Message From The ILA President

There is something rejuvenating about starting a new year—I am so looking forward to the year ahead for ILA! Under Duncan Stewart’s leadership in 2015, the Executive Board began some work on visioning and planning for ILA. We quickly realized that this would be a two-year process, so work will continue through 2016. Those of you who have been involved in strategic planning know that it is a work in progress, and there are a myriad of ways to approach the work itself. We are interested in strengthening the relationships and communication between the Executive Board, Subdivisions, Committees, and general membership, and will continue to pursue that in very concrete, as well as structural, ways. I am just wrapping up my time at the ALA MidWinter Conference. It has been a wonderful opportunity to connect with leadership of other state associations. We are so fortunate in Iowa to have a strong association with committed members, stellar institutions, and excellent library resources across the state, and we will continue to build on that!

Planning for the ILA Annual Conference in Dubuque is just getting underway. The call for presentations has gone out, and the Conference Planning Committee and Local Arrangements Committee will meet in Dubuque in early February and hit the ground running! We experimented with a few changes in planning the 2015 Conference and we’ll keep an eye to the changes that were well-received and build on those, while maintaining a solid lineup of keynote speakers and concurrent sessions. We will also continue to look for more opportunities for networking and collaboration, as well as efficient ways of getting the Association’s “business” done with broad participation from the membership.

Back to that start of the New Year—make it a resolution to participate in some strategic communication about the importance of Iowa libraries! For starters, mark your calendars for Lobby from Home Day on February 17th, followed by Legislative Day on March 16th. Your representatives on the Governmental Affairs Committee offer compelling reasons for you to participate in these two events.

Thanks for your commitment to ILA, and for enriching Iowa in your work for Iowa’s Libraries.

Alison Ames Galstad
ILA President
Wheatland Public Library Wins All Iowa Reads Book Set

The Iowa Library Services’ Iowa Center for the Book Coordinator, Robin Martin, kept careful track of which Iowa libraries held programs for the 2015 All Iowa Reads (AIR) book, My Name is Mary Sutter by Robin Oliveira. During the Iowa Library Association Conference in October, Robin put the names of those libraries in a hat, and drew one name to win a set of the 2016 AIR selection, Lila by Marilyne Robinson, to use for programs. The Curtis Memorial Library in Wheatland was the lucky library to receive the set!

Jill Bachus, Curtis Memorial Library director on winning the set: “We have participated in All Iowa Reads since 2007, and each year we promote the current selection. I purchase one copy for our collection and reserve a set for a month from the Iowa Library Services Southeast District. I am happy to say that every year our numbers have increased for the book talk. We promote AIR locally and post our time and date of the event on the AIR website. We are very excited to win a set of the 2016 AIR selection for our library! This year we will most likely have two AIR events during the year and we will also be able to share our set with other libraries. Thank you for the set of books!”

To take advantage of the AIR Program this year:

- Register your library’s AIR event on the Center For the Book’s website
- Contact your State Library District Office to reserve a set of the 2016 AIR books
- Watch the 2016 AIR webinar on the Iowa Library Service’s CE Webinar Archive

Helen Dagley
Iowa Center for the Book Coordinator
Iowa Library Services

Save These Dates

2016 Lobby From Home Day | Wednesday, February 17
The ILA Governmental Affairs Committee encourages all Iowa Libraries to contact their legislators about issues that are important to Iowa libraries during Lobby from Home Day. This is our day to contact legislators via email or phone to encourage them to meet the goals set in the 2016 Legislative Agenda. We can make a great impact if we all contact our legislators on the same day.

2016 ILA Legislative Day | Wednesday, March 16
3:00 pm: Legislative Briefing at Iowa Library Services, Ola Babcock Miller Building 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Legislative Reception, Law Library, State Capitol

Don’t miss this important event. During the Legislative Briefing we will hear from ILA, Iowa Library Services, and the ILA lobbyists. They will provide us information on the legislative session, key legislative issues, and the key points we want to make sure we discuss with our legislators. After the briefing we will meet with legislators in the Law Library for the Legislative Reception. It is a great time for librarians, trustees, and legislators to discuss important library-related legislative issues.
Get To Know Andrew Fuerste-Henry
ILA’s ALA Councilor

Andrew Fuerste-Henry is the Adult Services Manager at Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque. He started at Carnegie-Stout seven years ago as an Adult Services Librarian, which was his first full-time library job. He’d previously worked part-time as a substitute librarian at the Coralville Public Library, following his graduation from the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science in 2008.

