



WELCOME TO WLA WEDNESDAY

July 15, 2020

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MAKING HEADLINES

#WLA2020 Virtual: Registration Open



Registration is now open for the **2020 WLA Conference!** We have registration rates for individuals, groups, and organizations. Check with your employer if they plan to take advantage of our new Organizational Rates.

The conference theme is 2020 Vision: Looking to the Future. Now more than ever, we know our library community needs opportunities to learn, build connections, and tackle the new challenges we're facing. By reflecting on our collective past and remembering that libraries have always faced change head on, let's come together to share our clearest visions for the future! Find more details [here](#).

Flex Your Leadership Skills: 2021 WLA Election Nominations Open Now

Are you looking for leadership experience to help with your career? Need a reason to meet new library people and expand your network? Want to give back to Washington's library communities? WLA wants you!

Election nominations are open for all vacant 2020 WLA leadership

positions. If you have questions about any position, you may contact the WLA Office, or go to the current Board, Division, or Section roster to find contact information for the person that currently fills the position, or to whom the position reports. Please note that WLA Committee Chairs are appointed by the Board President and do not need to go through this election process.

2020 Elections Timeline

June 17 – nominations open (may nominate self or others)
Aug 19 – nominations deadline
Aug 26-Sept 23 – online elections are open to all WLA members
Sept 24 – winners notified
Sept 30 – winners announced in WLA Wednesday newsletter
Jan 1 – new leadership terms begin

LOOK WHO'S HIRING

The Washington State Library is seeking a **State Librarian**. The position is open until filled.

The University of Washington Tacoma is seeking a **Director and Associate Dean**. The position is open until October 2.

North Central Regional Library is seeking a **Branch Operations Director**, a **Deputy Director**, and a **Finance Director**. The positions are open until filled.

The Bellingham Public Library is seeking a Head of **Community Relations**. The position is open until July 24.

If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email info@wla.org and indicate "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) lists job openings frequently. You can also browse WLA institutional members' postings [here](#).

THE LEARNING CURVE

Book Bingo For Grown Ups

Looking for a way to connect your adult patrons with the joy of a summer reading program? The Washington Center for the Book has Book Bingo cards you can customize for your library, to either download/print or to share on social media.

NEWS & NOTES

WLA Advocacy Corner: ALA's Advocacy Library

The entire **Advocacy, Legislation and Issues** section of the ALA's website provides a plethora of advocacy resources - whether you want to dive in and immediately undertake advocacy (check out the **Contact Congress** page or the list of **Year-Round Engagement** ideas) or you're looking to gain a foundational understanding of what advocacy work is and why it's important (try the **Getting Started** tab), you will find an abundance of great information.

Today we are honing in on the **Advocacy Library**, a "new and comprehensive collection of advocacy resources," found under the Talking Points and Tools section of the Advocacy and Public Policy tab.

The Advocacy Library contains an extensive list of issues, spanning various types of libraries, each with a brief overview and link to more in-depth coverage. For example, as a frontline public library staff person relatively new to advocacy work, I find that the **Frontline Advocacy for Public Libraries** link contains supportive information relevant to me, which is very easy to navigate. Here I am inspired to understand my valuable role in advocating for libraries and am offered extensive tools to begin (literally, there is a toolkit). If you haven't already, I encourage you to take a look Advocacy Library and see how it can support your advocacy efforts.

Available in English and in Spanish. Learn more [here](#).

WLA Statement on Anti-Racism

The Washington Library Association decries the brutality Black communities experience from those charged to protect and serve. Libraries are providers of vital resources for historically under-served communities, and this work has never been more important than it is now. We are responsible for continuing to do this difficult, sometimes painful work that demands we address our biases and how they impact our ability to serve our communities equitably. We urge library professionals across Washington to fight for Black lives, actively oppose systemic oppression and police brutality, and prioritize anti-racism in all that we do. The WLA Board is committed to doing this anti-racist work within our association. To be silent is to be complicit.

The Urban Libraries Council has also released a poignant statement on race and social equity, which serves as a baseline for libraries to build policies and actions designed to make their communities more inclusive and just. The statement has been signed by 163 public libraries across North America. Learn more [here](#).

Additional Resources

ALA Holding Space: A National Conversation Series

The American Library Association's **nationwide virtual tour** highlights the innovation and impact of a diverse range of libraries and engages stakeholders to advocate for libraries and the communities they serve.

A part of ALA President Julius C. Jefferson, Jr.'s broader work to build relationships and strengthen connections, Holding Space will feature town halls, round table discussions and interviews with library leaders, state and local partners, and elected officials covering topics ranging from HBCUs and academic libraries, to school, tribal, and public libraries—all while amplifying the concerns of each community along the route.

WLA Merit Awards Now Accepting Nominations!

Do you know any amazing library professionals, advocates, students, or groups that deserve to be recognized for their support of or contributions to libraries in Washington? Of course you do!

Nominate a colleague today. Nominators may nominate more than one person for any given award, or one person for multiple awards. A separate nomination form is required for each nomination. Nominations are due **September 2**. Learn more about each award [here](#). Submit your nomination [here](#).

Sticks and Stones and the Stories We Tell: Children's Book Creators on Channeling Random Acts of Racism

Ten BIPOC authors and illustrators will discuss how they have used the negative experiences of racism to fuel their artistic expression. As part of SCBWI's Equity and Inclusion Initiative, this event will be free for the general public.

This event will be held Thursday, July 16, 2020, from 1:00–2:15pm PT. Learn more and register [here](#).

Misinformation Webinar for K-12 Educators

Join us for a free, special webinar on misinformation and disinformation that's designed to connect school librarians with the educational resources, tools and professional insights they need to better understand where it comes from, how it's shared and what they can do educate students and other library users to be better information consumers. This webinar builds off of MisinfoDay, an annual event focused on engaging high school students and educators around combating misinformation.

This one-hour webinar, co-presented by the University of Washington's Center for an Informed Public (CIP), Washington State University's Edward R. Murrow College of Communication, and Washington State University Vancouver, will be held Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 10:00am PT. Learn more and register [here](#).

Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

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