

# American Indian Library Association



## NEWSLETTER

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### President’s Message

Dear AILA Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your President for this year, 2019-2020.

This year, AILA was delighted to join ATALM in an official capacity. The AILA Roundtable was a great kick-off to what will be an annual presence as AILA will now conduct a business meeting at future ATALM Conferences.

Additional banner highlights include the announcement of Joy Harjo as our first American Indian Poet Laureate. January 2020 will also mark the first announcement of the AIYLA winners at the Youth Media Awards celebration in Philadelphia, PA.

Even while we celebrate, however, there have also been reminders of the critical importance of a vocal and active AILA organization. Debbie Reese was singled out for disparaging comments, and not in spite of, but because of her long and venerable work in reviewing children’s and YA literature. While Dr. Reese often evaluates books by and about American Indians and

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## AILA Executive Board

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Rhiannon Sorrell (Diné), 2018-2020

Carla Davis-Castro, 2019-2021

### The *AILA Newsletter* is published biannually in Spring and Fall.

Articles and News of interest to AILA members should be sent for consideration to:

[ailanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ailanewsletter@gmail.com)

### Deadlines for submitting materials are:

March 15 for inclusion in the Spring issue

October 15 for inclusion in the November issue

### Advertising Policy:

Advertisements will be accepted as space permits.

Advertising should be submitted to:

[ailanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ailanewsletter@gmail.com)

Rates: Full page: \$125; half page: \$75; quarter page: \$50. Payment is requested at the time the ad is submitted.

### Job Listings:

There is no fee for members to post job advertisements on our AILA-L listserv. The fee for unaffiliated organizations is \$50. Job listings should be submitted to: Heather Devine-Hardy at:

[ailawebsite@gmail.com](mailto:ailawebsite@gmail.com)

Native cultures, her work speaks to the broadest context of diversity and inclusion.

The attack on Debbie Reese reminds us that we continue to have work that must be done. The celebration of AIYLA at the YMAS remind us of the strength and power of our organization, as well as of the collective communities and nations AILA represents.

As the larger library profession continues to grapple with issues of equity, diversity and inclusion, AILA has always been a leader in this arena. While others often forget, we have operated as one of the most diverse representative organizations within the profession, with a vast range of cultures from Arapaho to Zuni.

As always, we encourage your ongoing participation. If you have any interest in serving as AILA leadership, even if in the future, please be in contact with a current Board Member. If you wish to either participate either without committing to a Board position or to prepare for one, please consider volunteering:

<https://ailanet.org/about/committees/committee-volunteer-form/>

Finally, in order to help us eliminate any barriers to robust member participation and representation, we invite your comments on how to improve AILA over the coming years:

Sincerely and Mvto,  
George Gottschalk

## AILA Congratulates and Celebrates



## Joy Harjo

Poet Laureate for our shared nation  
and for all our nations



## Interview with Australia Aboriginal Writers at National Book Festival

Jennifer Manning

Carla Davis-Castro

On August 31, 2019, the Library of Congress hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> National Book Festival in Washington, DC. AILA members Jennifer Manning and Carla Davis-Castro interviewed three

of Australia's Aboriginal writers, who traveled upon invitation to speak on a panel. Jeanine Leane (Wiradjuri) spoke about her latest book, a poetry collection titled *Walk Back Over*, Brenton E. McKenna (Yawuru) discussed the third installment in the *Ubby's Underdogs* graphic novel series, and Kim Scott (Noongar) talked about his latest novel, *Taboo*.

During the panel session, all of the authors spoke about indigenous languages. Jeanine spoke about her experiences in school where she was not allowed to speak her language yet she said that the language was not dead, it was sleeping. She said learning to speak her language was like being born again. "How bashed into submission was my mouth? I was a slave to grammar, to punctuation." She also explained "You can only understand people through their stories. I write to remember. Australia as a settled colony needs to be unsettled. So I write to unsettle. So many people think aboriginal people should only write about aboriginal things, but we can write about other things."

Brenton described how today's accents are influenced by the land. In the Catholic schools he attended, the students were encouraged to only speak English at home and to correct their parents, but this started changing around 15 years ago. In a later interview he said that some of the current church leaders speak Yawuru and he would one day like to write a graphic novel completely in this language.

Kim said that he invested great time and energy in language recovery. Learning an indigenous language can help one resonate with the spirit of the country. "Indigenous languages are a major denomination in the currency of identity and belonging. That's where the potential for transformation comes." Kim works with the Wirlomin Noongar Language and Stories project [www.wirlomin.com.au](http://www.wirlomin.com.au) to produce illustrated Noongar language books that are published through the University of Western Australia Publishing.