I have a hard time tracking the start of my relationship to libraries. Hesitantly, I confess that I was not a regular library user as a child. My mother ran a bookstore and we mostly just borrowed new books there and read them very carefully (please don’t tell the good people of Dubuque how many of their “new” books had already known another reader’s eyes).

I did really like books, though, and so I started at Grinnell College with the idea that I’d become a school librarian. After one education class, I realized that my disinterest in young people would be a stumbling block in that career. School librarianship and I are both very glad that epiphany came sooner rather than later. I eventually graduated from Grinnell with a major in theatre. This led naturally to several years as a professional baker, first making pastries in Philadelphia, and then baking bread in Iowa City. When the charm wore off of going to work at three a.m., I enrolled in the U of ISLIS program. I started library school with vague intentions of pursuing academic librarianship. I remembered Burling Library at Grinnell as a calm and cozy place, perfect for catching up on all the sleep I would miss as a baker. Before I could learn how foolish that was, I took a public libraries class and changed my focus entirely.

Public libraries inspire me with ideals of community, cooperation, democratization, and service. Every citizen gives a small amount of support through their taxes, and together they create a resource that would be out of their individual grasp. I don’t always relish the obligation to help any citizen with any question, but it always means a lot to me. Some days it’s fun, like when I get to introduce a new reader to one of my favorite comic books. Some days it’s rewarding, like when I help a very kind and grateful foreign-born widow sort out her immigration paperwork. A lot of days, it hits somewhere in the middle and I spend a fairly unremarkable eight hours looking up phone numbers and celebrity birthdays, but even those patrons let me know that they appreciate what we do for the community.

These same ideals are why I’m involved in ILA. It’s a means by which we can pool our efforts for greater impact. For the first couple of years I was a librarian, I belonged to ILA simply because my library paid for it. I attended conferences and took advantage of the continuing education provided. My supervisor urged me to attend the Leadership Institute in 2012 and I came away excited about what I could do to help my library grow and change. In 2013, I was nominated to run for the position of ALA Councilor; ILA’s representative to the American Library Association. I was honored to be elected, and have been grateful for the opportunity to give back to an organization that’s done a lot for me.

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Calendar Of Events

**February**
- February 17 – ILA Lobby From Home Day

**March**
- March 10 – Catalyst deadline for March/April issue
- March 16 – ILA Executive Board Meeting
- March 16 – ILA Legislative Day
  - Legislative Briefing at State Library (3:00 PM), Legislative Reception in Law Library at the State Capitol (4:00 – 6:00 PM)

**April**
- April 3-4 – IASL Spring Conference
  - Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines

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Discover The Benefits Of ILA

• Need advocates and a voice at the State Legislature? ILA works.
• Frantically trying to collect CEU’s for certification at the last minute? ILA provides learning opportunities and support.
• Ever wonder what program to offer or what book to order for people in your community? ILA has resources.
• Wondering what intellectual freedom actually means, and how to be an advocate? ILA has expertise.
• Looking for professional development opportunities throughout the year? At the ILA annual conference and sponsored programs by ILA subdivisions, ILA has you covered.

Sound Good? Renew, Re-join, or Become a New ILA Member!

In ILA you will encounter teacher librarians, public librarians, academic librarians, special librarians, graduate students, support personnel, and trustees from Iowa libraries both large and small.

ILA provides many benefits to Iowa libraries and librarians and great opportunities for getting to know other professionals in the state. People whom you meet and network with at the conference and other programs have a wealth of knowledge and experience that can be a valued resource for both newcomers and veterans. Whether you are working on library programming or in need of collection development ideas, looking to hear diverse opinions and perspectives, or just needing someone to bounce ideas off of, networking and building friendships within ILA can be essential.

Register your 2016 membership online.

We hope you join us!

ILA Membership Committee

SAVE THE DATE!

Spring 2016 Iowa ACRL Conference
Keeping in Step: Libraries and the Institutional Mission

Friday, May 20, 2016 at the
FFA Enrichment Center,
Ankeny campus of DMACC

Keynote Speaker:
Megan Oakleaf,
Syracuse University iSchool

Megan Oakleaf is an Associate Professor at the iSchool at Syracuse University. Her research areas include assessment, evidence-based decision making, information literacy instruction, and reference services. Prior to this position, Oakleaf served as Librarian for Instruction and Undergraduate Research at NC State University and a teacher in Ohio public schools.
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History Of The ILA Community College Librarians Roundtable

In 1965 the Iowa General Assembly established Iowa’s Community College system, and within ten years the ILA Community College Librarians Roundtable was created.

