President's Message

Despite the forecast for 8-10” of snow here in northeast Iowa, in my personal book of seasons it is officially spring when I see the first tulips popping up. That happened this morning and was a lift to the spirits. Another reliable indicator of spring is the ILA Legislative Day, which occurred on March 14 in Des Moines. Thirty-five ILA members were there to lobby our legislators about the importance of Enrich Iowa – and State Library – funding to Iowa’s libraries. Thanks all who participated, and additional thanks to the Governmental Affairs Committee, Melissa Primus from the ILA office, and State Library staff for their efforts in making the day a success.

It is not too late to keep libraries in the legislative forefront, however. The proposed cuts to the State Library’s funding will result in additional cuts in Federal money, which relies upon matching funds from the State. There are more funding details, including on the proposed backfill legislation cuts, on the ILA Facebook page. Please check that out and drop a note/text/phone message to your legislator -- your voice really does matter.

It’s also the season for the 2018 ILA Spring Symposia. This year we have one at Algona on April 19-20 and one in Atlantic on April 26-27. For either locale, the cost for both days is $50 for ILA members, and CE credits are available. These are terrific events, and I’m unhappy that I can’t attend this year. For full information, visit the ILA website.

You may have heard that ILA has adopted a hurricane-damaged library in Puerto Rico. Immediate ILA Past President Rebecca Funke has been coordinating this effort. She notes that planning for a fundraising campaign for the Francisco Oller Library continues, and there should be more information available in early April. In the meantime, more details are on the ILA webpage.

A few updates from the March 14 Executive Board meeting:

- Following an inquiry, there was discussion about committees having their own social media accounts. The board concluded it would be better to have one set of ILA tools (listserv, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) that all the information funnels through. This increases the frequency of posts and announcements and allows people one place to look rather than a dozen different accounts.
- Debbie Stanton, has resigned from the Executive Board. She and her family are moving out of state to be nearer to family. Debbie’s contributions to ILA and the Iowa Library community are
many, and her intelligence, good humor, and commitment to libraries will be missed a great deal. Good luck, Debbie!

- A reminder: do you have news (announcements/celebrations/accomplishments) from your library to share? Send it to the ILA Communications Committee via Dara Schmidt (SchmidtD@crlibrary.org). You or your library could be ILA stars!

Happy Spring!

Mike Wright
President

Register for the Iowa GODORT Summer Workshop, July 20

The Iowa GODORT Summer Workshop will be held on Friday, 7/20, from 1-4 p.m. The workshop will be presented online via Zoom.

Presenters will include:

- Tom Keyser from the State Library of Iowa, who will talk about current state government information and a project to digitize the the historic Iowa Legislative Documents series (70 years, 147 linear feet);
- Lisa DeLuca from Seton Hall University who will talk about international data sources and issues related to data literacy;
- And speaker(s) to be determined who will present from a US federal perspective.

Please use this online form to register:

https://uiowa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_74Kmd5Mys6LNumN
A link to the online Zoom meeting will be sent out prior to the meeting.

First Joint Conference of Iowa Reading Association & Iowa Association of School Librarians, June 25-27

Registration is now open for the 2018 joint conference of the Iowa Reading Association and the Iowa Association of School Librarians, Literacy Landmarks, to be held on June 25-27 on the ISU campus in Ames.

The first day of the conference, sponsored by the Iowa Association of School Librarians, will be held on Monday, June 25. Author Barry Lyga will lead an afternoon workshop and deliver an evening keynote for this event. A book signing, Iowa Authors Meet & Greet, and social hour will also take place on the Second Floor of the Scheman Building on the Iowa State Campus. See the Conference Smore for a detailed schedule. Tickets for this event are indicated on the registration
form and on the online registration link.

The following two days of the conference, June 26-27, will feature authors and researchers Steph Harvey and Anne Goudvis (authors of *Strategies That Work – Third Edition*), Chris Grabenstein (#1 New York Times bestselling author), Jerry Pallotta, Julia Cook, Dean Jacobs, Kate Roberts (national literacy consultant), Katie Muhtaris, Heather Gudenkauf, R. J. Kinderman, Michele Pickel, Mike Lockett, Jill Kuzma, and Susan Maupin Schmid. There will be both keynote and concurrent sessions throughout the two-day event.

Recertification credit, through Heartland AEA, and graduate credit, through Northwestern College or Viterbo University, are available to those attending the two-day conference.

