Corbett Budget Plan Moves into Plus Territory; PaLA Plans Push for Greater Progress

By Glenn R. Miller

Governor Tom Corbett unveiled his budget plan for fiscal year 2014–15. His budget spends about $29.4 billion, an increase of about 3.3 percent overall. Some parts of the revenue side of his plan are viewed as controversial and likely to face an uphill climb in the legislature.

For libraries, funding for library line items remains stable if not modestly improved. The total amount proposed all library programs in Gov. Corbett’s budget is $61.3 million, up modestly from this year’s total amount of $61.1 million. Specifically, here’s what the governor proposes for library programs for next year:

- $54,070,000 Public Library Subsidy (up $500,000/+1%)
- $2,821,000 Library Access (down $250,000/–8%)
- $2,567,000 Library Services for the Visually Impaired and Disabled (level-funded)
- $1,938,000 Office of Commonwealth Libraries (down $19,000/–1%)

Taken together, the governor’s budget would increase library funding at the state level by a net of $231,000 over this current year’s budget. For the Public Library Subsidy, although it is a modest increase, nevertheless it represents the first time a governor has proposed any increase in the subsidy since 2007.

While it is positive to see our overall budget line going up instead of down, clearly we have work ahead of us. With the economy improving — slowly but surely — and demand for library services greater than ever, this election year is an opportune time to press our elected officials to support improved access to all that libraries provide.

The governor’s budget always represents the starting point. The great challenge this year is to carve out a strategy that is ambitious but also realistic in a political environment that remains inhospitable to requests for increased spending.

In this light, the PaLA board of directors unanimously adopted a strategy for the 2014–15 state budget that:

1. Seeks a targeted $2.9 million increase in the Library Access category over the current funding (or $3.2 million over the governor’s proposal since his plan cut Library Access). This amount aims to restore about 50 percent of the Statewide Library Card reimbursement program ($2.3 million), boost POWER Library by $500,000, and increase support for IDS by $100,000;
2. Endorses Gov. Corbett’s proposed $500,000 increase in the Public Library Subsidy; and,
3. Level-funds Libraries for the Blind as well as the State Library.

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Remembering Why We Love Libraries

JANIS STUBBS

You’ve got to figure that winter will have to be over sometime. Even taking Phil’s “prediction” into account, it should have been wrapped up by mid-March. But until it is over, a lot of people are cranky or depressed, tired of having to go outside and go to work.

I figured it might be worth a try in my first Bulletin column to think back to my earliest memory of libraries and why I like them so much. I’m pretty sure it was the summer I was 10 years old. My older sister and her friend invited me go to the main branch of the public library with them. I suspect it had more to do with my sister’s new driver’s license than any noble attempt to imbue me with a love of books; the library was at least 10 miles from our house. Whatever — I was just happy to be included.

When we got there, my sister and her friend announced that I had to stop reading Nancy Drew books and find something better. They came up with Twain’s A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court. I took it home and plowed right through it, which means I didn’t understand most of the satire, but loved the time-travel story, and our trips to the library became a regular occurrence. Some might say it resulted in an unhealthy obsession with reading all the time; we call it an admirable appreciation of all things literary. And those visits must’ve worked: both my sister and I became librarians, and she was subsequently a teacher and now an author.

You must all have stories like that, about how you landed in this profession, why you love libraries, why you have your job. Sit back and remember them the next time you’re fretting about the governor’s budget, or whiny students are getting on your last nerve, or your board is making unreasonable demands. I guarantee it will remind you of why you’re doing what you’re doing, and maybe next time it won’t be so hard to shovel your way to the car to go to work. And of course, it will make you want to redouble your efforts on behalf of the association that works so hard for you!

Now if you’ll excuse me, I have to go email my sister about the new Jojo Moyes book.

Janis Stubbs is the assistant director of the Delaware County Library System and the current president of PaLA.

Three MLS Scholarships Available

Thanks to the continued support of both individuals and corporate sponsors, scholarship opportunities are available again in 2014 to PaLA personal members, who are Pennsylvania residents.

Three MLS scholarships are available to those seeking a master’s degree in the library science field that will earn them professional status.

These $1,500 awards now allow part-time MLS students, who will complete at least three credits at an ALA-accredited school during the scholarship year to apply for PaLA scholarship support.