Kim and Jeanine both said that, just as in North America, there are “problematic” books that portray indigenous peoples in stereotypical ways. There are some important Australian contemporary novelists that get indigenous characters “all wrong.”

### Interview Questions

1. Do you feel pigeonholed as an “Indigenous writer”?

**Brenton:** Being a graphic novelist, they don’t know what to with me. When people hear I’m an aboriginal artist, they want to know what kind of [Aboriginal Australian] dot paintings I do.

**Kim:** Sometimes we get trapped in the genre, but we can trap ourselves, too.

**Jeanne:** Our indigenous communities are very policed, both within and without, about what to write, and who can write.” She explained that her next work is about indigenous characters living and flourishing “off country”\* and she knows that she will meet some resistance about that.

\*“off country” meaning away from your native homeland. Sort of like “off the rez.”

2. Are there tribal libraries in Australia? Can you describe what they are like?

All three authors explained that Australia does not have libraries (public or academic) or colleges operated by tribal governments the way the U.S. and Canada does. However, many libraries have an “indigenous studies” section. Both resources and literacy are problems in indigenous communities. Brenton explained that many indigenous children still attend one-room schools. Indigenous communities do not have the resources to pay for authors to come out to visit. Kim said he feels the best way to get books into the hands of indigenous peoples is through indigenous language projects. Jeanne tries to mentor young indigenous writers, especially those who have yet to publish.

3. What role have libraries played in your life during your youth, schooling, or currently?

**Brenton:** I used to get into trouble with an old English librarian for reading comics. She called them ‘pulp fiction’ like it was excrement. The library became more of a haven in secondary school. Comic books forced me to ask questions. I tell my kids not to be afraid of the library because it is a mountain of knowledge just waiting. My son says ‘there is nothing there for me’ and I say I bet I can find something in five minutes and I do.

4. What would you want librarians in the U.S. to know about your work or to share with their patrons?

**Brenton:** “Don’t pigeonhole my books! Don’t just put them in the “Indigenous Australian Studies” section. They are good enough to be in the regular graphic novels section!”

Brenton also said that Indigenous Australians are becoming more aware of Native Americans and they are starting to adopt the term “First Nations.” However, there is also a strong interest and affinity with African American culture.



5. What future projects are in the works?

**Brenton:** “Nothing is off limits.” For his next work, he would like to do ghost stories in the genre of indigenous horror. He is in the process of speaking to his community elders because “I have to get my community’s approval. In the future, I may approach other community elders.” Brenton will also take part in Australia’s first Indigenous Comic Con in Melbourne in November <https://www.indigenouspopx.com/> thanks to the efforts of AILA member Dr. Lee Francis.

For more information on Aboriginal Australian authors and works:

- Magabala Books Press (<https://www.magabala.com/>)
  - Australia’s only indigenous publisher, and publisher of Brenton’s graphic novels.
- Cordite Books Press (<https://corditebooks.org.au/>)
- Noongar Language and Stories project ([www.wirlomin.com.au](http://www.wirlomin.com.au))
- Red Room Poetry (<https://redroomcompany.org/>) promotes indigenous poetry

Are you passionate about the AILA Newsletter?  
Contact [georgeedwardg@outlook.com](mailto:georgeedwardg@outlook.com) if you are  
interested in volunteering to serve as our next  
Newsletter Editor!



## UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO PRESS

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### NEWS RELEASE

## New Mexico Co-Publishing Partnership to Showcase Native American Writers

ALBUQUERQUE—The University of New Mexico Press and Red Planet Books and Comics announce a co-publishing partnership that will launch the book series Red Planet Books in Spring 2021. The series will feature graphic novels and graphic nonfiction by Native American writers and illustrators.

“The explosive growth of graphic novels and graphic nonfiction for adults and young adults gives us a platform to do something really unique,” says Stephen Hull, the director of UNM Press. “Our partnership with Red Planet Books and Comics will be a laboratory for cutting edge, creative work by Native American writers and artists, bearing on the Indigenous experience.”

Award-winning author Stephen Graham Jones’s forthcoming *Memorial Ride* is slated as the inaugural work of this flagship partnership. Red Planet Books plans to highlight Native graphic fiction and nonfiction annually for a wide audience of general readers in bookstores and libraries.

