

# ALA Committee/Taskforce Report Form to Council

TO: ALA Council

DATE: January 2026

RE: *(select one)*

- ACTION REQUESTED
- INFORMATION
- XX REPORT**

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:** *(add below)*

Committee on Library Advocacy Activity since June 13, 2025.

The committee held an in-person meeting at Annual Conference 2025 and virtual meetings in September and November 2025.

In September 2025, the COLA welcomed new committee members and new liaisons from the divisions. The Committee also discussed possibly organizing an advocacy video contest to support National Library Week 2026. Megan Mauer volunteered to be the project point for a future video contest.

In November 2025 COLA members received an update from Amelia Aldred, staff liaison, on the reduction in force at ALA, which included the loss of Jazzy Celindro, the staff liaison to the Ecosystem subcommittee.

In Fall 2025, COLA chair Eboni Henry met with the chair of the Public Awareness Committee and ALA staff to discuss sunseting the Public Awareness Committee. The proposed action is included in a report appendix in COO's report to Council.

## **Unite Against Book Bans updates to COLA**

Unite Against Book Bans is ALA's campaign to mobilize the public in support of the freedom to read and is under the oversight of COLA. A strategic plan for the remainder of FY 2025 and calendar year 2025 was submitted to COLA and approved in May 2025. Unite Against Book Bans was submitted a quarterly report to COLA regarding activities and progress to goals. The FY2025 Q4 report informed COLA members that all goals are on track to be met for the end of calendar year 2025.

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## *FY2025 Q4 At-A-Glance*

- Added one national partner organization and one state/local partner organization, for a total of 257 partners.
- Increased individual supporters by 1,379 for a new total of 47,236.
- Sent 0 action alerts with 0 action centers:
  - PPA action alerts: 0
  - UABB action alerts: 0
  - Action centers: 0
- Sent 3 messages to entire individual supporter list
- Sent 4 messages to partner organizations
- Facilitated 2 bimonthly partner meetings
- Organized and executed in-person film screening + panel and organizing party for ALA Annual Conference, ~ 100 people in attendance

## **2025-2026 Committee on Library Advocacy Members**

Eboni Henry, Chair; Jen Baxter; Elissa A. Burnley; Meghan Damiano; Erin Jones; Stephanie M. Jones; Joe Kohlburn; Megan T. Maurer; Jamie Elizabeth Mercer; Janet T. O'Keefe; Jennifer A. Park; Meagan N. Stone; Regina Vitolo; Lisa L. Wells;

**Liaisons to COLA:** Sophia Sotilleo (Executive Board); Kim Copenhaver (ACRL); Wendy Garland (AASL), Meagan Albright (ACLS); Maura Deedy (UFL)

## **COLA's Ecosystem Subcommittee work since June 13, 2025:**

The COLA Library Ecosystem Subcommittee remains busy.

## **2025-2026 Workplan includes:**

- Plan programs for ALA units of focus and states, current and upcoming
- Develop additional tools to support strong implementation of ALA Ecosystem Initiative ideas.



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- Produces and publishes programs, webinars, and articles about ecosystem implementation and successes.
- Facilitates a community of ecosystem practitioners to support the exchange of ideas, successes and even challenges
- Evaluate our progress annually.
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## Completed projects include:

- The [Fall 2025 Webinar](#) was a great success on November 13 at 4pm Central. Please register to view it.
- Ecosystem for PLA TG is on track to produce an Ecosystem Workbook in time for the PLA conference in early April.

## Current projects include:

- Updating the 25-26 Workplan and goals
- Website update
- Infographic on the Benefits of Ecosystem Application
- 2025-26 needs a new list of conference proposals, webinars, other outreach
- Creating Communication Plan

## 2025-2026 Ecosystem Subcommittee membership:

**Co-chairs:** Dorcas Hand (Students Need Libraries in Houston ISD TX) ; Nanette Donohue (Champaign IL Public Lib)

**Subcommittee:** Chris Rosser (Kansas State University); Delandrus Seales (UNC Wilmington); Crystal Gates; Delandrus Seales; Dorinda Darden; Janet O'Keefe ; Jen Alvino Wood; Kathryn Thomas; Maura Deedy; Michael Lambert; Sara Kelly Johns

Action requested from Councilors is to cast their vote to: *(if applicable)*

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:** *(add committee name)*

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**CONTACT PERSON:** Eboni M. Henry (ebonihenry@hotmail.com)

**STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:** Amelia N. Aldred (aaldred@ala.org)

**BACKGROUND:** *(add information)*