for attendees.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Awarded scholarships: Kristin Williams, Director, Library and Learning Hub at Blue Mountain Community College, to attend the 2025 Association of College and Research Libraries conference in Minneapolis; Licia Perez Ververa, Spanish Bilingual Adult Services Librarian at the Happy Valley, to attend REFORMA National; Vanessa Clausing, Children's, Teen, and Programming and Community Engagement Librarian at the Newport Public Library, to attend LIOLA 2025; Katie Kruse, Library Assistant at the Scappoose Public Library, to attend the OLA Conference in Eugene; Bobbye Hernandez, Senior Librarian, Latino Services Librarian, and Outreach Coordinator at the Newberg Public Library, to attend REFORMA National. She is co-presenting a session titled Interlibrary Collaborating to Create Culturally Relevant Programs. Mentor Match was revitalized by Brystan Strong with a poster session at the OLA conference. As a result, there was a modest increase in requests for mentors.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Committee membership and consistent meeting attendance continued to be an issue. Finding mentors for the Mentor Match program.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

Planning for LIOLA 2025 started with the discussion of curriculum and format. Since we own the content from 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2023, we will take the best of each and create a curriculum unique and specific to the Oregon library community. Facilitators and panelists will be from the library community as well. With those savings we are planning to lower the costs for attendees.

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.

Scholarships awarded to diverse applicants.

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.

Scholarship winners announced in the OLA Hotline and on libs-or.

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.

Several LIOLA participants are involved with OLA in leadership roles.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Legislative Committee –

Name: Jeremy Skinner

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Jeremy Skinner, co-chair; Kate Lasky, co-chair; Star Kahn; Laura Kimberly; Kari May; Kathy Street; Robin Doughty; Brittany Young; Kate Weber

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Legislative Committee is responsible for tracking federal, state, and local legislative and policymaking issues that may affect libraries.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

OLA entered the session with three main priorities: stable funding for the State Library, passage of the “Freedom to Read” bill, and the establishment of staffing support at ODE for school librarians. Prior to the start of session, SB 1098 became the vehicle for the latter two priorities. Stakeholders including ACLU, Basic Rights Oregon, and Oregon Education Association came together alongside OLA to craft a policy that accounted for lessons learned from the previous attempt at passage. First, elements were added to the legislation that ensured it was not simply a codification of anti-discrimination law. This included the disallowance of any actors outside of local parents/guardians and school employees from challenging a book as well as provisions that required districts to declare the reason for any banned literacy materials. Second, it included the addition of required staffing support at the Oregon Department of Education for library staff in districts across the state.

This new and improved version of the concept had its first public hearing in early March, at which OLA President Ayn Frazee and OLA Legislative Committee Member Kate Weber served on the first two panels testifying in support of the concept. The hearing drew less opposition than expected and moved off the Senate Floor with the same surprising lack of fanfare. The bill had the support of all Democrats as well as Senator Anderson (R-Lincoln City). The bill’s journey through the House, on the other hand, was more complicated. This began before the bill was even up for a vote in the House with Representative Dwyane Yunker (R-Grants Pass) quoting lewd passages from the book *The Haters* on the House Floor during a Remonstrance in an effort to illustrate the inappropriate content on school library shelves. Additionally, the absences of two members of the House (mentioned above) had a disproportionate impact on the House Education Committee through which SB 1098 needed to move. This resulted in advocates having to wait for a new chair and a new member to be appointed to the committee before the bill would have the votes necessary to pass. Finally, in early June, the bill had its last stop: the House Floor. After a lengthy debate in which Republicans largely focused on age-appropriateness, the bill passed again with the support of all Democrats and one Republican: Representative Javadi (R-Tillamook). The bill was ultimately signed by Governor Kotek on June 17th.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

The passage of SB1098 achieved two of OLA’s top priorities, but full funding for the State Library remains in question. While the state provided current service level funding to the State Library budget,

the lack of assurance about the stability of federal resources looms. The most recent communication is believed to stabilize Oregon's LSTA funding through the first half of 2026, however funds beyond that are far from certain. This leaves OLA in the position of taking a leadership role in planning a short session strategy to secure necessary backfill funding should these federal resources dwindle.

