

9-25-20

Hello CLA Members!

We continue to move forward as your professional association on projects and initiatives to benefit us all during these times. I wanted to note a few and ensure you are ready to vote in our election.

We have a new website – much more functional, searchable, and with photos of our own CLA and Library events. You will find the COVID-19 Resources, mentorship program, scholarship programs, and CALIX under “Resources” and our major projects such as the Summer Reading Challenge, California Center for the Book, Developing Leaders in California Libraries, and more under “Programs.” The website is the same www.cla-net.org and if you haven’t explored in a while, check out all that CLA is about.

We are hearing from so many who have lost jobs, or been furloughed or had expenses significantly increased. I want to be sure everyone knows that CLA has a membership category that includes those unemployed, and for \$40 a year you can be counted with your State Association, vote in elections, and have membership rates to learning opportunities. Individual membership rates have not been raised in over a decade, and we need your membership to support advocacy, learning, programs and more. You can find all the individual membership levels here: <https://www.cla-net.org/page/MembershipLevels>

Voting in our elections is coming up, and if you have moved, changed or lost a job, or otherwise adjusted your communication preferences, please check that we are current and can send your ballot. Contact our staff (<https://www.cla-net.org/page/186>) if you cannot log in, missed your renewal email, or otherwise want to check your membership status. We may have sent your renewal to an older email address.

You will find the slate of candidates for election here: <https://www.cla-net.org/news/527465/>

In addition, we need to pass a very crucial Bylaws amendment. The CLA Bylaws were written presuming offices will turn at the Annual Conference. As we postponed the 2020 Conference to 2021, we need to pass an amendment to the CLA Bylaws allowing the Board to vote to turn over the offices this fall. This would not be done lightly, and requires a full unanimous vote of the Executive Committee (President, Past President, President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary) and a three-quarters vote of the Board. The CLA Board is holding a vote on Monday to declare our intent to bring into office those elected by the Membership, and will hold the vote formally again once the Bylaws amendment is in effect. We are also working on a virtual Membership Meeting for full updates from the outgoing Board and a welcome to your newly elected leaders. Please update your membership now to ensure you get your ballot.

Thank you CLA Members for your support of your Association, your voices of advocacy, your contributions to our shared learning, and your passion for libraries. Libraries are serving their communities so well during this crisis, and CLA is proud to be a part of it.

Hillary Theyer
CLA President