Verification of enrollment in an ALA accredited program is required as well as three letters of recommendation.
The PaLA board, our legislative consultants, Greenlee Partners, and I all agree that this approach is the right balance for this year. It is a significant amount but one that is targeted: it begins to tackle some local funding challenges for libraries heavily used by borrowers from non-supporting municipalities, and it strikes a good balance by seeking 50 percent restoration this year and, if successful, the other 50 percent next year.

Better funded, stronger library service is the single best way to move PA Forward. Please visit the PaLA website, www.palibraries.org, for the latest information on PaLA’s strategy and ways that you and your local advocates can help to make this push for greater funding a success.

Glenn R. Miller, PaLA’s executive director, is reading David and Goliath by Malcolm Gladwell.

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PA Forward “Best Practices” and Your Library

By Debbie Malone

Did you know that PaLA has a database of 190 proven PA Forward literacy promotional ideas and programs that you can adapt for use in your own library? And that it includes suggestions for all types of libraries? And that the suggestions can help you clearly demonstrate your library’s value to your community? Click http://www.palibraries.org/?page=BestOfPAFwd to take a look.

We have been developing this resource for over two years, and it has been invaluable in multiple ways. Recently the PA Forward Steering Committee mined the database for great examples of exemplary and creative programming to include in our IMLS Leadership Grant application in support of the initiative. It was also used to identify speakers for the PA Forward sessions at our last two annual conferences and for the nine PA Forward training workshops held statewide in 2013. We’ve shared sample practices with current and potential partners to showcase libraries’ capabilities; most recently, we wowed our newest partner, the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA, with examples of library/hospital partnerships. We are currently working with Greenlee Partners and PPO&K to identify strong models from the database to demonstrate to lawmakers what libraries in their districts are doing to empower the communities they serve.

In addition, members tell us they have adapted many of the programming ideas for use in their own libraries. This year, for example, my library has sponsored four financial literacy sessions for our students, and the terrific speakers (highly rated by participating students) were provided by two of our PA Forward financial literacy partners, Citizens Bank and the PA Institute of Certified Public Accountants. These partners have offices throughout the state, and you can contact them to find local presenters on financial topics of your choice. For the full list of financial literacy partners, see http://goo.gl/I3v3oU.

To keep the best practices database current and useful, we need constant input of new examples of innovative ways to use the PA Forward literacies to demonstrate library value. We cannot do this without your help. To make this easier, we have created a shortened online form for you to submit your literacy-focused initiatives. It is available in the PA Forward Toolkit on the PaLA website at http://www.palibraries.org/?page=PA_Foward.

The success of the PA Forward initiative depends on all of us sharing our creative ideas for promoting our libraries and highlighting the essential services we provide to our communities. Please take the time to brag about the PA Forward literacy programming you provide by submitting descriptions of your project to the PA Forward Best Practices database.

Debbie Malone is the director of the Trexler Library at DeSales University in Center Valley.

Upcoming Southwest PaLA Events

The Southwest Chapter of PaLA has several upcoming events to announce. The May 16 spring workshop will center on security in libraries and feature several speakers discussing protecting children, Internet and network security, and overall safety in library buildings. A workshop brochure with more details will be released soon.

The chapter has several social events scheduled for this summer and fall: Library Night with the Washington Wild Things baseball team on June 11, and Library Night at PNC Park with the Pittsburgh Pirates on July 22. The chapter will also hold its annual trivia night on September 11.

For more information about upcoming events please visit our chapter website: https://sites.google.com/site/palaswchapter/
Open Access Is Not Going Away –
We All Need to Keep Up

BY TOM REINSFELDER AND JOHN BARNETT

By now, most people working in or around an academic library have heard something about open access, a term and concept most frequently used when discussing peer-reviewed scholarly journal articles. The term “open access” should not be confused with the phrase “open source”, which refers to software such as an integrated library system (ILS) developed, distributed, and modified in an unrestricted environment.

Open access scholarly publishing frees readers from the barriers created by hefty subscription fees. At the same time, it provides authors with greater opportunities to distribute their work to anyone who is interested in reading it, not just those who can afford to pay. Librarians are also hopeful that open access publishing will eventually provide some relief to collection budgets strained by continually increasing journal subscription fees.

According to Peter Suber, an expert on this topic, “open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions” and is also “compatible with copyright, peer review, revenue (even profit), print, preservation, prestige, quality, career-advancement, indexing, and other features and supportive services associated with conventional scholarly literature” (Suber, 2013).