Oregon's legislature will likely take the month of July to breathe, rest, and recover from an eventful and painful session, late summer and early fall will be consumed with watching and eagerly awaiting clarity about the impact of federal cuts. What will almost certainly follow is a flurry of strategic planning to help mitigate the impact to Oregon's budget. We'll be focusing on LSTA funding and will be seeking state backfill for any foreseeable cuts.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

Support of SB1098, which made discrimination as illegal in adding or removing materials from school libraries.

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.

We did not make progress on this goal.

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.

Library Legislative Day at the State Capitol

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Membership Committee – Inactive

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Endeavors to secure new members for the Association by contacting librarians and others interested in library service in Oregon. Special effort should be made to contact those new to the state and the profession to express OLA's interest in them and to explain what the Association can offer them. Membership Committee also actively communicates with non-renewing members for possible renewal, response to exit survey, etc.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Authors Committee

Name: John Replinger

Work or Primary Email: jreplin@willamette.edu

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

None

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The goal of the Oregon Authors Committee is to provide access to information and resources about authors living in Oregon by collecting and preserving bibliographic data on Oregon authors. Since 2008, the Oregon Authors Committee has added current Oregon authors and their publications to the Oregon Authors Website. Entries in the website are determined by criteria established by the Oregon Authors Committee, and include full bibliographic data, awards, audience, genre, subject headings and other information as appropriate. The Oregon Authors Committee maintains a partnership with the Book Publishing Department at Portland State University who host our website.

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

The Oregon Authors Project experienced another wonderful season of growth this past year, adding over one thousand “Newly identified” authors to our database. To date, we have included 4,567 Oregon authors. This summer, as we were wrapping up the last of the missing metadata from the 2020 Wordpress incident (see the previous years’ OLA Annual Reports about corrupted files), the Eugene Public Library contacted the Chair of our committee about folders that contained annual lists of publications by Oregon authors. After a little investigation, it was determined that many of these authors had not been included in the database yet. Many of the books were from the 1990s and 2000s. So, with the support of the Eugene Public Library, some of their library staff and volunteers were trained to add content to the Airtable database. They have added hundreds of new authors, and this lucky find has been an incredible boon for the Oregon Authors Project!

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

- Again, over one thousand “newly identified” Oregon authors were added to our database this past year, taking our total to a whopping 4,567 authors.
- We wrapped up the last of the missing metadata from the 2020 Wordpress incident. Roughly 800 authors were missing metadata at this time last year. We anticipated that it would take until spring 2026 to finish, but actually finished this past summer, way ahead of schedule.
- The Eugene Public Library graciously volunteered to help with adding new authors, so we have had more help which can be difficult to get.
- The Oregon Authors project website has been utilized more than expected within the last 321 days (January 1st, 2025, through November 17th, 2025): 2,200+ unique visits and 3,300+ page views.
- The Airtable database, which is the backbone of the Oregon Authors Project, is routinely backed up quarterly as a CVS spreadsheet. - We have reached out to publishers and asked for their help to identify Oregon Authors. Some publishers have been receptive and helpful.
- OLA Quarterly featured an article in the January 2025 issue entitled, “Oregon Authors Project as a Collection Development Resource”
- A semi success is that we were finally able to track down ONE author from Gilliam County. Gilliam was the only Oregon county that did not have an author, and it was particularly vexing that it remained unrepresented. We reached out to the Condon Library, the Condon newspaper, and a few individuals to finally make a connection.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

- One of our goals is to send out biannual emails on Libs-Or to highlight new publications by Oregon authors. We would really like to make the info available to librarians in a more timely manner, sent to them versus having to remember to visit the website.
- We did not have any representation at the OLA Conference in Eugene, so we lost a valuable marketing opportunity this year. However, we had a considerable amount of website use. We're hoping to get someone to sit at a table next year or to have a poster at the poster presentations. - It would be wonderful to have a co-chair again, especially from a public library. It was nice to share responsibilities.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

Deidra Menser stepped down as Co-chair of the Oregon Authors Project on February 19, 2025. John Replinger has been serving as the Chair. Also, the full \$800 budget was not fully utilized for the Oregon Authors project, the main costs this year were the annual subscriptions to Airtable and Weebly for web hosting. Both are relatively low in cost (\$12 and \$10/month respectively) due in January. It is probable that we will use more of the budget this coming year if we can get someone to represent us at the OLA conference.