After interviewing the founders, reading the minutes, and talking to current members, Mara Egherman, Library Services Manager at Marshalltown Community College, and current Vice Chair of the Roundtable, has written a history. Mara relates how the Roundtable was formed, grew, and faced challenges and innovation.

Read the entire history of the ILA Community College Librarians Roundtable on the ILA website.

2016 Legislature Convenes Legislative Update

The 2016 Legislative Session began on Monday January 11, 2016, and is scheduled for a 100-day session. The target adjournment (100th day) is April 19. Education funding and the budget will be the biggest issues of the year. There are more built-in increases in the budget for this year than there is new revenue. So that means there will need to be cuts of some sort in order to balance the budget. Initially, the Governor and the House will sign off on 2.45% increase for education, but the Senate wants 4%. On January 12th the Governor released his budget, and both line items for libraries are the same amounts as last fiscal year.

ILA lobbyists Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell will be working with the ILA Governmental Affairs Committee to support library funding and other state assistance.

ILA Governmental Affairs Committee

To Be Well Read … You Must Be Well Fed

Are you looking to expand your summer programming? Your library is a welcoming and trusted public space for your community’s youth. As a valuable community resource, you can nourish kids’ minds and bodies!

During the school day, more than 195,000 Iowa children and teens rely on school meals to power their learning. What happens when school lets out?

The USDA Summer Food Service Program is designed to fill that gap by providing nutritious meals and snacks to low income children during the summer. While there are many summer serving sites across the state, an estimated 9 out of 10 children do not have access to summer meals.

Consider getting involved:

• Connect with a colleague about summer meals and snacks. Libraries across the state have experience with this program and could share insight.
• Spread the word! If there are meal sites already in your community, notify families via your summer reading program materials, bulletin boards, Facebook page, website, bookmarks, flyers, etc.
• Partner with local sponsors to provide library enrichment activities or a mobile library service to meal sites already in your area.
• Host a meal site at your library. Adding a summer meal or snack can enhance your existing program. Even if your library does not have structured youth programs, providing meals/snacks may attract new patrons and draw them to other library services.

For more information on the Summer Food Service Program, contact Stephanie Dross at stephanie.dross@iowa.gov or 515-281-4760 and check out the USDA’s website.

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Did You See?
@ The 2015 ILA Conference!

Duffy De France, Angela Polowy, and Cathy Von Brocklin (left to right), members of the ILA Storytellers' Roundtable, were all smiles at the conference. Duffy and Angela are both with the Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre, and Duffy is also a retired children's librarian. Cathy's other hat is Library Outreach with the bookmobile at the Ames Public Library.

Jones Library Sales brought some colorful furniture to its booth in the exhibit hall!

Many friends met and caught up with each other at the conference, including Kathy Parsons from the Iowa State University Library and Nancy Medema from Iowa Library Services/State Library.

This pair of loveable puppets at the Foundation’s Silent Auction received many bids.

A number of events celebrated ILA's 125th Anniversary. Duncan Stewart, ILA President, and Nancy Trask, ILA Treasurer, handed out gift bags and exhibited the cake.

Sales were brisk for the two styles of tee shirts which were created exclusively for ILA's 125th Anniversary.
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Support Personnel Conference Scholarship Winners

The ILA Support Personnel Subdivision would like to congratulate the four recipients of our inaugural Conference Scholarship Program. Two recipients each were chosen randomly from a pool of support staff and currently enrolled library science student applicants. The scholarships covered registration and meal costs for the attendees.

Paul Bethke
Support Personnel Subdivision Chair

From left to right: Winners Andy Petersen and Bethany Kluender, both enrolled in the University of Iowa SLIS graduate program; Evie Redling, Maquoketa Public Library; John Dunsdon, Leon Public Library; with Paul Bethke, Iowa City Public Library, Subdivision Chair. John Dunsdon was also the winner of our business meeting prize drawing for an overnight stay for two, with complementary meal, courtesy of the Riverside Casino.

