**TO:**  PLA Board of Directors

**RE:** PLA Continuing Education Report

**DATE:**  March 1, 2024

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**Information

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:** Angela Maycock, Continuing Education Manager

**DRAFT OF MOTION:**N/A

**PLA ONLINE LEARNING**

Since our last CE update to the Board in November 2023, PLA has offered 11 free webinars – 6 “Stronger Together” networking conversations, 3 Google Super Searchers webinars, and 2 webinars on PLA data initiatives.

The PLA Leadership Development Committee hosted a series of [“Stronger Together” networking conversations](https://www.ala.org/pla/leadership), with two conversations a month from this fall through January. These conversations were not recorded but meant to provide a networking and dialogue space.

PLA hosted a second free-to-members series this fall and winter as part of a grant from Google. [Supersearchers](https://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/informationliteracy/supersearchers) is a free training and toolkit for Google users to understand the context that surrounds what they find when searching the Web.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Date** | **Registration** | **Attendance** |
| Beyond Super Searchers (Google Super Searchers Webinar #3 of 5) | November 3, 2023 | 600 | 186 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | November 7, 2023 | 209 | 73 |
| Benchmark 101 | November 13, 2023 | 422 | 167 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | November 16, 2023 | 157 | 35 |
| Google Super Searchers Webinar #4 of 5 | November 28, 2023 | 450 | 201 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | December 5, 2023 | 150 | 48 |
| Data Tools for Library Groups and States [hosted by ACRL] | December 11, 2023 | 219 | 103 |
| Google Super Searchers Webinar #5 of 5 | December 12, 2023 | 412 | 178 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | December 14, 2023 | 159 | 34 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | January 9, 2024 | 154 | 46 |
| Stronger Together: Purposeful Service (Leadership Conversation) | January 18, 2024 | 151 | 44 |
| **Total** |  | **3083** | **1115** |

PLA also offered the following 5 paid webinars, on topics selected from proposals reviewed by the PLA Continuing Education Advisory Group:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Date** | **Registration** | **Attendance** |
| The Mentor Monitor Program as a Supplement to Security and Resource to Staff | November 15, 2023 | 51 | 34 |
| Empowering Future Managers through Cohort Mentoring | November 13, 2023 | 80 | 55 |
| Centering Teens in the Fight Against Censorship | January 16, 2024 | 45 | 25 |
| IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Solutions) in the Library | February 14, 2024 | 108 | 69 |
| Embracing a Public Service Mindset to Increase Your Value to the Community and Change the Narrative | February 28, 2024 | 108 | 78 |
| **Total** |  | **392** | **261** |

These paid webinars have generated $21,558 in revenue.

Following the November 30th close of PLA’s biannual call for webinar proposals, the PLA Continuing Education Advisory Group reviewed 40 proposals and selected 8 for presentation. The accepted webinars are currently being scheduled for March – August 2024.

**PLA @ ALA Annual Conference**

The 2024 Annual Conference Program Subcommittee, chaired by Laura McGrath, reviewed 128 proposals for ALA Annual Conference in San Diego and selected 15 for PLA’s allotted program slots. Submitters were notified of their acceptance status in December. One accepted program cancelled their participation but was able to be rescheduled as a PLA 2024 Virtual Conference program, and the resulting open slot was filled with a program on digital inclusion featuring Dr. Brandy McNeil.

**PLA 2024 Conference**

The PLA 2024 Conference Program Subcommittee, chaired by Candice Wing-Yee Mack, reviewed over 560 proposals and selected 124 one-hour panel presentations, 8 one-hour roundtables, 4 half-day workshops, and 7 virtual-only programs. An additional 2 half-day workshops were programmed by the Ohio Library Council and 2 half-day workshops were programmed by PLA.

Following the Early Bird registration deadline, PLA staff made the decision to cancel 3 of the 8 planned half-day workshops – including one organized by OLC – due to low registration. Both the cancelled OLC workshop and one additional cancelled workshop – focused on EDISJ in small/rural libraries and organized by Erica Freudenberger – were able to be rescheduled as programs.

Of the 132 accepted and planned programs, 7 have cancelled their PLA 2024 participation, citing staffing changes, funding challenges, and other unforeseen circumstances. Of these 7 cancelled programs, 3 involved speakers from the New York Public Library – although 1 of the 3 cancelled NYPL sessions was able to be rescheduled as a Virtual Conference program.

The Virtual Conference agenda will feature 22 educational programs, offering attendees a choice between 2 programs in each of 11 program slots. Half of the programs will be virtual-only, delivered remotely by presenters across the country, and the other half will be encore performances of some of the most popular in-person programs. These “in person AND virtual” programs will include presentations by Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Michael Lambert, and Dr. Maria Taesil Hudson McCauley.

The [full list of PLA 2024 educational programs](https://www.placonference.org/eYz0YL) can be found on the PLA Conference website.