ARLD Day 2021: Registration Open!

The Academic and Research Library Division (ARLD) is happy to announce registration is open for ARLD Day. We have an excellent line-up of sessions and are very excited to announce our keynote speaker is Nicola Andrews, a member of Ngāti Pāoa iwi and librarian, who will present “No More Pipelines: Indigenous Knowledge and LIS.”

Event Details
Date: April 30
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Where: Zoom
Register [here](https://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/admin/email/view.aspx?jobId=4455064)

ARLD Accepting Nominations for Academic Innovators

Nothing sparks innovation quite like necessity. 2020-2021 has been chock-full of opportunities for creativity and trying out new things, or doing old things in new ways. The ARLD wants to congratulate all of you for your quick thinking, creativity, and ingenuity during these times.

Have you seen academic librarians, academic library staff, or project teams that made particularly outstanding contributions to advance the mission of an academic and/or research library through an innovative project, program, or service? If so, nominate them today for a Minnesota Academic Innovators Award! Nominations are accepted [online](https://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/admin/email/view.aspx?jobId=4455064) through [April 9, 2021](https://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/admin/email/view.aspx?jobId=4455064).
Children and Young People (CYP)’s Section Update

Meet CYP’s New 2021 Co-Chair Keiko Satomi!

Keiko is the Children’s Librarian at the Cloquet Public Library in Northern Minnesota. She is originally from Shiga, Japan, and this is her 15th year living in the United States.

Public Libraries have always been her haven as a newly-arrived immigrant and now she gets to live the dream!

When she is not working, she enjoys spending time reading (of course!), cooking with her sons, biking, cross country skiing, kayaking, and soaking in a tub.

Congressations Dakota County Library!

The Institute of Museum and Library Services named Dakota County Library among 30 finalists across the United States for the 2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service!

Dakota County Library is the only institution in the state of Minnesota to be selected as a finalist this year.

The National Medal is the nation’s highest honor given to museums and libraries that demonstrate significant impact in their communities. The library was chosen as a finalist for creating accessible spaces and services, prioritizing community engagement and inclusion, and supporting residents during the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing access to resources and providing responsive services in new ways.

Three libraries and three museums will be named National Medal winners in late spring. Stay tuned!

Get Involved with the Conference Committee!

Help guide the direction of the 2021 MLA annual conference! Many thanks to those who are sharing their time and talents to ensure our 2021 virtual conference is incredible. There are currently 15 members in the conference committee with a few spaces left for you to add your
voice and skills!

Please consider one of the following open positions:

- Marketing/Communications co-chair: Collaborate with the communications committee to get the word out about the conference and share your creative talents!
- Special Activities (AKA local arrangements) co-chair: Plan events for fun and networking to enhance the conference experience! More trivia, please!
- Volunteer co-chair: Help members get involved in ensuring the conference program runs smoothly!

For more information or to sign up, please email Stacey Hendren.

Thank you for your consideration!

Amy Boese & Jonathan Carlson
2021 Conference Co-Chairs

Stacey R. Hendren
President, 2021

Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) Updates

Challenged Books

As National Library Week approaches, check ALA on April 5th for the release of the top 10 challenged books of 2020. If you are aware of any challenges to books or other materials, please help us take action by filling out the Report A Challenge form. This form is also linked on the MLA IFC page.

Next IFC Meeting on April 6th

Join the Intellectual Freedom Committee at our next meeting on Tuesday, April 6th at 11:00 am via Zoom to get more involved. If you have any stories or materials about the history of MLA's IFC, please reach out to Dave Collins, 2021 IFC Chair.

Minnesota Author Project Seeking Judges

Minnesota libraries are seeking judges for the 4th annual Minnesota Author Project, including educators, booksellers, librarians, and others who know and love books.

Judges will help select the best indie-published ebooks from across the state in the categories of Adult Fiction, Young Adult Fiction, and Communities Create.
Library staff can volunteer themselves or nominate someone else in their community who would make a great judge. Sign up to volunteer or nominate a judge using this form.

MN Writes MN Reads is seeking to expand diversity in the pool of judges. Judges will be selected from across the state to include a diversity of professional experience, educational background, ethnicity, age, and gender.

**MLA Board Vaccination Prioritization Letter**

On March 19th, the Minnesota Library Association approved a letter to the State urging the prioritization of Minnesota library workers in the pandemic response.

The letter requested library workers to be included in the statewide and local Phase 1C of COVID-19 vaccine distribution, which was provided via email and postal mail to the Governor's Office, the Commissioner of Health, and the Commissioner of Education.

To view the letter and access additional resources, please visit the MLA website.

*Stacey R. Hendren*, 2021 President

**MLA Legislative Week Feedback Requested**

Did you participate in MLA's legislative advocacy this year? How was your experience?

Please complete our survey to let us know how we can improve our efforts for next year.

**MLA Student Roundtable Creation**

On March 19th, the Minnesota Library Association Board approved the creation of the MLA Student Roundtable.

The purpose of this roundtable is to encourage opportunities for professional development and applied experience for students, create a space for diverse perspectives for students involved in MLA, and to provide a way for students' voices to be heard at the MLA Board level.
Any student that is a member of the Minnesota Library Association is welcome to join this group and get involved with MLA early on in their professional career. More information on how to join and 2021 activities will be coming out soon.

Megan Demuese  
2021 Co-chair

Maggie Whitman  
2021 Co-chair

Save the Date

April 8 Reference Collaboration Webinar, Pandemic Edition

Early in the COVID-19 response, Rochester’s Mayor Kim Norton requested the creation of a COVID-19 hotline to assist residents with questions, concerns, and general information, however the City’s Emergency Operation Center’s call center was unable to staff a long-term hotline.

The Rochester Public Library stepped up to assist the City and offered staff members to take calls regarding COVID-19 and provide advice and direction. A remote answering system allowed library staff to work safely from home.

Join Rochester Public Librarian Kim Edson and Rochester Emergency Operations Manager Julie Ladage to learn how this partnership began, how it has evolved, and how a library can support other departments during times of crisis.

Event Details

Date: April 8  
Time: 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Where: Zoom  
Register for the webinar here

Save the Date
May 4 MILE All-Class Reunion

CALLING ALL MILE ALUMS! Plans for our virtual reunion are underway. Join us at the reunion on Tuesday, May 4th from 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m!

This event will offer a chance to reflect on the MILE (MLA Institute for Leadership Excellence) program, talk about your favorite parts of MILE, share ideas for the future, and reunite with your cohort. You won’t want to miss it!

Welcome New Members!

Jacob Smith
Jasmine Zacate

Thank You Renewing Members!

Audrey Betcher
David Norris
Kimberly Edson
Janice Lurie
Angela Petrie
Heather Adamson
Jim Weikum

Laura Hulscher
Pat Lienemann
Ann Schaezenzer
Elizabeth Ripley
Sarah Clinton-McCausland
Sara Wagner

Minnesota Library Association
1611 County Road B W, Ste 315
Saint Paul, MN 55113

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