

**Committee on Library Advocacy (COLA)**  
**Report to Council**  
**June 2022**

Below is a brief summary of COLA's work since January 1, 2022.

- Presented at LibLearnX
  - Participated in a Public Policy & Advocacy session: “Connecting the Dots: Engaging Stakeholders in Effective Library Advocacy”
    - Session featured representation from COLA, Committee on Legislation, Chapter Relations Committee, and United for Libraries
- Held a joint meeting with the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) in February hear about Unite Against Book Bans campaign development and to discuss ways to support state and local intellectual freedom efforts
- Updated the Advocacy Action Plan Workbook that will be available as part of ALA's advocacy resources on the web
- Planned a voter engagement panel for Annual 2022 to launch ALA's National Voter Registration Day efforts for 2022
  - Become a partner and receive free resources for your events by visiting [bit.ly/ALANVRD22](https://bit.ly/ALANVRD22)
- Members of COLA's Ecosystem subcommittee presented in a variety of places, both virtual and in person, on how to use the Ecosystem Toolkit, including:
  - A virtual presentation for the Alaska Library Association conference.
  - In-person presentations at the conferences of the Texas Library Association and the School Library Section of the New York Library Association.
    - American Association of School Librarians president Jennisen Lucas co-presented with Ecosystem subcommittee co-chair Sara Kelly Johns in New York
  - An upcoming presentation at the International Association of School Librarians (IASL) conference in July.
- Members of the Ecosystem subcommittee are proposing a book of 15-18 essays to the ALA Publication Committee.
- Committee Chair Steven Yates has been trained as a member spokesperson for the Unite Against Book Bans campaign.
  - Join the Unite Against Book Bans movement at <https://UniteAgainstBookBans.org/>
- Committee chair Steven Yates attended Public Policy & Advocacy's Workshop on Digital Inclusion and Broadband in Washington, DC on June 1-2
- Committee Chair Steven Yates meets regularly with the chairs of the Chapter Relations Committee, the Committee on Legislation, and the Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee.

Be sure to join us during Annual 2022 in the following places:

- Saturday, June 25
  - COLA Meeting, 8:30-10:00am in Renaissance River Birch B
  - Unite Against Book Bans: The National Campaign, 4:00-5:00pm in Convention Center 151B
- Sunday, June 26
  - COLA Ecosystem Subcommittee Meeting, 1:00-2:00pm in Convention Center 142

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2022 ALA Annual Conference

- Sustaining Democracy through Voter Engagement: National Voter Registration Day 2022, 4:00-5:00pm in Convention Center 150A
- Monday, June 27
  - Council III, 9:00-11:30am in Marriott Marquis, Liberty Ballroom
    - Joint COLA/IFC Presentation to Council on Unite Against Book Bans

Contact COLA chair Steven Yates ([steven.d.yates@ua.edu](mailto:steven.d.yates@ua.edu)) or COLA staff liaison Megan Cusick ([mcusick@ala.org](mailto:mcusick@ala.org)) for more information on the work mentioned here.