Dr. Lee Francis IV, founder of Red Planet Books and Comics, remarks, “This is such an exciting venture for Red Planet, and we hope to reach a wider audience with the help of UNM Press. With the incredible history of the Press and its many publications by Native writers, I think this is a perfect collaboration that will bring so many great works to life.”

#### ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO PRESS

Established in 1929, the University of New Mexico Press publishes creative works and scholarship in several disciplines, including Native and Indigenous studies. UNM Press is the largest publisher in New Mexico and seeks to represent the culture, history, and stories of the Southwest.

#### ABOUT RED PLANET BOOKS AND COMICS

Red Planet Books and Comics is the only Native American comic shop in the world. It serves as the storefront and headquarters of Native Realities, an Albuquerque-based company that also hosts Indigenous Expo. Native Realities publications include *Tales of the Mighty Code Talkers* and *Deer Woman: An Anthology*.

## SOLDIERS UNKNOWN

A World War One graphic novel by Chag Lowry & Rahsan Ekedal

### Temecula, California [August 20, 2019] -

The Klamath River, 1918. The native Yurok people of Northern California have been untouched by the savage world war raging in Europe—until now. Three cousins are called to serve a nation that has given little but cruelty to their people. Thrust into battle on the Western Front, these young men struggle to preserve their humanity while facing the unspeakable horrors of the greatest military conflict ever known.

*Soldiers Unknown* is a story over 100 years in the making. According to author Chag Lowry, “The fears, sacrifices, and histories of soldiers are at once complicated and captivating—being thrust into battle so far from home is difficult, but sometimes the return home can be even more challenging.” Based on true narratives, Lowry’s portrayal of the traumas of war, the return home, and the ability to heal oneself through ceremony are the strengths of *Soldiers Unknown*. Artist Rahsan Ekedal depicts the grittiness of war alongside the vibrancy of culture and ceremony, bringing realism and pathos to each page.



*Soldiers Unknown* is endorsed by the United States World War One Centennial Commission and the American Indian Veterans Association of Southern California.

*“The story brings to life not only the individual sacrifice but also the sacrifice of the community; the sacrifices that Native communities still make today.”* -Dr. Lee Francis IV, Publisher and Writer of *Sixkiller*

**Chag Lowry** is of Yurok, Maidu, and Achumawi Native American ancestry. His previous written work includes *The Original Patriots: Northern California Indian Veterans of World War Two*, and he has both produced and directed numerous PBS programs on Native American veterans.

**Rahsan Ekedal** has created art for various comic books and graphic novels, including *The Tithe* and *Think Tank*, as well as the Harvey Award nominated graphic novel *Echoes*. Ekedal also devotes his time to developing storyboards and concept designs for TV shows, including character designs for Disney XD’s *Mighty Med* series.

*Soldiers Unknown*, available August 20, 2019 from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other fine book retailers and comic shops.

Pre-orders **available now** through Pathway Book Service at [www.pathwaybook.com](http://www.pathwaybook.com)!

In collaboration with Red Planet Books and Comics.

ISBN: 978-1-942279-28-0

Price: \$29.95

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[www.greatoakpress.com](http://www.greatoakpress.com)



### Congratulations to PJ Maracle, AILA Emerging Leader

AILA has selected PJ Maracle to sponsor as a 2020 ALA Emerging Leader. The Emerging Leaders program enables newer professionals to engage in ALA leadership opportunities early in their careers. AILA has been fortunate that we have also recruited and developed many AILA leaders through our sponsorship.

PJ completed his MLIS in 2018 from St. Catherine University in St. Paul. He also holds a BA in Art History. Through PJ's work at Hennepin County Library in Minneapolis, Minnesota, he has worked as a member of the, "Owás'í? ta?yá? yahípi/Gakina awiya bizaanigo bizhaayeg team ("All Are Welcome," in both the Dakota and Aishinaabemowin languages)." A new-team that is still in development. They are currently working on land acknowledgements, indigenous-centered programming and developing a community board to increase inclusion and representation of native people within the Hennepin County Library System.

PJ has also worked on a late night arts project called "the Night Library," and this past year, through this program, Hennepin County highlighted native stories through an interactive theatrical experience, "Ha?yétu Wówapi Thípi/Dibiko-Agindaasoowigami/The Night Library."

# Response to Heather McNeil

McNeil, H. (2019). Yes, but ... One Librarian's Thoughts About Doing It Right. *OLA Quarterly*, 25(2), 48-52.  
<https://doi.org/10.7710/1093-7374.1992>

In the October issue of the *OLA Quarterly*, Heather McNeil, after 40 years as a librarian, chooses to summarize her professional insights on diversity. McNeil focuses on children's and YA literature.