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.
We continue to highlight authors who identify as BIPOC and/or LGBTQIA+.

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.

The Oregon Authors Project provides many ways for OLA members to volunteer. Although most volunteers enjoy doing the simple data entry, we hope to curate at least 1-2 more individuals for leadership or committee roles.

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.

Same as Focus Area #2.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Reader's Choice Award (ORCA)

Name: Ellen Pederson

Work or Primary Email: epederson@pps.net

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Deb Henderson, Jenny Brownfield, Katrina Bailey, Sara O'Donnell, Thomas Moll, Jill Myers, Kate Coreson, Melissa Garrett, Corrie Medinger, Jackie Spencer, Meagan Looney, Jennifer Wilson, Lindsay Quigley-Johnson, Ellen Pederson, Veronica Adversalo

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Read books published two years prior to the announcement of the annual ORCA lists and the committee members of each division (upper elementary, middle school, high school) decide on the final 8 titles for each list. The lists are normally announced at the OLA Annual Conference along with the winners from the previous year.

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

After covid and the unexpected resignation of an earlier ORCA chair, the committee had been struggling to operate at full capacity. When I joined two years ago, we had about half as many committee members as we needed. In this past cycle, we were at our full 15-member capacity. We are on track to remain at capacity with new members joining the team this fall. Having a full committee reduces the reading load on each committee member, and gives us greater capacity to take on new projects (finding titles in translation, making posters etc.)

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

The aforementioned increase in committee membership/participation is probably the biggest celebration right now. For the 2025 award, we were able to get "acceptance speech" videos from all authors. (If you haven't seen them yet, take a peek on the ORCA Award website!) During our public nominations window this past cycle, we got a LOT of nominations from library staff and students, a few of which made it into the final nominees. It feels like our visibility is increasing overall, and we're working to continue that with some additional resources.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Participation has remained somewhat stagnant -- only a few dozen libraries have sent in votes for each of the past two years, and almost all of these have been school libraries. We have started reminding people about ORCA through various channels throughout the year: calls for votes/nominations/etc. go out in the OLA Hotline, updates are shared on our Instagram, and we will be hosting a session on ORCA in the school library at OASL Oct. 4. (We also have annual presentations with OBOB and BCCCA at the OLA and OASL conferences.) We are trying to lower barriers to participation by providing ready-to-use slide decks and print materials on our website.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

We have started looking into which ORCA titles are available in translation in an effort to be more

inclusive of multilingual readers. The result was... Not a lot. The list is already set for this year, but we will be considering availability of texts in multiple languages (primarily Spanish) when deciding on future lists. Committee members continued to keep diversity of authors/characters in mind in nominations and selections, resulting in a list with a wide range of races, ethnicities, abilities, religions, and family structures.

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.

ORCA is mostly focused on our own OLA opportunities/resources... So we worked to increase visibility/access of the award (see "challenges" above.) Social media, OLA newsletters, and conference sessions have hopefully spread the word to some folks who previously didn't know much about ORCA, or who didn't know the different ways they and their patrons could participate.

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.

Being an OLA member is certainly not the only way to participate in ORCA, but it is the easiest way to get the most ORCA information and support. People who attended OLA and OASL conference got additional information beyond what's on our website, plus professionally printed materials to support their library's participation.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: DIGOR Round Table - Inactive

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The objectives of DIGOR are to provide opportunities for communication, education and cooperation among the government information library community, and to improve access to government information by all.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: International Relations Round Table

Name: Nancy Hoover

Work or Primary Email: ingrid.toppjohnson@gmail.com

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Ingrid Topp-Johnson; Veronica Vichit-Vadakan; Jennifer Cox; Michael Boock; Hui Zhang; Linda Campillo; Ellie Avis; Bruce Flath (Ret); April Younglove; Brandon Barnett; Jian Wang; Amy Lee (Ret) Le Yang (UO); Angela Lee (Ret); Wendy Cornelisen; Joel Henderson (SLO); Nancy Hoover (Ret)

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

IRRT's objective is to provide a framework for information sharing among librarians, library staff and library supporters interested in international librarianship activities at all types of libraries. The IRRT aims to increase communication among OLA members about international visits, exchanges and programs in which OLA members are involved.