It is generally agreed that there are two paths to achieving open access to scholarly literature.

• **Gold OA** refers to Open Access journals that publish articles online with no access restrictions. Some require author fees while most do not and instead rely on other forms of support.

• **Green OA** is possible when authors make their work available online using personal webpages or databases, known as repositories, which are maintained by an institution or other organization.

Another way to understand open access is through the concept of gratis OA versus libre OA (Suber, 2008):

• **Gratis OA** removes price barriers to research. There is no cost to access or use the scholarship.

• **Libre OA** removes not only price barriers but also at least some of the permission barriers to research. Others are allowed to reuse and remix scholarship, building upon it to create new works and scholarship.

Some academic librarians have a basic understanding of open access scholarly publishing while others are more intimately involved with the details, and work closely with aspects such as copyright, peer-review, and publisher agreements. Whether you are new to the idea of open access or you have been following its growth for many years, it is critical to keep up with the frequent and often dramatic developments. This is not only for our own benefit, but so we may better support the faculty and students we are employed to serve.

The open access movement has been gaining momentum for well over a decade and conditions continue to evolve, even on a weekly basis. Scholars and scholarly organizations are regularly introducing new open access journals, universities are adopting new policies related to open access, lawmakers at both the state and federal levels are introducing and passing legislation related to open access, and publishers (both open access and non-open access) are evaluating how they conduct their businesses and adjusting accordingly. Meanwhile, faculty on our campuses sometimes receive conflicting and confusing messages about open access from various sources.

Two recent events have generated quite a stir among academics and fueled the discussion and debate over open access. Both provide examples of developments where librarians must be ready to step in with further information and be prepared to answer questions from our patrons.

First, in December 2013, many authors of scholarly articles were shocked, confused, and even angered when they learned Elsevier was demanding that copies of their works be removed from Academia.edu and other websites that scholars use to share, store, and promote their work. These scholarly spaces included the institutional repositories of several universities. In this instance, librarians can help authors by clarifying a few points:

1. Elsevier is not technically or legally doing anything wrong here. Elsevier is only doing what the authors agreed to when the publication agreement was signed. Authors must understand their contracts with publishers, especially if they are transferring partial or complete ownership of the work.

2. In many cases Elsevier does allow authors to post a copy of a published article on a personal or

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Open Access
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institutional website. However, the agreement usually states that this must be the author’s own copy of the work (also known as a pre-print or post-print) and not the final formatted and edited PDF file produced and distributed by the publisher. It is critical to understand this difference. Elsevier’s action was in response to too many authors posting the wrong version – the version Elsevier wants to protect.

Second, in October 2013, writer John Bohannan published his controversial “sting operation”, “Who’s Afraid of Peer Review?” in *Science* magazine (Bohannon, 2013). In this study, Bohannon submitted a spoof research article to 304 open access journals listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (doaj.org) and Beall’s List of predatory OA publishers (scholarlyoa.com/publishers). Some 157 of the journals accepted the article for publication with scant to no evidence of peer review, or evidence of poorly conducted peer review, raising questions about quality control among open access journals.

Many journals that accepted the article were located in the developing world, but also included open access journals published by Elsevier, Wolters Kluwer, and Sage. Eysenbach (2013) notes that the *Journal of International Medical Research* (JIMR/Sage), rated number one by impact factor in its field, also accepted the journal, while other notable OA publishers such as Hindawi and PLoS One rejected the spoof study.

Eysenbach (2013) and others criticized Bohannon’s study for its own lack of research quality, noting that:

- The author did not submit the spoof article to any non-OA (closed access) journals.
- No control group was used; this was not a scientifically conducted study.
- The author’s own article was not peer-reviewed.
- *Science* is an expensive, closed access journal.
- Ultimately, Bohannon’s article may be viewed as more of a rebuke of poor-quality peer review, which is not limited to OA journals.

In earlier years most faculty remained unaware of open access publishing and its possibilities, but now many more people are starting to pay attention. However, there are often misconceptions about open access. As laws and policies continue to change, we have an opportunity to educate others and advocate for the best interests of our libraries, and universities.

What Can Librarians Do?