McNeil categorizes her insights under four headings: collection development, Dr. Seuss, Debbie Reese and the blog, *Reading While White*.

## Collection Development

AILA agrees that collection development practices are critical to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion.

AILA disagrees that providing such books means that libraries with limited funding will accumulate shelf-rot. Many tribal libraries operate on limited funding while preserving quality collections and services. AILA is happy to reach out to tribal libraries to conduct professional workshops for other libraries.

## Dr. Seuss

AILA agrees that Dr. Seuss is a well-known, widely read author.

AILA disagrees that defending and dismissing concerns about the casual racism of the past is an appropriate tactic for the present and future.

## Debbie Reese

AILA congratulates Dr. Debbie Reese for achieving such impact that librarians reflecting on a 40-year career point to her work as a touchstone of diversity. AILA agrees wholeheartedly. We thank Dr. Reese and commend her work. Dr. Reese's efforts to encourage a critical and informed eye on children's and YA literature are one reason that AILA will participate in the Youth Media Awards this year.

To quote from McNeil:

"Other awards were created for the purpose of a specific ethnicity, whereas the Newbery and Caldecott consider the entire volume of that year's publications without considering an author's or illustrator's previous awards or ethnicity."

AILA agrees that the Newbery and Caldecott are important awards for children's and YA literature.

AILA disagrees that critiques of the Newbery and Caldecott are unfounded and unwelcomed. Awards for the ethnicity of authors and illustrators do not form an inferior subclass of children's and YA literature.

AILA awards the American Indian Youth Literature Award for several reasons, one of those being the need to garner exposure for books that might otherwise be overlooked by the Newbery and Caldecott. Heather McNeil should review the list of national award winners in 2019 that emerged out of exposure from REFORMA's Pura Belpré award.

## Reading While White

AILA congratulates <http://readingwhilewhite.blogspot.com/> for achieving this level of contribution in only a few short years.

A librarian of 40 years has been so impacted by the work of this blog, that she has chosen to highlight this blog as one four key takeaway in her reflections on diversity.



Shelley Urbizagastegui - Wilson Library, University of La Verne, La Verne, CA. Display inspired by Debbie Reese  
<https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/>

AILA would like to add the following references for librarians and educators to read.

Reese, Debbie. [Critical Indigenous Literacies: Selecting and Using Children’s Books about Indigenous Peoples](#) [PDF]. *Language Arts*. Volume 95, Number 6, 389-393. July 2018

National Congress of American Indians. (May 2019). Tribal Nations and the United States: An Introduction <http://www.ncai.org/about-tribes> Accessed 1/7/2020.

American Indian Library Association. American Indian Youth Literature Award.

<https://ailanet.org/activities/american-indian-youth-literature-award/> Accessed 1/7/2020

Gilmore, Natasha. Nov 24, 2015. Current Representations of American Indians in Children's Publishing. Publishers Weekly.

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/childrens/childrens-industry-news/article/68791-current-representations-of-american-indians-in-children-s-publishing.html> Accessed 1/7/2020

**American Indian Library Association  
Business Meeting  
June 23, 2019 – 10:30am to 11:30am  
Washington, DC Convention Center Room 207B  
Minutes**

Attendees: Kristin Anderson, Wiley Barnes, Kat Bell, Naomi Bishop, Lillian Chavez, Patricia Cutright, Carla Davis-Castro, Heather Devine-Hardy, Rachel Dobkin, George Franchois, David Freebury, Jessica Garner, George Gottschalk, Mary Anne Hansen, Kathie Hanson, Richenda Hawkins, Clyde Henderson, Liana Juliano, Robin Levin, Sandy Littletree, Ian McAlpin, Lorisia MacLeod, Marissa Moore, Emily Pastore, Rhiannon Sorrell, Elayne Silversmith, Doris Watts, Deimosa Webber-Bey

### **Call to Order**

Lillian Chavez called the meeting to order at 10:35am.

### **Opening Prayer**

Sandy Littletree gave the opening prayer.

### **Introductions**

Everyone in the room introduced themselves.

### **Treasurer's Report (Liana Juliano)**

We were under budget for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Liana will be working on the upcoming budget for the next year, which is usually based on our income for the current year.

### **Executive Board Report (George Gottschalk)**

The Executive Board met on Saturday morning. We want to thank everyone for the great work they did putting together the 40th Anniversary Celebration on Friday night.