ILA Encourages Library Advocacy

Mark your calendars for ILA Lobby from Home Day and ILA Legislative Day. Each of these events gives librarians the opportunity to speak with their legislators regarding issues that are facing our libraries. The experiences and stories you can share about your library, and the information about how legislative actions can impact your local library, are very powerful. Our strength as library advocates has always shown itself in the way we clearly and respectfully communicate the needs of our libraries.

Throughout the legislative session, and before Lobby from Home Day and Legislative Day, talking points and information will be provided by ILAs Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) and the ILA lobbyists, Amy Campbell and Craig Patterson. Watch for email updates! Also watch for the Advocacy Hotline, created by Amy and Craig, to help keep us updated on legislative news during the session. The ILA website is another great resource for legislative information.

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Duncan Stewart
Governmental Affairs Committee

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**Iowa Library Association 2016 Legislative Agenda**

In 2015 the Iowa Library Association celebrated 125 years of working to provide Iowans with the best library service possible. As ILA starts its 126th year, we look forward to working with the governor, legislature, and state agencies to continue that tradition of public service. More than 51,000 people visit Iowa libraries every day. It’s clear that Iowans depend on their libraries for internet access, early literacy programming for young children, homework assistance, health care information and, especially now, resources for job searches, career development, and education. To support these vital services, the Iowa Library Association asks the General Assembly to meet the following goals in 2016.

- Continue to rebuild the support system for Iowa libraries by returning funding for Iowa Library Services to the pre-merger, 2009, funding level for the State Library and the Library Service Areas.
- Continue to increase funding for Enrich Iowa to support the vital role of libraries in Iowa communities. In the last several years the Governor and Legislature restored a portion of the money going to local libraries. Adding back the rest strengthens library resource sharing and statewide interlibrary loan services, which makes Iowa’s library system an efficient network accessible to all Iowans.
- Continue funding for state-wide access to a career and workforce related database for Iowans. Access to this resource prepares Iowans to succeed in the workplace by improving job skills and vocational test-taking abilities.
- Recognize and stipulate in all official documents that teacher librarians are instructional staff as defined by the Department of Education and that teacher librarians play a vital role within the educational team in each Iowa school district. Teacher librarians work closely with their public library, academic library, and special library colleagues to provide lifelong information literacy.
- Preserve hometown governance in Iowa’s public libraries by maintaining support for the Policy-making autonomy of public library boards of trustees.

The Iowa Library Association will continue to monitor and address other legislative issues as they affect the Iowa library community. The Iowa Library Association, founded in 1890, is the organized voice of the Iowa library community. Its members come from every county of the state and sustain Iowa’s 1500 public, academic, school, and special libraries. The Iowa Library Association will continue to monitor and address other legislative issues as they affect the Iowa library community.

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**ILA Call For Nominations**

The ILA Nominating Committee invites your participation! We are seeking names of members who are qualified to run for the following ILA officer positions:

- Vice President/President Elect of the Iowa Library Association. One person will be elected. This year we are looking for candidates from a public library.
- Executive Board. Two members-at-large will be elected from a slate of candidates to serve on the Executive Board. Nominations from all library settings are encouraged.
- ALA Councilor. One individual will be elected from a slate of candidates to serve as Iowa’s ALA Councilor. This individual participates on the ILA Executive Board and attends the ALA Mid-Winter and Annual Conference representing Iowa on the ALA Council. The ALA Councilor must be able to travel to the ALA events. Nominations from all library settings are encouraged.

In accordance with the ILA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee's selection of nominees "should be made with a view to achieving balanced representation of geographical areas and kinds of libraries. Commitment to the Association and to librarianship in general should outweigh all other considerations. A nominee must be a personal member in good standing of the Association."

Please take a moment to reflect on those ILA colleagues who will make great leaders for the Association and send us their names. Self-nominations are welcome and encouraged. All nominations are confidential. Please forward any names and brief qualifications to the ILA office no later than Tuesday, March 15, 2016. Thank you for your continued support of the Iowa Library Association.

*ILA Nominating Committee*
Developing Iowa’s Library Leaders!
ILA Leadership Institute

You are invited to apply for the Seventh Iowa Library Association Leadership Institute to be held July 27-29 at The Hotel at Kirkwood Center in Cedar Rapids.

Why a leadership institute?
Iowa’s future depends on educated, information-literate citizens, citizens with a habit of lifelong learning. Iowa’s libraries are fundamental in helping Iowans develop these traits, and strong leaders in Iowa’s libraries are essential to the evolution of great libraries. The ILA Leadership Institute ensures that its members are prepared to actively shape the future of Iowa libraries.