- Keep up with new developments and be ready to answer questions from patrons.
- Host informational sessions to discuss open access publishing.
- Suggest authors publish in gold open access journals, like *Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice palrap.org*.
- Encourage authors to read and understand their publishing agreements.
- Suggest that authors distribute the proper version of their published works either on personal or institutional websites (when permissible).
- Learn about open access policies being implemented at institutions across the country and serve as a resource on your campus if/when questions arise locally.
- Help develop and promote local publishing services such as an institutional repository or other online publication.
- Become informed about Creative Commons licenses (creativecommons.org), which allow authors to choose how they want to share and control their works.
- Use SHERPA/RoMEO (www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo) to help yourself and authors become familiar with publisher copyright policies, whether they can self-archive their works, and which version (e.g., pre-print or post-print) they can store in an institutional repository or a personal website.
- Alternately, use ROARMAP (roar-map.eprints.org) to learn about institutional open access policies and SHERPA/JULIET (www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet) to learn about open access policies of research funding organizations.
- Share information with students from The Right to Research Coalition (www.righttoresearch.org) on how the high cost of scholarly publishing affects their access to research materials and how open access can help facilitate fair access to research.
- Be aware of the differences between gold and green OA and gratis and free OA. Also understand what hybrid OA (libraries.mit.edu/scholarly/hybrid-journals) may mean to scholars and library budgets.
Recommended Resources


SPARC®, the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition. www.sparc.org

Open Access Directory oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main_Page

SHERPA RoMEO – Publisher Copyright Policies & Self-Archiving www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo

ROARMAP – Registry of Open Access Repositories Mandatory Archiving Policies roarmap.eprints.org

SHERPA JULIET – Research Funders’ Open Access Policies www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet

Creative Commons creativecommons.org

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) www.doaj.org

The Directory of Open Access Repositories – OpenDOAR www.opendoar.org

Beall’s List of potential, possible, or probably predatory scholarly open-access publishers scholarlyoa.com/publishers

References


Tom Reinsfelder is a reference and instruction librarian, Penn State University Libraries – Mont Alto. He is currently reading *1984* by George Orwell.

John Barnett is scholarly communications librarian with the University Library System, University of Pittsburgh. He is reading *Le Libraire* by Gérard Bessette. Reinsfelder and Barnett are co-editors of Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice, an open access journal of the Pennsylvania Library Association.

SAVE THE DATE!

PaLA College & Research Division Spring Program

“Open and Shut: The Case for OA in Libraries”

May 30, 2014

Arcadia University

Keynote Speaker: Sue Kriegsman from Harvard’s Office of Scholarly Communications

Topic: Open Access Policies for Colleges and Universities

Additional presentations and breakout sessions during the day will focus on related topics including digital repositories and the role of the library as publisher.

BEA AUTHOR BREAKFAST

BookExpo America (BEA) is the #1 book & author event in the US for librarians to discover thousands of new titles and meet hundreds of top authors!

This year’s Author Breakfasts will include Neil Patrick Harris, Tavis Smiley, Jason Segel, Carl Hiaasen, Alan Cumming, and Lena Dunham. Stay tuned as more authors are announced for the Breakfasts and Authographing!

Join us at BEA—a librarian’s heaven. Register today to take advantage of the PaLA Member Discount: www.bookexpoamerica.com/PALA.
The 2014 Carolyn W. Field Award Committee met on Wednesday, February 19 to select this year’s ballot. You will receive your ballot in early April, but in the meantime please review the titles selected.


• **Greg Pizzoli**, PA Author and Illustrator. *The Watermelon Seed*; Disney Hyperion Books.

• **Floyd Cooper**, PA Illustrator. *Brick by Brick*; Harper Collins

The Continuing Education Committee hosted a Summer Reading Club webinar on Thursday, March 27. The Super Science Team from the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Laura O'Grady from the Martin Library talked about their amazing STEM programming. Learn about robotics, coding, Minecraft, and other fun science programs for this year’s theme of Fizz, Boom, Read! For more information, please visit: [http://goo.gl/HyHSTi](http://goo.gl/HyHSTi).

Have you checked out our section on the PaLibraries.org website yet? Log in and under your avatar/next to the feed, you’ll see the groups and divisions you belong to. Click on “Youth Services Division (YSD)” and you’ll be taken to our section of the website.