This year we are committed the committees. We want to help people participate regardless of whether they are able to travel. We will also like to consider have meet ups online and at ATALM. We will plan this year to do a monthly update to the membership so that everyone is kept in the loop.

DISCUSSION: AILA members suggested that AILA have a meeting at ATALM and encourage people to do presentations/workshops about libraries at ATALM. We discussed that we need to have more librarians submitting programs, and whether AILA could sponsor a reception and use that as a chance to also gather information about what tribal libraries need for support. We also discussed setting up a booth and using that to engage more potential members, and talk to others who don't know about AILA.

MOTION: Elayne Silversmith made a motion that AILA hold an official meeting at ATALM meetings as an effort to increase our efforts to outreach to tribal libraries and other tribal communities, and to have a larger appearance and impact with ATALM. Clyde Henderson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **AILA Committee Reports**

#### *AILA Youth Literature Awards Committee Report*

This has been a big year for the AIYLA. There is information on the website about how to get in touch with the chair, who is Lara Aase. The information and letter will be put on the website soon. The deadline is October 1, 2020. The winners will be announced live at the

Youth Media Awards at Midwinter 2020. The criteria have been revised for 2020 that both author and illustrator must be Native, and criteria about representation was also added.

We have AIYLA seals on sale at the ALA Store. Gold for winners and silver for honor books. \$14.50 for a 24/pack.

*Announcement of Travel Grant Winner*

AILA awarded two travel grants to the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. Rhiannon Sorrell (Diné) is an AILA Member-at-Large and is a member of the 2018 Emerging Leaders Cohort. Clyde Henderson (Diné) works in the library at Navajo Technical University and is a past recipient of the AILA Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship.

*Announcement of the Scholarship Winner*

We have awarded the 2019 Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship to Hiran Eskeets. Hiran is an enrolled member of the Diné (Navajo) Tribe. He is pursuing a master's degree in Library Information Science at the University of Washington Information School. His goal is to bring an understanding of how the profession can become more inclusive by serving Indigenous communities. He is a member of the iSchool research team called iNative, which is the only information science research team in North America that is comprised and led by all Native American scholars.

*Announcement of Emerging Leader*

Lorisia MacLeod was sponsored by AILA as our Emerging Leader this year. She was a member of Team H, working with the Learning Round Table to assemble a list of resources that libraries of any size/budget could use to continuously provide professional development to their staff in equity, diversity, and inclusion. The team reached out and contacted speakers who are speaking about the community that they are members of, and it includes good representation from Indigenous populations. The group is trying to make it easier to empower speakers who are from their own communities to speak about their own communities rather than outside subject experts.

*Talk Story Grant Announcement*

Thank members of committee who helped select winners for 2019: Liana Juliano (Chair), Carrie Cornelius, Mary Gibson, Janice Kowemy, Debbie Reese, Grace Slaughter, and Stacy Wells. We did not have funding from Toyota Financial Services in 2019; however, the AILA Exec Board approved funding 2 grants in the amount of \$750 each. The grant application period was announced in April 1 with a deadline of May 1. We received 6 applications in total. The 2019 grant winners were:

**Santa Clarita Public Library**, California -- Partnering with the Tataviam Tribe, the Santa Clarita Public Library will create Indigenous Storytime Kits which will circulate within the library system and the two Tataviam tribal offices in San Fernando and Palmdale. The story kits will target pre-k to 4th grade and help represent accurate representations of the Tataviam history and culture. A special event will be held in November to launch the finished kits and will consist of storytelling, craft, dance and music shared by members of the Tataviam Tribe.

**S. Verna Fowler Academic Library/Menominee Public Library**, Wisconsin -- Building upon an existing literacy program called Family Supper Book Club, the library will launch a program focusing on language and culture to support ongoing learning

for parents and caregivers. There will be three events, each one featuring a book choice from the American Indian Library Association bibliography. The grant funds will also be used to develop a Menominee Talking Language Center at the entrance of the YA section of the library. The Talking Language Center will be a mural designed by a local artist that has interactive devices that play words and phrases in the Menominee language.

We are looking for sources of funding, and would also like to encourage tribal libraries to apply for the grant. The next call for applications should go out in January/February and the winners would be announced in April/May.

### *Other Committee Reports*

#### JCLC Board (Heather Devine)

The Next JCLC conference will be in 2022. Site selection is happening for JCLC 2022 and JCLC Board of Directors is aiming to decide by Midwinter 2020. AILA needs to identify by end of September who our Steering Committee members will be. One of them will also be the co-chair for the Steering Committee because this conference is AILA's turn to be co-chair with BCALA.

