

# APRIL

## NJLA Executive Board ALA Councilor Report April 2023

### **ALA reports record number of demands to censor library books and materials in 2022.**

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has released new data documenting book challenges throughout the United States, finding that challenges were nearly double that of 2021, reaching the highest number of attempted book bans since ALA began compiling data about censorship in libraries more than 20 years ago.

The American Library Association (ALA) is thrilled to announce that award-winning and bestselling author Kelly Yang will serve as honorary chair of **National Library Week, April 23-29, 2023.**

Celebrate National Library Week, April 23-29

**2023 Theme "There's More to the Story"** Highlights Multitude of Services Libraries Offer Communities

During National Library Week, the ALA invites communities to observe the following:

- Monday, April 24: **Right to Read Day**, an inaugural celebration to acknowledge and promote the right to read and mark the one-year anniversary of ALA's Unite Against Book Bans campaign; the 2023 State of America's Libraries Report & Top Ten Frequently Challenged Books of 2022 will also be released on this day.
- Tuesday, April 25: **National Library Workers Day**, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.
- Wednesday, April 26: **National Library Outreach Day** (formerly National Bookmobile Day), celebrate library outreach and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.
- Thursday, April 27: **Take Action for Libraries Day**, a day to rally advocates to support libraries.

April is also **School Library Month**, sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians, an ALA division.

TIME has named Tracie D. Hall to the **2023 TIME100**, its annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world. The full list and related tributes appear in the April 24 issue of TIME, . Hall is the tenth executive director of the American Library Association and the first Black woman to helm the organization in its nearly 150-year history.

<https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection>

### **American Library Association Presidency for 2024-25 Term**

*Cindy Hoh,* director of policy analysis and operational support at Kansas City Public Library (Missouri)

### **2023-2026 ALA Councilor at Large**

- In 2023, thirty-three (33) persons will be elected for three (3) years.



## **American Library Association Condemns Ongoing Threats Against Libraries**

The American Library Association (ALA) condemns—in the strongest terms possible—the violence, threats of violence and other acts of intimidation that are increasingly taking place in America’s libraries, including last week’s bomb threats to Hilton Central District Schools in New York, which put the lives of hundreds of innocent children and staff members in jeopardy.

## **Travel Grants Available for First-Time AASL National Conference Attendees**

Thirty travel grants are available to school library professionals wishing to attend the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Conference for the first time. The \$750 grants for first-time attendees of the conference are sponsored by Bound to Stay Bound Books. Those interested in applying can access the application at [www.ala.org/aasl/conferences/aasl23/btsb](http://www.ala.org/aasl/conferences/aasl23/btsb). The deadline for applications is April 24, 2023. Tampa Bay, FL Oct. 19-21

## **ALA launches FY 2024 #FundLibraries campaign under tight deadline to gain House support**

<https://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2023/03/ala-launches-fy-2024-fundlibraries-campaign-under-tight-deadline-gain-house>

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/fund-libraries> Dear Appropriator Letters: Sen. Booker signed, 3 Rep. signed from NJ- Gottheimer, Pascrell, Payne.

## **Annual Conference registration open**

Chicago, IL June 22- 27, 2023

<https://2023.alaannual.org/>



The American Library Association (ALA) has awarded its **2023 Peggy Barber Tribute Grant**, a programming grant named after the transformative ALA leader, to Brookings (S.D.) Public Library, **Gill Memorial Library (Paulsboro, N.J.)** and Mount Kisco (N.Y.) Public Library.

The \$2,500 grant, open to public, academic, K-12, tribal and special libraries, supports meaningful programs in libraries with limited programming budgets

