

The Alabama Library Association (ALLA) is a non-profit corporation formed to encourage and promote the welfare of libraries and professional interests of librarians in the State of Alabama. The Mission of the Alabama Library Association is to provide leadership for the development, advocacy, and improvement of library and information services and to promote the profession of librarianship, in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.

ALLA COMMUNICATOR

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Alabama Librarians, Spring is finally here!

As someone who has spent most of his life in this hot, humid state and hates even the mildest winters, I welcome the pollen that will soon coat my car's windshield, my intense allergies, and the crazy weather we will get. What's not to love? As for the Alabama Library Association, this time of year peaks in terms of importance for our members and the Executive Council.

First, I urge each of you to participate in this year's elections! We have a great slate of candidates for some of our most important positions, and these individuals will direct our association for years to come. Please participate in this essential member duty and make sure that your friends and colleagues do as well. We need buy in from everyone who comprises ALLA, and we need your unique voice!

Second, our Virtual Annual Convention occurs on April 28 and 29! As you may remember, we had to cancel our conference last year due to the pandemic. The Council and I wanted to host a physical convention this April, but we were simply not far enough along the vaccine path to feel comfortable placing our fellow colleagues at risk. Last winter we decided to move the convention online, with the understanding that the 2022 conference will occur in Montgomery.

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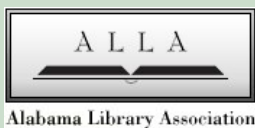
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AlabamaLibraryAssociation



2020/2021

ALLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICERS

Daniel Tackett—President
Laura Pitts—President-Elect
Jessica Hayes—Past President
Paula Webb—Secretary
Karen Preuss—Treasurer
Emily Allee—Member-at-Large:
Central AL
Ashley Cummins—Member-at-
Large: North AL
Wendy Congiardo—Member-at-
Large: South AL

DIVISION CHAIRPERSONS

Caitlin Rogers—Youth Services &
School Library
Alex Boucher—College, University
& Special Libraries
Katie Bailey—Public Library

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Angela Moore—Association Ad-
ministrator
Jodi W. Poe—Web Administrator
Paula Laurita—ALA Councilor
Margie Calhoun—SELA Repre-
sentative

OTHER POSITIONS

Jessica Platt—Editor of the ALLA
COMmunicator and The Alabama
Librarian
Donnelly Walton—Archivist
Ashley Brown—President, Scholar-
ship Fund, Inc.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Continued

We have made some necessary changes to successfully host a virtual convention. First, it will only last two days, rather than the customary four. Second, the convention is scheduled from 10:00am to 5:00pm, with an opening session and five general sessions occurring each day. Third, EVERY ALLA member can attend the conference for free! Non-members can attend for \$30. Ultimately, we want as many of our colleagues to join as possible. The virtual format will allow you to view the great opening speakers and pick which general sessions most align with your area of librarianship. You still need to register for the conference, and I hope that you will set aside some time on these days to learn from fellow librarians and meet new acquaintances! Please stay safe and, as always, let me know if ALLA can assist you in any way.

Best to all,

Daniel Tackett

ALLA President

ALLA ELECTIONS

Submitted by Jessica Hayes, ALLA Nominating Committee Chair

It is time for our annual elections. The 2021 Election is now under way. Voting is restricted to current members only. Please vote for one candidate in each of the Association Offices and then one candidate in the division(s) and round table(s) to which you are a member. Votes must be submitted using the online ballot by April 23, 2021. The online ballot and a link to the biographical information for each candidate are available on our Annual Election page at <https://alla.memberclicks.net/election>. If you have any questions or problems with the ballot, please contact the Association Office. Thank you for your interest in and support of the Alabama Library Association.



CONVENTION TIME!!!!

*Submitted by Zella'Ques Holmes,
Chair of the 2021 Annual Convention Committee*

It is Convention time!!!!

Join us April 28-29 for ALLA's Annual Convention. It will be held virtually this year. ALLA members can attend for **free** and non-members can attend for \$30. Registration is required, so that we can send you the links to the sessions. The deadline to register is April 23.

Check out our 2021 Virtual Convention Programs at a Glance on our program page at <https://alla.memberclicks.net/conventionprogram> and then go to our registration page at <https://alla.memberclicks.net/registration> to register to attend.

We hope to see you there! Thank you.

ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 2021 VIRTUAL CONVENTION

**LIBRARIES FOR ALL:
WORKING AND REBUILDING THROUGH CHANGE**
April 28-29, 2021 10 am - 4 pm



GET INVOLVED

ALLA Divisions:

YSSLD
Youth Services & School Librarians Division

CUS
College, University and Special Libraries

PLD
Public Library Division

ALLA Roundtables:

ALIRT
Alabama Library Instruction

CDMRT
Collection Development and Management

GODORT
Government Documents

MCRT
Multicultural Information

PART
Paraprofessional

RASRT
Reference and Adult Services

TSSRT
Technical Services & Systems

YASRT
Young Adult Services

ALLA Committees:

Association Awards
Authors Awards
Bibliographic
Budget & Finance
Bylaws
Convention
Education
Emeritus Council
(Formerly Past Presidents)
Employee Evaluation
Handbook
Intellectual Freedom
Legislative Development
Membership
Nominating
Planning
Public Relations
Publications

To get involved with an ALLA Committee, fill out the Committee Interest form at:
<https://goo.gl/forms/tS79Dg6YqFbjiS812>

ALLA CONVENTION PROGRAM

*Attend the variety of great programs offered at the
ALLA 2021 Virtual Convention, such as:*

- ◇ Libraries As Centers For Civic Life
- ◇ Where Do You Start? Training Tips And Resources For New Catalogers
- ◇ How To Be An Outreach Librarian In The Age Of COVID
- ◇ Census 2020: Census Data Information Resources
- ◇ Alabama Author Awards
- ◇ Learning Can Be Fun!: Game Based Learning in the Library
- ◇ Stream: Library and Makerspace Collaboration
- ◇ A Running Start: Installing a Permanent Storywalk @ Your Library
- ◇ Alabama Library Association Awards: 2020 & 2021 Recipients
- ◇ Partnering To Provide Legal Information Across Alabama
- ◇ Alabama Library Association Transition Meeting

Visit <https://www.allanet.org/annual-convention> to learn more.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2021 Virtual ALLA Convention!

JOIN ALLA TODAY!

- Reduced registration for workshops and conferences
- Networking with library personnel statewide, vendors, and elected officials
- Notification of issues concerning libraries by receiving state and national news briefs, listserv discussions, and flyers promoting activities of interest
- A designated contact person within the Association (regional Members-At-Large) so your voice is heard
- Participation in the Association's elections and events, and more!

Visit www.allanet.org/membership for more information.

ALLA COMMUNICATOR AD HOC COMMITTEE FORMED

Three members of the Alabama Library Association have been appointed to the ALLA COMMunicator Ad Hoc Committee:

- ♦ Jessica Everingham will provide updates on budget and finance, as well as the handbook and other ALLA publications
- ♦ Savannah Kitchens has agreed to provide updates on ALLA's Author Awards, bylaws, the Annual Convention, intellectual freedom, legislative development, membership, planning, public relations, and publications.
- ♦ Tyler Whitten will provide updates on the Annual Convention and ALLA membership.

Thank you, Jessica, Savannah, and Tyler!

We look forward to your contributions to ALLA's newsletter, the *ALLA COMMunicator*.

Government Documents Round Table (GODORT)

Submitted by Tim Dodge, History & Political Science Librarian

Auburn University

GODORT has had a busy year and we also have a program at the forthcoming convention on April 28. The convention program is "Census 2020: Census Data Information Resources" featuring Marilyn Stephens, Partnership Coordinator, U.S. Census Bureau, Atlanta Region. The program is scheduled to take place 3:00 – 3:50 p.m.

The round table has hosted two webinars in recent months: Library of Congress Slave Narratives" on December 7, 2020 presented by Tim Dodge (Auburn University) and "Census and Sensibility: Using and Interpreting U.S. Census Records" on January 27, 2021 presented by Mary Beth Newbill (Birmingham Public Library).

In addition GODORT produces an online newsletter, the GODORT Connection, that appears three times a year. Here is a link to the November 2020 issue: https://issuu.com/allacommunicator/docs/alla_godort_november_2020. A new issue should be appearing any day now and a link will be sent, as usual, to the AlALLA-L listserv.

Finally, since July 2020 Tim Dodge has sent out about twice a month the GODORT Note, a basic introduction to a government document, agency, or resource intended to give the reader not well acquainted with government documents an idea about the sheer wealth of government information and resources available.

SEED LENDING LIBRARY RESTOCKED, READY FOR SPRING

Submitted by Wendy Congiardo, Managing Librarian

Thomas B. Norton Public Library

Spring is just around the corner and the Seed Lending Library has been restocked to assist with filling your spring garden. The budding collection – housed in an old card catalogue at the Bay Minette Public Library – features an assortment of donated seeds for herbs, ornamentals and vegetables.

