

Resolution to Investigate Changing Dates for Future Annual Conferences of the American Library Association

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) is committed to supporting and promoting inclusivity, diversity, and equity within the library community;

Whereas pride festivals and celebrations are important events that commemorate and affirm the identities and contributions of the LGBTQIA+ community;

Whereas it has been observed that 61% of pride festivals in the top 50 most populated cities in the United States occur during the second and fourth week of June;

Whereas the ALA's Annual Conference, traditionally held during the fourth week of June, conflicts with many pride festivals, leading to difficulties for the 1,476 Rainbow Round Table members and other LGBTQIA+ members of the ALA to fully participate in both events;

Whereas ALA members who identify as LGBTQIA+ have expressed concerns regarding their inability to join in the pride celebrations with their families and friends due to the overlapping dates of the Annual Conference;

Whereas revising the dates for future annual conferences to avoid overlapping with pride festivals would facilitate the full participation of LGBTQIA+ members, supporting their personal and professional well-being; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Direct the Conference Committee to investigate dates for future Annual Conferences that have not already been planned, so as to prevent scheduling conflicts with the second and fourth week of June, which coincide with the majority of pride festivals;
2. Consult with the ALA membership, particularly the LGBTQIA+ members, in order to gather input and perspectives regarding potential alternative dates and considerations for future Annual Conferences;
3. Communicate the progress and outcomes of this investigation to its membership by ALA Annual 2024, ensuring transparency and accountability in its decision-making process.