At the Executive Board meeting yesterday, the board voted to provide \$300 support for each conference (ALA Annual/Midwinter) to our steering committee members to make it easier for them to participate in the JCLC in-person meetings.

### **Announcements and Discussions**

Deimos Webber-Bey from Scholastic offered 3 spots to join Tim Tingle's table at the Newbery-Caldecott Banquet. Please talk to her after the meeting if you are interested in attending.

Someone shared that in the Exhibit Hall there is a company DLSG that has a product for scanning books and turning them into flash cards. This might be helpful for language learning.

Native Voices provided catalog listings of their books.

### **Adjournment**

Lillian Chavez adjourned the meeting at 11:37am.

### **Committee reports are included following the minutes:**

AILA Youth Literature Awards Committee

Talk Story Grant Committee

AILA Scholarship Committee

### **AILA Youth Literature Awards Committee Report for ALA Annual 2019**

#### **Naomi Bishop, 2018 AILA YL Awards Chair**

Many committee members are unable to attend ALA annual this summer in NOLA so we decided to move the 2018 Youth literature awards ceremony to ALA Midwinter in Seattle January 25-29, 2019 to help celebrate AILA being included in the Youth Media Awards. We also want to provide winning authors time to plan and be able to attend in person to receive their awards.

The 2018 AILA Youth Literature Awards Ceremony was held at the Seattle Public Library on January 27, 2019, from 4-5pm as part of ALA Midwinter 2019. The Seattle Public Library Co-Hosted the event and provided the space and AV to AILA for free and AILA was able to open the event to the public to attend.

SPL staff - Valerie Wonder and Cara Cronholm

Sunday January 27th, 2019

4-5pm, Room 1

Welcome Song/Blessing- Joe Seymour

Keynote -Denise Juneau

Presentation of Awards- Laura Aase and Awards Committee

Thank you/ Closing

Celebrate with dessert fry bread and coffee

Highlighted Authors/ Editors attended the AILA Awards in Seattle.

The American Indian Library Association (AILA), an affiliate of the American Library Association (ALA), has selected three titles to receive the 2018 American Indian Youth Literature Award. The 2018 AILA Best Picture Book is *Shanyaak'utlaax: Salmon Boy* (2017), published by Sealaska Heritage Institute, illustrated by Tlingit artist Michaela Goade, and edited by Tlingit speakers Johnny Marks, Hans Chester, David Katzeek, and Nora Dauenhauer and Tlingit linguist Richard Dauenhauer. The 2018 AILA Best Middle School Book is *Tales of the Mighty Code Talkers, Volume 1* (2016), published by Native Realities, edited by Arigon Starr (Kickapoo) and featuring the work of Theo Tso (Las Vegas Paiute), Jonathan Nelson (Diné), Kristina Bad Hand (Sičhánǵu Lakota/Cherokee), Roy Boney Jr. (Cherokee), Lee Francis IV (Laguna Pueblo), Johnnie Diacon (Mvskoke/Creek), Weshoyot Alvitre (Tongva), Renee Nejo (Mesa Grand Band of Mission Indians), and Michael Sheyahshe (Caddo). The 2018 AILA Best Young Adult Book is *#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women* (2017), published by Annick Press, edited by Lisa Charleyboy (Tsilhqot'in) and Mary Beth Leatherdale.

The American Indian Youth Literature Awards are presented every two years. The awards were established as a way to identify and honor the very best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians and Alaska Natives. Books selected to receive the award present American Indians in the fullness of their humanity in the present and in past contexts. Honor Books are also selected in each category.

2018 Picture Book Honors:

*All Around Us* (2017), written by Xelena González (Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation) and illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia. Cinco Puntos Press.

*Black Bear Red Fox* (2017), written and illustrated by Julie Flett (Cree/Métis). Native Northwest.

*Fall in Line, Holden!* (2017), written and illustrated by Daniel W. Vandever (Diné). Salina Bookshelf, Inc.

*I'm Dreaming of...Animals of the Native Northwest* (2017), written by Melaney Gleeson-Lyall (Musqueam, Coast Salish) and illustrated by First Nations artists. Native Northwest.

*Mission to Space* (2016), written and illustrated by John Herrington (Chickasaw). White Dog Press.

2018 Middle Grade Honor Book:

*The Wool of Jonesy, Part 1* (2016) written and illustrated by Jonathan Nelson (Diné). Native Realities.

