

## OLA Information, 2016- 2017

### **List of Officers:**

President: Elsa Loftis  
Vice President: Buzzy Nielsen  
Past President: Jane Corry  
Treasurer: Stephanie Lind  
Secretary: Damon Campbell  
Parliamentarian: Dan White  
ALA Representative: Danielle Jones  
Member at Large: Jennifer Pedersen  
State Librarian: MaryKay Dahlgreen

### **Location and theme of annual conference:**

Salem Convention Center  
April 19-22, 2017  
Thriving Together

### **Notable speakers:**

Chloe Eudaly, Portland City Commissioner  
Maggie Stiefvater, Author

### **Notable awards/honorary memberships:**

OLA Librarian of the year: Martin Blasco  
Library Employee of the year: Cindy York  
Library Supporter of the year: Aloha Community Library Association  
Evelyn Sibley Lampman Award: Heather McNeil  
OLA President's Award: Shirley Roberts

### **Outstanding events that you remember**

- 2017 OLA Legislative Day in Salem
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) mobilization with OASL to get school libraries as part of the state implementation plan
- Ready to Read Program funding remained stable
- Mobilized membership in support of Net Neutrality, IMLS, LSTA, IAL, and successfully got most of our DC elected representatives to sign Dear Appropriator letters in support of LSTA and IAL
- We renegotiated Shirley Roberts' contract, our association manager, and finally gave her a much-deserved pay raise
- Douglas County Library closures due to a failed district measure. Currently most branches are functioning either as volunteer-run or city libraries, but we support a sustainable funding path for them
- Wallowa County Library is under threat of closure, but is currently working towards getting a district measure on the ballot

- Voters in Josephine County approved their library district, as did voters in Tillamook County and Fern Ridge, in May
- Oregon Authors website transferred to Portland State University' platform
- The Intellectual Freedom Committee won the Gerald Hodges Intellectual Freedom Chapter Relations Award for their "Tuesday Topics"
- PLD went to work on updating their Public Library Standards
- OASL worked on a rubric for grade level learning indicators, which is in draft form now
- Two task forces were formed:
  - Website task force
  - Fundraising task force
- PORTALS money, leftover from an LSTA grant, funding NW Central, became available to OLA to provide professional development (these monies will go toward our upcoming Leadership Institute)
- OLA continued work on its strategic plan initiatives, notably:
  - Memberclicks upgrade for the OLA website/association software
  - Leadership Institute to commence in May of 2018
  - Leadership scholarships, 3 given this year

This was an extremely busy year. Libraries in Oregon did some amazing things. But they also faced difficult times, and responded with courage, tenacity, and creativity. It was a privilege to serve the Oregon Library Association as President this year, and look forward to the bright future of such a dynamic association. The people I served with are some of the most brilliant and dedicated professionals I've ever met. Special thanks to Jane Corry for her leadership in her 'Past President' role, Buzzy Nielsen for his dedication and capability as he takes over as President, and Shirley Roberts for her ceaseless hardwork and deep knowledge of the association.

Elsa Loftis