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

After a pause on the Horner Exchange due to COVID, the 2024 exchange with librarians from the Fujian Province, China, the sister province to the State of Oregon, was a great success! This year the Horner Exchange was 2 weeks long; a very full 2 weeks of library visits, meeting and tours of various cultural heritage institutions. The group included Jennifer Cox of Chemeketa Community College, Haley Lagasse of North Bend Library, and Ingrid Topp-Johnson of Multnomah County Library. Wendy Cornelisen, the State Librarian of Oregon, was able to join the group for one week and participate in more library visits, tours and cultural events.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Ye Jianqin, the counterpart in Fujian Province to our State Librarian, and our State Librarian signed the Memorandum of Understanding that extends our agreement for professional exchanges for an addition 5 years, through 2031 (see below): Memorandum of Understanding between The State Library of Oregon and the Fujian Provincial Library concerning Oregon-Fujian Library Staff Exchange Project. WHEREAS, the State Library of Oregon and the Fujian Provincial Library seek to strengthen their ties as sister libraries, and to afford the exchange of professional expertise in library and information science, we plan to start a new round of the Oregon-Fujian Library Staff Exchange Project (formerly known as the Horner Library Staff Exchange Project) from 2026 to 2031

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

Our challenges are financial. The IRRT currently has: \$1,583.41; the IRRT Horner Exchange Fund has: \$3,104.27. When librarians visit from China, although many things are donated by individuals or institutions (gifts, drivers/driving, lunches), it is costly to house them in hotels, feed them, and insure them. We need to think about fund raising and bringing in other entities interested in cultural exchanges with China.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

We are changing the name of the Horner Library Staff Exchange to the Oregon-Fujian Library Staff Exchange Project.

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.

In selecting delegates to go to Fujian, China, we looked for diversity among the types of libraries represented to share ideas across similar institutions in Fujian. We had representation from urban public, academic and rural public libraries.

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.

In the previous year, we did make opportunities known repeatedly through the libs-Or list serve and the OLA Hotline.

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.

We are bringing new people into the IRRT, those who are interested in cultural and international exchanges. As many of our members begin to retire, it is imperative to bring in new members to keep the Exchange going. Applicants for the Horner Exchange must be OLA members and belong to the IRRT in order to be considered, this is a way to get people involved.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Legal Reference Round Table

Name: Lee Van Duzer

Work or Primary Email: ola.lrrt@gmail.com

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Lee Van Duzer, Chair; Jennifer Pedersen - Vice Chair/Incoming Chair

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

To improve the quality of legal reference service in all types of Oregon public libraries, by opening up lines of communication and increasing professional interaction between Oregon public law library and non-law public library reference staff.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

We had a table at the 2025 OLA conference in Eugene at which we engaged people who were interested in legal reference.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

LRRT membership engagement continues to be a problem.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

Jennifer Pedersen is chair of the LRRT for the 2025-26 year.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Library Assessment Round Table – no chair, no activity 2024-25

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

Provides a practical framework for information sharing, continuing education opportunities, professional interactions, and a support system to those library workers engaged in library assessment in all types of Oregon libraries. This organization shall aim to share ideas, plan, and improve library assessment activities in and among libraries and foster fellowship, cooperation, and professionalism among its members

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Library Instruction Round Table – no chair – inactive for 2024-25

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The Library Instruction Round Table is formed to promote library instruction as a means to empower library users to become life-long learners; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and materials; to foster continuing educational opportunities; and to promote cooperation and fellowship among OLA members engaged in library instruction.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - include updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: New Member Round Table – no chair, inactive for 2024-25

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The New Member Round Table will engage and encourage information professionals within OLA who wish to discover more about the organization. The New Member Round Table will enrich the existing OLA ranks, while inspiring emerging information professionals. Our objectives are to 1) help association members become more actively involved and integrated within OLA and 2) advance the overall professional development of 21st century librarians, library staff, and information professionals.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Outreach Round Table - no chair, inactive for 2024-25

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The ORT provides a framework for:

- Information sharing Continuing education
- Moral support for library workers currently providing outreach services
- Opportunities for networking
- Encouragement to libraries wishing to expand or develop library outreach services
- Areas of interest include but are not limited to:

