

## Call for ALA Leadership Volunteers

*Dear Fellow ALA Member:*

The talent our members bring to the leadership ranks of ALA is nothing short of amazing. Through our leaders' vision, dedication and guidance, the Association is blessed with a strong membership base and is in a solid financial position that allows us to provide outstanding programs and innovative products and services. It is an exciting time to be a member — and a leader — in our Association.

An ongoing challenge we face is perpetuating the strength of our Association's leadership team — and we need your help to identify and nominate those colleagues you believe can best lead and guide ALA in the future. There are many highly qualified members in our ranks. Some of them are serving (or have already served) as Directors, Regional Representatives, committee or task force members, or in chapter leadership positions. Each of these roles provides excellent training for President-Elect, Board and Regional Representative service. Who do you recognize as having the leadership attributes and experience that will lead to the future success of our Association?

You can help us identify the best candidates in two ways: first, by nominating individuals who possess strong leadership attributes and experience, and then by encouraging them to consider service in ALA's leadership corps; and second, by seriously considering your own nomination for a leadership position. It is also helpful if you provide a few notes about why you, or those individuals you nominated, would be good leaders for ALA. You can attach these comments to your nominations form. Once we receive the nominations, we will confirm each individual's interest in serving in the role(s) for which they are nominated and ask that they ensure they have the support of their employer.

If you want to know more about the value of serving as a Director or Regional Representative, please feel free to contact me. I would be happy to talk with you about my experience. Or you can read what a few other ALA leaders have to say.

*My ALA leadership service has contributed greatly to [the] personal building blocks of [my] professional and personal success. Whether it has been conquering my fear of getting in front of audiences to present or share knowledge with colleagues, or to aid in the continued strengthening in my own self-esteem, I am forever grateful to those who believed in my ability to lead our association and to myself for my own personal commitment and keeping my name in the hat. Being in a position now to give back to ALA members is how I am able pay the leadership promise forward.*

*With our busy lives, it can be hard to find time to volunteer. However, the benefits that I have reaped from becoming an ALA volunteer are enormous to me. I have expanded my network of peers, learned new invaluable skills and even advanced my career. ALA's volunteers and the ALA's staff are the glue that holds everything together and I am proud to be one.*

*Serving in ALA leadership roles has changed my life in many wonderful ways. It has taken me well beyond my comfort zone and opened my eyes to a world of endless opportunities. My boss appreciates my expanded network of colleagues, and has noticed significant enhancement in my professional development. Her full support lends to even greater job satisfaction. ALA leadership has given me renewed confidence and an appetite to continue serving in any way I can. My mission is to plant, and help foster, the leadership seed in others.*

Please take a few moments right now to identify and **recommend potential candidates** for President-Elect, Director and/or Regional

Representative.

Nominations are due by July 31, 2015, so that the candidates will have sufficient time to discuss this opportunity with their employers and complete the required background information.

Additional information (including position descriptions and a nominations form) is available on [ALA's website](#).

Thank you for your contribution to this important responsibility, the success of which will ensure the future of ALA.

Sincerely,

*Teresa J. Walker*

2015-2016 ALA President

Chief Operating Officer, Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP

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