Why check it out? We have a blog, forums to share ideas, and more that you can use all because you’re a member of PaLA YSD. There’s a place to share Summer Reading ideas, brag about your best programs, share your favorite links, ask fellow librarians a question, find out about upcoming opportunities in YSD, and much, much more. You can also find out where PaLA YSD is online from Pinterest to Twitter to Facebook.

We hope you’ll join in on one of the conversations online, share your favorite resources, and join our upcoming webinar.

The Best Practices Committee will begin accepting applications for this year’s Best Practices Award in April. Categories will be by age group this year: birth/toddler, preschool, elementary, middle grade, young adult, and multi-generational.

The committee has also added a new category: Display and Design, which can include passive programming, to encourage libraries to share how they best promote and display their books, programs, or other events. The Dave Roberts Award, with a monetary prize of $1,000, will be given to the best overall program.

Want to get involved? Contact Elizabeth Davis, YSD Chair at edavis@albright.org or Tegan Conner-Cole, Vice Chair at tconner@wvpl.org

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Elizabeth Davis is the YSD chair and digital services librarian at the Albright Memorial Library in Scranton. Tegan Conner-Cole is the YSD vice chair and youth librarian at the Wissahickon Valley Public Library.
The PaLA Conference Committee, led by Chris Snyder, PaLA’s 2014 2nd vice-president and conference chair, is hard at work planning another top-notch conference.

This year’s conference will be at the Lancaster County Convention Center from September 28 – October 1. The venue, which features plenty of meeting space, a large exhibit hall, and a unique downtown location, will afford lots of opportunity for meaningful interaction among attendees.

We hope you plan to join us, and if you would like to volunteer to assist in a particular committee’s work, or have a question, please feel free to contact any of the committee members.

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PaLA Awards Committee Seeks Nominations

DEADLINE: AUGUST 4, 2014

I nominate __________________ for the ____________________ Award, to be presented by the Pennsylvania Library Association in 2014.

I am making this nomination because of the following (attach additional sheets if necessary):

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Biographical information (attach additional sheets if necessary):

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

My nominee can be reached at:
Address ________________________________________________________________
City, State, ZIP __________________________________________________________
Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________ E-mail ____________________

Nominated by:
Name ________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
City, State, ZIP ______________ Telephone __________________________ Fax __________________________ Email ____________________

Please send your nominations to:
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Easton Area Public Library
515 Church Street
Easton, PA 18042
Welcome New Members

PERSONAL MEMBERS

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David Bristowe
Trustee
Upper Merion Township Library

Kathleen Cusick
Student
Arcadia University

Angella Dagenhart
Circulation Manager
Franklin County Library System

Stephanie Diaz
Reference & Instruction Librarian
Pennsylvania State University Libraries

Aleta Duey
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Sharon Duris
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Upper Merion Township Library

John Egan
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Student
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Student
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Jacqueline Zataweski
Circulation Desk Staff
Frank Sarris Public Library

Robbin Zirkle
Bellefonte, PA

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Blue Ridge Summit Free Library
Blue Ridge Summit

Ft. Loudon Library
Ft. Loudon

Union League of Philadelphia
Philadelphia

Greenville Area Public Library
Greenville
## Calendar

### January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>YSD Business Meeting</td>
<td>Adobe Connect</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Teaching, Learning &amp; Technology Business Meeting</td>
<td>Conference Call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Legislative Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>PCBL Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Conference Planning Committee</td>
<td>Norristown Public Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Legislative Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Conference Planning Committee</td>
<td>Norristown Public Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday</td>
<td>PaLA Office Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>South Central Chapter Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Legislative Sub-Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>PA Forward Steering Committee</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>President's Day Holiday</td>
<td>PaLA Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Carolyn Field Award Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Google +</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Legislative Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>PA Forward Partnership Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Cruise into Kindergarten Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>PA Forward Health Literacy Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>PA Forward Civic Social Literacy Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>PA Forward PR Marketing Committee Meeting</td>
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### March

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Nominations &amp; Elections Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Exhibit Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Conference Planning Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>PA Forward Joint Literacy Teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Legislative Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Speak Up for Librarians Evaluation Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>PCBL Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>South Central Chapter Leadership Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Summer Reading Club Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Teaching, Learning &amp; Technology Spring Workshop</td>
<td>Dixon University Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>PA Forward Steering Committee</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Calendar Updates

- Keep the PaLA BULLETIN arriving promptly in your mailbox by notifying us six to eight weeks before your move. Please return mailing label with address change.