Library service to people of all ages who can no longer use a library facility due to either a physical or mental impairment

People who live in rural or remote area without a library

Non-English speakers

Incarcerated individuals

Homeless individuals

Low-literacy adults

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Reference Round Table - no chair, inactive for 2024-25

Name:

Work or Primary Email:

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The objectives of this round table shall be to provide a practical framework for information sharing, continuing education opportunities, professional interactions, and a support system to those library workers engaged in reference services in all types of Oregon libraries. This organization shall aim to share ideas, plan, and improve reference services in and among libraries and foster fellowship, cooperation, and professionalism among its members.

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

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.

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.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Staff Training Round Table

Name: Darci Hanning

Work or Primary Email: darci.hanning@slo.oregon.gov

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

No listed provided

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The Staff Training Round Table (STRT) is a resource for any library staff member who is involved with staff training at their library. Membership in this group will allow libraries across the state to discuss current training issues and best practices, share resources, and collaborate on building future training to meet the needs of an ever-evolving profession. Our goals are to provide opportunities for members to come together in support of staff training at libraries, to share best practices, and to learn skills and techniques to conduct training with their staff. We will do this through

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

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

We hosted a table at the 2025 OLA Conference, had at least two lightning talks, and at least two sessions during the conference. Two of our members are leading a small project to empower library staff to "track their training" in a way that enables staff to collaborate around knowledge and skills and is independent for their place of employment. This work will continue into the 2025-26 OLA year.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

As a group, we have two primary challenges: only a small group of members attend our monthly meetings regularly. Most if not all members are at capacity so we often struggle to take action on the numerous ideas we generate throughout the year. Our solution is to be kind to ourselves, help out as we're able, and encourage and/or assist those that are able to take action. We continue to encourage new members to attend our regular meetings as they are able.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

We have not been able to make this a focus of our work. We would welcome suggestions/guidance for ideas that fit within our mission.

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.

We have not been able to make this a focus of our work. We would welcome suggestions/guidance for ideas that fit within our mission.

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.

We are regularly participants of the OLA Conference each year.

Other comments

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25

Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Technical Services Round Table

Name: Kristynn Johnson

Work or Primary Email: kjohnson@eugene-or.gov

Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Kristynn Johnson (Chair), Michael Grutchfield (incoming Chair), Ellie Avis (incoming Vice-Chair), Damon Campbell (Secretary), Rachel Aronowitz, Robert Kohl, Heather Pitts, Lillian Curanzy, Jane Cothron, Mary Greci, Amy Mihelich, Suzanne Sager, Tom Larsen, Emily O’Neal, Jean Peick, KT Austin, Sarah Samuels, Christina Spence.

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

TSRT's general objective is to provide a framework for information sharing, continuing education, and support for library workers currently engaged in technical services activities, with the specific aims: -To provide for the exchange of ideas on technical services and automation processes, systems, and policies; -To provide a medium for the exploration of new ideas and technologies; -To foster cooperation among all Oregon libraries in the areas of technical services and automation and to increase an awareness in the library community of the roles of technical and automation services. The organization proposes and fulfills presentation of successful preconference and program proposals for the annual conferences of OLA or OLA/WLA. Professional development activities apart from the annual conference are also organized, promoted and presented at various locations in Oregon.

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

Largely, the TSRT was typically active for 2024-2025. The steering committee met in-person for our annual goals and conference session brainstorming meeting, to help set goals for the committee for the following year, as well as identify OLA conference sessions to support. From this brainstorming, the TSRT supported one OLA Conference session and supported a second one when contacted by the presenters. The first supported session was around the Homosaurus alternate thesaurus promoting inclusion through appropriate language subject headings and natural language searching in the catalog. The second was about experience classifying using the optional table for Dewey 2XX classification to promote inclusion by placing materials appropriately and analyzing the space provided to individual faiths. TSRT held a second in-person meeting at the OLA conference that was very well attended. Another area of focus for TSRT this year was to expand our Round Table focus, beyond being mainly focused on cataloging, and making a concerted effort to show that TSRT supports all sides of technical services, including collection development, acquisitions, and processing and EDIA+ comprehensively. We updated our online resources to show the full breadth of resource offerings from TSRT on our website. Lastly, we had hoped to recruit additional non-cataloging focused TSRT members, both through outreach on libs-or, having an open meeting at OLA, and the use of our scholarship. All of these initiatives were accomplished including welcoming interested parties from diverse library work areas with a number of new members this year. The website resources pages were published; a dedicated scholarship page was published and an “About” page was published containing our Unit Description that was submitted to the OLA Executive Board. This “About” page includes information and opportunities arising from joining TSRT. We also kept the webpages updated throughout the scholarship season as it progressed. Though TSRT was not able to recruit enough speakers to provide the number of TS related sessions we had hoped to sponsor and share for OLA, we did support two sessions, and the total number of Technical Services related sessions came to nine throughout OLA 2025. We did have a successful candidate for our scholarship recruitment this year and Christina will be joining our Steering Committee