What happens at the Institute?
You will participate in activities designed to help you:
- Recognize yourself as a leader and develop the confidence to become a change agent in your library as well as in the larger community.
- Assess your personal leadership style and develop the skills to use that style for effective decision making.
- Seek creative solutions to shape the future of the Iowa Library Association and library service in Iowa.
- Connect to a supportive network of successful library leaders.

Who will lead the Institute?
Maureen Sullivan, past ALA President (2012-2013), is the Institute leader. A highly sought-after speaker and advisor, Sullivan has more than 25 years of experience as a consultant on organization development and work redesign, strategic planning, leadership, managing change, and establishing learning programs.

Who is invited to apply?
An ILA member (may be MLS or non-MLS) with three years’ experience working in any Iowa library may apply. The Leadership Development Committee will select up to 26 individuals to attend the Institute.

Where and when is the Institute held?
The Institute will be held at The Hotel at Kirkwood Center in Cedar Rapids. Participants will lodge in The Hotel. Accommodations are double occupancy. Daytime sessions and activities will be held in the adjoining Kirkwood Center. The Institute will begin Wednesday, July 27 at 10:00 a.m. and end Friday, July 29 at 5:00 p.m.

What is the cost?
Approximately 75% of the costs of the Institute (Institute activities, lodging, and meals) are paid for through the generosity of donors, including an LSTA grant through The Institute for Museum and Library Services (provided by Iowa Library Services), and the ILA Foundation. The fee for each participant is $250 which includes lodging and most meals. Participants are expected to cover travel costs and miscellaneous expenses. Tuition assistance may be available to participants through the generosity of other ILA subdivisions: Watch for upcoming announcements.

How are applications submitted?
The application form is available on the Iowa Library Association website and in this issue of the Catalyst. **Applications are due Thursday, March 31, 2016.** Candidates selected to attend the Institute will be notified by May 2, 2016.

“The ILA Leadership Institute was a formative event in my library career. Maureen Sullivan is one of the best trainers in the country, and I learned so much from her and from the other attendees. Librarians at any point in their career will benefit from attending!” Barbara Corson, 2008 Leadership Institute attendee.
ALL APPLICANTS MUST:

- Have at least three (3) years’ experience working (full or part-time) in libraries.
- Be currently employed in an Iowa library (public, academic, school, or special).
- Be a member of the Iowa Library Association.
- Include an essay (see requirements below).
- Include ONE letter of reference (only one, please!).
- Be able to reside in arranged onsite housing and attend all activities during the Institute.

Applicant Essay:

Please write a brief (1-2 pages) essay that describes your leadership experience and explains your motivation for applying to the Institute. Your essay will be evaluated based on your inclusion of the following items:

- A defining moment related to your understanding of leadership;
- Where you see yourself professionally 5 years from now;
- A personal story or reflection that lets us know how this Institute can help you become the leader you want to be.

Letter of Reference should include:

- His/her relationship to applicant.
- His/her perception of the applicant’s leadership qualities.
- Examples of situations where the applicant has displayed leadership qualities.

Return the completed application form, essay, and letter of reference by March 31, 2016 to:

Iowa Library Association, 6919 Vista Drive, West Des Moines IA 50266

Notification of Acceptance:

You will be notified by May 2nd about whether you have been selected to attend the Institute. Contact Melissa Primus at the ILA office at 515-282-8192 or 800-452-5507 with any questions.

Please note:

Our goal is to provide the broadest opportunity for all Iowa library employees to participate. We have a limit of 26 participants. Therefore, in some cases only one applicant may be selected from a given library.
IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

1. Contact Information
Name of applicant _________________________________________________________________
Job title __________________________________________________________________________
Library ____________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________
Email ____________________________________________________________

2. Applicant Demographic Information (used to ensure that we have diversity among Institute participants)
Gender: ______ Male ______ Female
Age: ______ 18-25 ______ 26-35 ______ 36-45 ______ 46-55 ______ 56-65 ______ 65+
Type of Library: ______ Academic ______ Public ______ School ______ Special
Ethnicity (optional) ___________________________________________________________
Experience working in libraries: __________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Educational background: _______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

3. Reference information
Job title: ________________________________________________________________
Library: _________________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
Contact information: _______________________________________________________

The ILA Leadership Institute is partially funded by an LSTA grant through The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS).