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ACL Agenda
Friday, July 12, 2024
9:00am-12pm
Berkeley Public Library: Central Library, Story Room

9:00–9:30: **Book sale and socializing**

9:30–9:40 **Introductions and Announcements:** Welcome to anyone new!

9:40–10:10: **Book reviewing:** Outstanding and Unsatisfactory or controversial (a.k.a. stinky-cheese) titles only. If time remains, other titles can be discussed.

Check out BayViews for this month's Outstanding reviews.

10:10–10:20: **Nominating committee announces 2024-2025 slate**: Vote to come in August.

Nominating committee is Catherine, Shani, and Angela and they put forward the following 2024-2025 slate:

Lillian Whithaus for Vice President
Josh Rees for Treasurer
Sarah Kaminker for Copy Editor
Brianna Arellano-Meli for Secretary

As outlined in the bylaws, Shani Boyd is our incoming President. The Vice President position is a two-year commitment and they serve as the Vice President for a year and then President the following year.

We will have an official vote at our next meeting, which will be in person at Berkeley Public Library on Friday, August 9th.

10:20–10:30: **Committee highlight/overview:** Learn more about ACL Committees and positions you might want to join now or in the future!

We've talked about most of our committees over the past year. Please reach out if you have questions about any committees! Today we discussed Membership, Helfeld, and Performers' Showcase.

Membership and Helfeld are always looking for additional support. Helfeld is a great shorter commitment, mostly focused in the spring when they review applications.

Performers' Showcase is chaired by Armin and three other ACL members, Sheila, Diana, and Renee. It's a pretty intense commitment from August until February. The committee reviews applications and decides who will perform at the Showcase, as well as run the program day-of, usually on a Sunday in February. They would be happy to have new people join!

Impromptu Discussion of Ohlone Representation in Children's Books

We had an impromptu discussion about Ohlone representation in kids' books (inspired by Berkeley Public Library's new land acknowledgement announcement), as well as library programming and connections with Ohlone groups and performers. Sogorea Te' Land Trust is a great online resource with lots of information, although most of it is geared towards adults and teens. Ohlone Sisters and Café Ohlone have partnered with Bay Area public libraries (San Francisco and Berkeley) on various programs.

10:30-10:45: **Break**

10:45–11:30: **Professional Development: ALA Conference share:** Please join us for a roundtable discussion of highlights from the American Library Association Annual Conference.

Session highlight: Where Are the Arab American Voices in Children's Literature. They had good visuals and they reminded people that Muslims are not necessarily Arab (or Arab American). How can we do better in our displays and information about Arabs and Arab Americans? Especially for heritage month and holiday displays.

Freedom to Read celebration was really inspiring. ALA in general was a really lovely celebration of authors loving libraries and librarians loving authors. It was generally a really good and inspiring time.

There's just so much going on – you can go to panels, chase down authors, go to awards, and more. Lots of books and swag to bring back and share with classroom kids.

Graphic Novels Round Table Magical Comics Tea. The creators go around from table to table and you get to talk to them for about four minutes. It was a great way to really hear from different creators and be in a more intimate setting.

Also shout out to all the fabulous folks in ACL who are involved in ALA as well and have done really fabulous work there!

Black creators panel was a great event, but it was at a bad point in the schedule of events.

Armin was on the Newbery committee this year and got to meet so many authors and hear about their experiences of winning this award. ALA is making it easier to be on an

award committee, you just have to fill out a form instead of it being an election.

Shani went to a good virtual ALA session on recorded (audio) books and heard about how they make recorded books for graphic novels. They actually write a slightly different script in order to maintain the flow of the story in a recorded version. Rachael recommended *Mexikid* as an audio graphic novel that was an excellent adaptation of the printed book.

Other conferences: School Library Journal event in November is a great smaller conference, especially for school librarians. ALA Midwinter/LibLearnX was a great experience and chance to meet some awesome authors and discuss freedom to read. Brianna was on the Alex Award committee last year and had a nice experience doing that work. An impactful session at LibLearnX was on open-ended creation programs for kids as a way to process emotions.

11:30–12:00: **Business meeting**

- **Consent calendar**
  - Approval of June minutes
  - Treasurer's report
    - Checking: $27,957
    - Savings: $3,944

    Consent calendar passed.

- **New business / Committee updates**
  - Mission Statement vote to hire Megan Joseph

    Megan's fee is $1000. With this fee, Megan will do an initial 90-minute meeting with all of the ACL membership to join and talk about who we are. Megan would do two followup meetings with the ACL board. After these three meetings, she would create a vision/mission statement and guiding principles draft.

    We did not vote today, but we will vote on this at the next meeting in August. We will be sending out some additional information so that everyone has the full picture about what we want to accomplish and why.

  - Budget Committee

    We are due to create a Budget Committee who will work with our Budget Chair (Kimberly) to create next year's budget. There are several positions that are

required to be on it, as well as two additional general members. The fiscal year for ACL starts in September. More information about the Budget Committee and budget requirements can be found in the bylaws, located here.

- Volunteer(s) needed: Refreshments

  We have money to reimburse you for in-person meeting snacks! We'd love to have a volunteer or two to do this, it doesn't have to be too fancy or complicated. Let Caroline know if you're interested.

- **Announcements**
  - Job openings: *Please e-mail these to the Secretary (lillianwhithaus@gmail.com) if you would like them to appear in the minutes.*

    There's an open part-time position at the Waldorf High School in San Francisco, you can find more information here.

    Berkeley Public Library is taking continuous applications for Librarian I here and Supervising Librarian here.

  - Humbug Witch queries
  - Book/Resource recommendations: If you have a topic that you need resources for, request them here.

    Folks are wanting to keep an eye out for books by Native and about Native experiences (see the notes following the ALA discussion notes above for more details).

  Kathy is interested in pursuing a music and movement Institute in the spring. We need to finalize the topic as a group, as well as who will be involved. The Institute usually happens in April or May.

  Helfeld has selected folks and will be announcing them soon!

- **Feedback and appreciations:** Feel free to email Caroline (carolinedavis@aclibrary.org) and Shani (shani13reads@gmail.com) additional comments! This will also be a space to acknowledge and appreciate fellow ACL members. If you have an upcoming birthday, have a professional or personal success or accomplishment (promotions, job changes, graduations, etc.) you'd like to share, please let us know. We want to celebrate you!

Kathy received a book and certificate from Friends of the Richmond Public Library.

Happy birthday, Kathy! And to any other July birthdays we might have missed!

12:00: **Adjourn**

Submitted by
Lillian W.