for 2025-2026. We attracted several new members to TSRT this perhaps due to our website renovation, conference sessions, outreach and networking efforts.

Successes - highlights annual achievements to celebrate.

OLA TSRT supported two OLA 2025 sessions: the first supported session was around the Homosaurus alternate thesaurus promoting inclusion through appropriate language subject headings and natural language searching in the catalog. The second was about experience classifying using the optional table for Dewey 2XX classification to promote inclusion by placing materials appropriately and analyzing the space provided to individual faiths. We updated our online resources to show the wider breadth of resource offerings from TSRT on our website to show that TSRT supports all sides of technical services, including EDIA+, collection development, acquisitions, and processing, Serials and Continuing resources and hope to add a page on TS Systems work as Systems is being combined with TS at many libraries. We were able to award our TSRT scholarship and Christina will be joining our Steering Committee for 2025-2026. We welcomed a good number of new members during the year 2024-2025 and the meeting at OLA Conference was exceptionally well attended.

Challenges - lists ongoing challenges open for discussion — suggest solutions.

TSRT was not able to recruit enough speakers to provide the number of TS related sessions we had hoped to sponsor and share for OLA. It could be that the biggest challenge for TSRT at this time is bandwidth and active membership, especially non-MLIS membership. We have a number of very dedicated folks on the Round Table, but we do not have enough folks with capacity to volunteer for the follow-up actions needed to make the Round Table initiatives more successful such as presenting at conference and following through on Technical Services Round Table ad hoc committees' work. The solutions the group is working on are planning and extending outreach to actively address barriers and attract enthusiastic folks; innovating our web site and pages even more to draw interest and promote Belonging; networking more to entice enthusiasm; refining a list of active topics in the Technical Services area to increase inclusiveness; working to expand the definition of Technical Services to more realistically reflect practical changes such as including Collection Development and Systems as they are most commonly part of the modern Technical Services workgroup make up.

General Updates - includes updates that do not fit in other categories.

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.

TSRT supported two EDI related OLA Conference sessions: The first was as sponsor of a session explaining the Homosaurus alternate subject thesaurus and its practical implementation practices. Unfortunately this session was cancelled at the last minute for personal reasons by the Kentucky based presenter (editorial board member of Homosaurus, Adrian Williams) Homosaurus is part of an international initiative to bring inclusive respectful subject headings to library catalogs (promoting belonging) and natural language search capability (promoting access for all) The second was a poster session classifying religious materials with the Dewey optional table for the 2XX's in working toward honoring diverse faiths, and supporting inclusive finding aids and respectful organization of materials in library spaces and in the library catalog. We also changed our scholarship requirements so that no diploma or higher education degree is required to promote inclusion and Belonging. We also added an EDIA+ page in our website resources section to include resource links and raise awareness about the ways Library Technical Services influences EDIA+ and added this as a component of each of the new

pages. We added a statement to our Unit Description explicitly stating that “TSRT welcomes members of all interests, education, employment and experience levels focusing on Library Technical Services Acquisitions, Cataloging, Collection Development, Processing and Automation/Systems. “to promote inclusion.”

2025 TSRT sessions from the program document:

Homosaurus Structure and Implementation presented by Adrian Williams. Tech Services (TSRT) 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Meeting Room 1W

Description: This workshop is for catalogers and other metadata professionals who have an interest in integrating the Homosaurus vocabulary into cataloging workflows and retrospective projects.