Joanna Bailey, library director, said the Seed Lending Library has been a “wonderful addition to the many services we offer the community. Especially now, during the time of Covid, people need safe outlets and working with your hands in the dirt planting herbs, fruits, vegetables and flowers is a fabulous alternative. What a great opportunity to get outdoors in the fresh air and sunshine.” The process is simple. Seeds are organized by herbs, ornamentals, and vegetables. Patrons can come in, sign out seeds, then go home and plant them, Bailey explained. Once their crop comes in, the gardener harvests the seeds and may return them to the library where they are packaged and added back into the Seed Lending Library.

Since starting the project in 2017, Bailey said it has really blossomed into a wonderful service. “The Seed Lending Library has really taken off and people are very excited about it,” she said. “I have a notebook for people to ‘check-out’ seeds, and people leave nice notes in it. We also have people bringing in seeds to replenish the collection.” Bailey said this year’s additions include “different herbs such as basil and rosemary. We have a variety of vegetables from beans and squash to spinach and cabbage. We have lots of flowers as well and many that aid the bee and butterfly populations like milkweed and coneflowers.” One added benefit of the library is that the seeds have weathered the regional conditions and are more apt to thrive. The library also has prepared information on seed saving, planting timetables, frost timetables and has added some books on the topic to its collections.

For more information about the Seed Lending Library, call 251-580-1648 or stop by and peruse the wide assortment of seeds available. Caroline Brown has utilized the seed library since it first began in 2017. She said it's a treasure trove for the community. "They have no idea what a resource the seed library is," the avid gardener said. "It is totally the best thing to do because you get the seeds for free." Yes, the Seed Lending Library has really taken off and people are very excited about it.

SEED LENDING LIBRARY RE-STOCKED, READY FOR SPRING

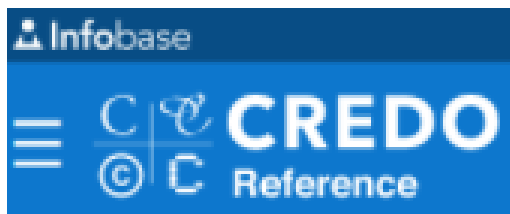
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NEW RESOURCES:

CREDO REFERENCE GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES ESSENTIALS COLLECTION AT UNIVERSITY

The University Libraries have subscribed to Credo Reference's Gender and Women's Studies Essentials Collection. This ebook collection contains 20 titles that address gender and women's issues from a variety of perspectives. Books include *Gender Economics*, *Junctures in Women's Leadership: Business*, *The Sage Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies*, and *Trans Studies*.



WHAT'S NEW @ YOUR LIBRARY?

ALLA COMMUNICATOR SUBMISSIONS

Please feel free to submit your library-related news to:
communicator.alla@gmail.com
Submissions must include:

- Your Name
- Job Title
- Library or organization name
- Contact Email and Phone
- Article in PDF or Word
- .jpg images may be attached
- Description of images

ALLA COMMUNICATOR PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

Edition	Submission Deadline	Publication Date
Jul/Aug/Sep	Mid-June	July
Oct/Nov/Dec	Mid-Sept.	October
Jan/Feb/Mar	Mid-Dec.	January
Apr/May/Jun	Mid-March	April

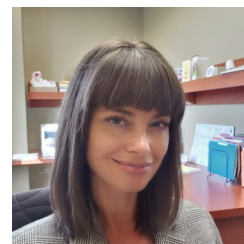


The Alabama School Library Association (ASLA) is hosting a Virtual Summer Conference
June 14-15, 2021.

Register at bit.ly/ASLA2021

FROM THE EDITOR

*Contributed by Jessica Platt,
Education Doctoral Librarian
Alabama State University*



ALLA has an exciting Virtual Convention planned! If you're like me, you're looking forward to it!

In other exciting news, ALLA's peer-reviewed journal is soon to be published for the first time in more than a decade. *The Alabama Librarian* began its publication in 1949 but ceased publication in 2009. The Editorial Board is working on reviewing articles that have been submitted and would love to receive a submission from you and your colleagues. For submission guidelines and other information about the journal, please visit

<https://www.allanet.org/alabama-librarian>

As always, thank you for reading—and/or submitting content to—the *ALLA COMMUNICATOR*, the official newsletter of the Alabama Library Association. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to

communicator.alla@gmail.com.

Special thanks to Michelle Hamrick for proofreading this issue.

Alabama Library Association
2021 Virtual Convention

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Wednesday - Thursday
April 28-29, 2021
10 am - 4 pm

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