## 2018 Young Adult Honor Books:

Love Beyond Body, Space, and Time: An Indigenous LGBT Sci-Fi Anthology (2016), edited by Hope Nicholson, including stories by Anishinaabe authors Grace L. Dillon, Nii-gaan Sinclair, and Nathan Adler; Richard Van Camp (Dene/Tłıchǫ), Cherie Dimaline (Métis), David A. Robertson (Swampy Cree), Daniel Heath Justice (Cherokee), Darcie Little Badger (Lipan Apache), Gwen Benaway (Anishinabe/Métis), Mari Kurisato (Ojibwe Nakawē), and Cleo Keahna (Ojibwe/Meskwaki). Bedside Press.

Marrow Thieves (2017), written by Cherie Dimaline (Métis). DCB (submitted by Orca Books).

Fire Starters (2016), written by Jen Storm (Ojibway); illustrated by Scott B. Henderson and colorist Donovan Yaciuk. HighWater Press.

**AIYLA 2020**

The 2020 AILA Youth Literature Awards Chair is Lara Aase. Updated Criteria by Naomi Bishop and Lara Aase approved by AILA Executive Board April 2019. AILA is now accepting nominations for the 2020 awards cycle. <https://ailanet.org/app/uploads/2019/03/AIYLA-Criteria-updated-March-2019.pdf>

**AIYLA Committee 2020**

Erin Hollingsworth

Anne Heidemann

Janet Mumford

Janice Kowemy

Ofelia Zepedia

Naomi Bishop

Sunny Real Bird-Co-chair

Lara Aase- Co-chair

**Talk Story Grant Committee**

ALA Annual Meeting 2019

Submitted by Liana Juliano

**Members:**

**Liana Juliano, chair**

**Carrie Cornelius**

**Mary Gibson**

**Janice Kowemy**

**Debbie Reese**

**Grace Slaughter**

**Stacy Wells**

We did not have funding from Toyota Financial Services in 2019; however, the AILA Exec Board approved funding 2 grants in the amount of \$750 each. The grant application period was

announced in April 1 with a deadline of May 1.

We received 6 applications in total. The 2019 grant winners were,

**Santa Clarita Public Library**, California -- Partnering with the Tataviam Tribe, the Santa Clarita Public Library will create Indigenous Storytime Kits which will circulate within the library system and the two Tataviam tribal offices in San Fernando and Palmdale. The story kits will target pre-k to 4th grade and help represent accurate representations of the Tataviam history and culture. A special event will be held in November to launch the finished kits and will consist of storytelling, craft, dance and music shared by members of the Tataviam Tribe.

**S. Verna Fowler Academic Library/Menominee Public Library**, Wisconsin -- Building upon an existing literacy program called Family Supper Book Club, the library will launch a program focusing on language and culture to support ongoing learning for parents and caregivers. There will be three events, each one featuring a book choice from the American Indian Library Association bibliography. The grant funds will also be used to develop a Menominee Talking Language Center at the entrance of the YA section of the library. The Talking Language Center will be a mural designed by a local artist that has interactive devices that play words and phrases in the Menominee language.

A Talk Story brochure was created prior to JCLC 2018 to help find funding now that the partnership with Toyota has ended. We also had a poster session at JCLC 2018 to help advertise and get interest in the program. We plan to talk with vendors at Annual to solicit donations and are in the process of drafting a letter to the Dollywood Foundation, in partnership with APALA. The hope is to secure regular funding similar to what we had with Toyota.

If funding is not found by the Fall, I recommend that we not provide any grants for 2020. This would need to be discussed with APALA to ensure we are on the same page, but they do not have funding either.

On a final note, I am stepping down as chair of this committee now that the grant winners have been selected and monies sent. I have been working with Carrie Cornelius and Stacy Wells to take over as chairs. Activities to focus on this year, outside of funding, is updating the bibliography and getting content migrated from the old website to a new site.

Many thanks to all the committee members for another successful grant review process!

## **AILA Scholarship Committee Report 2019**

### **Holly Tomren**

#### **Virginia Mathews Scholarship had two applicants for 2019-2020.**

The American Indian Library Association is pleased to announce that we have awarded the 2019 Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship to Hiran Eskeets. Hiran is an enrolled member of the Diné (Navajo) Tribe. He is pursuing a master's degree in Library Information Science at the University of Washington Information School. His goal is to bring an understanding of how the profession can become more inclusive by serving Indigenous communities. He is a member of the iSchool research team called iNative, which is the only information science research team in North America that is comprised and led by all Native American scholars.