Adrian will orient audience members to LGBTQ+ identities, histories, and cultures in the context of subject assignment. They will also clarify Homosaurus’ structure and use policies, and guide solo catalogers and cataloging department leaders on implementation and retrospective project best practices. The workshop will involve both lecture and opportunities to practice subject assignment using Homosaurus.

Reclassifying DDC 200s Using the Optional Table. Tech Services (TSRT) presented by Stephanie Milbrodt and Meagan Gibson.

Description: "Learn more about implementing the optional DDC 200s table at your library. Technical Services staff from Tigard Public Library will share the resources we used, our project plan, and the lessons we learned from our own reclassification project.

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.

In 2024-2025 TSRT added twelve pages to the TSRT website including: a dedicated Scholarship page to link to the OLA main scholarship page and attract applicants; Resources pages: added resource pages in the areas of: EDIA+ as it relates to Technical Services work, EDIA+, Acquisitions, Cataloging, Collection Development, Metadata, Processing and Mending, Serials and Continuing Resources, Your Community with the goal of attracting diverse users to our pages to learn more about what TSRT does currently and to welcome innovation and participate together; added an “About” page derived from the OLA Executive Board initiative establishing and ongoing “Unit Description” to provide better inclusiveness and accessibility to interested parties. We also provided again provided support to the Libros for Oregon cataloging coordinator including on the web pages increasing access to Spanish language bibliographic records available on the Libros for Oregon website.

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.

TSRT has a scholarship, which includes membership, OLA conference support and asks active participation in TSRT for the following year. We successfully awarded our scholarship and drew many attendees to our business meeting held at OLA. We welcomed a number of new members this year. We are increasing our tabling and outreach. We are in the planning stages to do more digital outreach to assure that announcements are in the OLA Hotline, Libs-OR and our own TSRT listservs and collaborating with Support Staff Division leadership in hopes to attract and welcome even more MLIS and non-MLIS holding Library Technical Services staff as well as folks of all interest, education and experience. There is a place for you in TSRT! Welcome – Discover.

Other comments

It has been a great honor to be the Chair of such a vital and collegial Round Table. Thank you to the TSRT members and TSRT Steering Committee members for the help and all the enthusiasm extended 😊. Special thank you to Past TSRT Chair Emily O’Neal, Shirley Roberts, Ayn Reyes Frazee and Ericka Brunson-Rochette for their help provided to me personally and to the OLA organization --and their dedication to a lively library organization.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Library Association

Name: Ayn Reyes Frazee

Work or Primary Email: olapresident@olaweb.org



President's Report – Year in Review
Ayn Reyes Frazee, President, Oregon Library Association
2024- 2025

This year as OLA President has been one of challenge, progress, and resilience for our association and for libraries across Oregon. We have navigated political uncertainty, fought for essential library protections, celebrated legislative wins, and built new connections that will strengthen our work for years to come.

Legislative & Advocacy Highlights

One of the most significant milestones of my presidency was the passage of HB1098, the “Freedom to Read” Bill. This vital legislation helps prevent book bans and other forms of censorship in Oregon public schools if the ban or censorship constitutes discrimination. It also offers greater support for school library staff facing challenges. Sponsored by Senator Lew Frederick (D-Portland), the bill was championed by dozens of OLA members who submitted written and in-person testimony. Our Legislative Committee was instrumental in moving this bill forward, with crucial guidance from our lobbyist, Cassie Bruske. Key partners including the ACLU, Basic Rights Oregon, and the Oregon Education Association worked alongside OLA to craft policy that reflects our shared values.

At the start of the 2025 session, OLA set three top priorities:

- Stable funding for the State Library.
- Passage of the “Freedom to Read” bill.
- Establishment of staffing support at ODE for school librarians.

Passage of HB1098 achieved two of these three goals. However, full funding for the State Library remains unresolved. With the federal budget (HR1) now passed, the State Library faces looming staffing cuts and loss of program funding beginning in FY2026, with loss of competitive grants occurring immediately. OLA will continue to lead advocacy efforts during the short session to secure necessary backfill funding, meeting directly with lawmakers and mobilizing members to defend these vital resources. This fight is far from over.

National Engagement

In June 2025, I attended the ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, where I participated in the Chapter Leaders Forum. This gathering of state library association leaders provided valuable opportunities to exchange ideas on topics including dues structures, conference planning, and intellectual freedom advocacy. One promising area I am exploring for OLA is an affiliate membership model, in which a library district, system, or other organization could purchase memberships for all of their staff at a discounted rate. Potential benefits include reduced barriers to participation, increased engagement and volunteerism, and a stronger, more sustainable association.

This year I also attended the COSLA Voices for Libraries advocacy event in Washington, D.C. with OLA members and library leaders from across Oregon. We attended a valuable advocacy training and meetings in lawmakers' offices with OLA members and State Library staff.

Challenges & Resilience

My presidential year unfolded against a backdrop of instability: the layoff and partial restoration of IMLS staff, turmoil at the Library of Congress, ongoing threats to intellectual freedom, and budget uncertainty for libraries statewide. Yet we also saw new partnerships, creative problem-solving, and an unwavering commitment from our members. Through every challenge, OLA members have shown determination and hope, a combination I believe will carry us forward.

Conference & Member Engagement

We moved ahead with planning for the 2025 OLA Conference with flexibility in mind, ensuring the program meets members where they are. Our events including the President's Party at the Museum of Natural and Cultural History provided space for connection and celebration, even in the midst of a demanding year. I was delighted to award Kristen Curé and Jean Gritter with the President's Accomplice and President's Award respectively. We honored Ericka Brunson-Rochette with the OLA Past President Recognition. This spring, the OLA Board voted unanimously to add a Rainbow Round Table to OLA. We've moved away from Twitter and started a brand new BlueSky social media account to better connect with members. We opened a new high-yield savings account as a source of passive income.

Looking Ahead

As we head into the next year, OLA will:

- Lead a coordinated advocacy push for State Library funding.
- Continue supporting members in responding to censorship and access challenges.
- Explore and evaluate the potential of an affiliate membership model and an executive directorship.
- Strengthen our network of local, state, and national partnerships.

This year reminded me daily of why our work matters and who we do it for. Libraries are essential, and so are the people who make them thrive. Thank you for your trust, your engagement, and your willingness to stand up for Oregon libraries.

OLA Annual Reports 2024-25
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Oregon Library Association

Name: Shirley Roberts, OLA Association Manager

Work or Primary Email: ola@olaweb.org

Identified Statistics.

1. Membership (as of 8/31/25)

Total:	957
General:	701
Students:	54
Business/Institutions Partners Basic:	14
Business Partners Sustaining:	2
Institutions Sustaining:	14
Institutional Additional Profile:	130
Lifetime:	39
Volunteers, Non-members:	3
Prospects:	5,020

Unit Membership Breakdown (first recorded 2015-16 report):

Academic Division (ACRL_OR)	87
Children's Services Division	97
Oregon Assn of School Libraries.	238
Oregon Young Adult Program.	84
Public Library Division.	144
REFORMA Oregon	59
Support Staff Division.	42
Documents Interest Group of Oregon.	6
International Relations Round Table.	21
Legal Reference Round Table.	11
Library Assessment Round Table	17
Library Instruction Round Table	20
New Member Round Table	27
Outreach Round Table	17
Past President's Round Table	18
Reference Round Table	27
Staff Training Round Table.	41
Technical Services Round Table	52

2. Finance

General Fund - OLA

- Income: \$222,507

- Expenditures: \$217,506

- OLA Investments – Annual net gain/loss

Donivan Wealth Management. \$26,223

Connected Wealth: \$13,325

OASL Investments

Donivan Wealth Management: Hull Endowment \$-10,517

Donivan Wealth Management: Hull Earnings \$22,152

Connected Wealth. \$13,781

Flourish High Yield Savings: \$4,216

It was determined in December 2014 that certain statistics need to be included in the annual report.

It was requested that participation of OLA unit events be established and reported here in the Annual Report. Here are the events where participants registered through forms in Personify. Other events to which other means of registration used, not accounted for here.

OASL Fall Conference (October 2024 – Grant High School / Portland): 204

Oregon Battle of the Books 2024-26 (OBOB – on-sites) : 637

OLA Conference (April 2025 – Lane County Events Center – Eugene): 390

LIOLA25: 19 graduates; 8 mentors