The registration form for the preconference and/or the full two-day conference can be found on the [Iowa Reading Association website](https://mailchi.mp/7345f917000d/march-april-iowa-library-association-catalyst) in PDF or Word format. Forward your completed registration form to:

Iowa Reading Association  
P.O. Box 16  
Ossian, IA 52161

Include a check payable to the Iowa Reading Association with your registration. Online registration is also available via [Eventbrite Online Registration](https://mailchi.mp/7345f917000d/march-april-iowa-library-association-catalyst). A transaction fee will be assessed for online registrations.

Group discounts are available. Contact Clark Goltz, Executive Director, for details on group discounts at iowareading@gmail.com or 563-380-1999.

We are excited about this first joint conference of the Iowa Reading Association and the Iowa Association of School Librarians, *Literacy Landmarks*. See you on the ISU Campus in Ames on June 25-27!

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**Government Affairs Update**

March 14 was Legislative Day at the capitol. About 35 ILA members attended the legislative briefing. Nancy Medema gave an update from the State Library, with news that reduction in funding for FY17 and the flat funding for FY18 will likely have a negative impact on matching federal dollars. GAC encourages ILA members to advocate state legislators for adequate funding for the State Library, so no federal money is left on the table.

ILA's lobbyist, Craig Patterson, provided an update as well. Craig anticipates that backfill funding will likely be phased out the next couple years. It is unclear at this point when those efforts will begin. Let your representative know that beginning this phase-out in FY19 puts cities at a disadvantage as many municipal budgets have just been finalized for FY19, making it difficult to accommodate the loss in funding.

The reception at the Law Library saw a smaller group of legislators this year but those who came were engaging and happy to visit with us. ILA members shared stories, described the impact of funding cuts to the State Library, and hit on other important topics to our library communities.
Attend the ILA-ACRL and IPAL Co-Hosted Conference, May 31 – June 1

ILA-ACRL and IPAL (Iowa Private Academic Libraries) are “Coming Together” to co-host a conference May 31 - June 1 at Drake University in Des Moines. We’re thrilled to have Loretta Parham, CEO & Library Director of the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center, as our keynote speaker. Ms. Parham also won the 2017 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year award--her keynote speech should not be missed! Registration will open in April, but discounted hotel rooms are available now. Reservations for discounted rates end May 9.
Awards Committee Update

The Awards Committee recognizes the great work accomplished by ILA members and was interested in clarifying and expanding our opportunity to celebrate the success of our members and partners. With this in mind, the Awards Committee has, with the approval of the Executive Board, spent several weeks reviewing, revising, and expanding ILA awards.

A call for award nominations will open in May. More information about each award will be available at that time.

The updated list of ILA awards includes:

- Distinguished Leadership Award (previously Member of the Year Award)
- Outstanding Library Advocate Award (formerly Ted Anderson Library Advocacy Award)
- Citation of Merit
- Honorary Member
• Lifetime Membership Award
• 20-year Member

New awards include:

• Emerging Leader Award
• Library Philanthropy Award
• Distinguished Career Award

Awards Committee members are Alison Ames Galstad, Jean Donham, John Lerdal, Megan Sockness, and Rebecca Funke (Chair).
ILA ad hoc Committee for Diversity & Inclusion Survey

Earlier this week, the ILA Committee for Diversity & Inclusion shared a link to a survey.

A survey of this kind has never been done in Iowa before, and we want to know more about who we are in Iowa libraries, and what we can do to work toward making Iowa libraries more inclusive and welcoming, recognizing the wide range of identities within our field.

More formally, the committee seeks to:

- gather baseline demographic information from library professionals in the state of Iowa,
- collect information regarding library staff experiences and interests in relation to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Iowa Library Association will benefit from your participation, as the responses will help create a foundational basis of understanding regarding librarianship and libraries in Iowa, which will, in turn, be aggregated, anonymized, and shared with the ILA membership with the goal of improving library services state-wide, providing new resources for professional development, and providing tools to improve recruitment to the profession.

We seek the input of all voices within the library, including part-time staff, full-time staff, trustees/board members, retired professionals, and administrators, as we value bringing all perspectives to the table, including those who are not ILA members.

Please be sure to take the time not only to complete the survey yourself, but to pass the link along and encourage non-ILA members to add their voice.

If you have any questions, please contact Cara B. Stone at cstone@iastate.edu.

ILA Accepting Nominations for the Executive Board

If you are interested in serving in a leadership position in the Iowa Library Association, or know someone else who would be a good fit, please fill out the Nominee Information Form.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Willeford, the Nomination Committee Chair, at sarah.willeford@blind.state.ia.us.

If you have a story, idea, picture, or any other library-related news you would like to share with the membership, feel free to send it to us. We have a handy Share ILA News (http://bit.ly/ShareILANews) form for just this purpose. We look forward to hearing from you!
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