## University Library (Job #7227)

### Description:

Humboldt State University Library seeks a forward-thinking, service and team-oriented Teaching & Learning Librarian who is interested in instruction and programming for undergraduate student success. This full time temporary 12-month position carries faculty rank. Early career applicants are encouraged to apply. Please view the Job Description: Library (Pool Job #7227) for complete details about the duties of the position. Candidates applying for Temporary Faculty positions at HSU are maintained in a pool of eligible candidates for ongoing needs that may arise.

HSU Library offers opportunities to be creative in instruction and programming, and encourages librarians to develop projects related to their individual goals. If you are interested in collaborating with librarians, faculty, students, and staff in support of teaching, learning and research this may be the job for you. Check out our Annual Report to see what HSU Library has done to foster a community that supports scholarship, creativity, and innovation on campus.

### Minimum Qualifications:

Significant progress toward a MLS/MLIS with relevant coursework as well as previous academic library work experience is required.

### Preferred Qualifications:

Degree: An earned ALA-accredited Master's degree in library science or an ALA-accredited degree from an equivalent program.

### Experience:

Demonstrated experience with library instruction to undergraduate students; demonstrated experience providing reference services; demonstrated experience working with a diverse population; and excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills.

See full vacancy at:  
<https://apptrkr.com/1749908>

## AILA Travel Grants 2019

The American Indian Library Association (AILA) will provide financial assistance for two AILA members to attend the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

The AILA 2019 Conference Travel Scholarship will provide \$1200.00 to support attendance at the American Library Association Annual Conference, June 20-25, 2019 in Washington, DC. This will be used to help cover registration and travel expenses.

Applicant must be a current AILA member in good standing, and applicant must either be working in a tribal library of any kind OR be an active member of an AILA committee. A MLS is not required to apply for this scholarship.

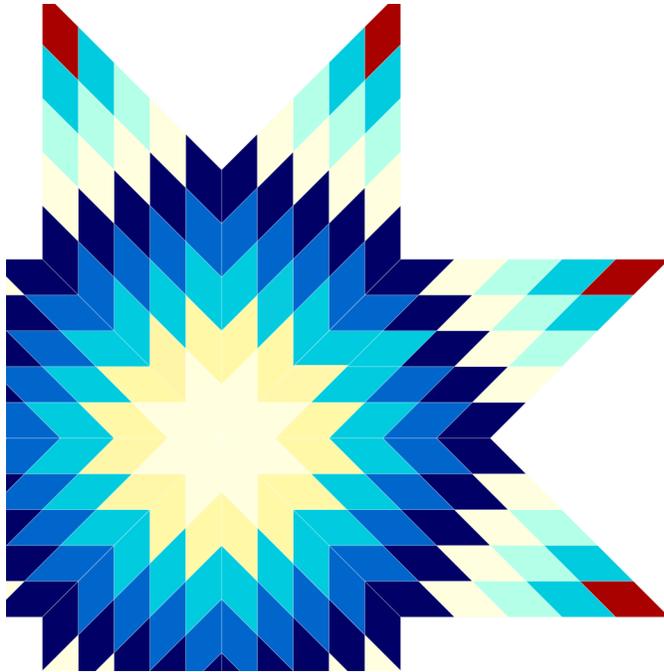
For more information or to apply for the AILA Travel Scholarship please visit the AILA website, <http://ailanet.org/awards/travel-grants/>  
 Deadline for the application is May 3, 2019.

We have two \$1200 scholarships to offer to ALA Annual. The criteria:

- applicant is a current member of AILA in good standing
- applicant works for a tribal library of any kind OR is an active member of an AILA committee

Six applications were received.

AILA awarded two travel grants to the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. Rhiannon Sorrell (Diné) is an AILA Member-at-Large and is a member of the 2018 Emerging Leaders Cohort. Clyde Henderson (Diné) works in the library at Navajo Technical University and is a past recipient of the AILA Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship.



# Join ALA at Midwinter for our Business Meeting

Sunday, January 26

9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

Pennsylvania Convention Center, Rm 124

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ALA YOUTH MEDIA AWARDS

Monday, Jan. 27, 2020

8:00 a.m. Eastern Time

Pennsylvania Convention Center

Fans can follow the action live at:

<http://ala.unikron.com> or

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLibraryAssociation/>

or by following #ALAYma20

<http://www.ala.org/news/mediapresscenter/presskits/youthmediaawards/alayouthmediaawards>

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# American Indian Library Association

## NEWSLETTER

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