



The Purpose of the Arkansas Library Association is to promote library service and the profession of librarianship in the State of Arkansas.

The Mission of the Arkansas Library Association is to further the professional development of all library staff members; to foster communication and cooperation among librarians, trustees and friends of libraries; to increase the visibility of libraries among the general public and funding agencies; and to serve as an advocate for librarians and libraries.

Goal 1: Strengthen the health of Arkansas libraries.

Strategy 1.A. We will explore alliances with other professional library associations to help strengthen the association..

1.A.1 We will initiate discussions with the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media for purposes of cooperation and/or unification.

Responsible: ArLA Executive Board

Date: 2025

1.A.2 We will study incorporation of or closer liaising with the Advocates for All Arkansas Libraries.

Responsible: ArLA Executive Board

Date: 2026

Strategy 1.B. We will strengthen the advocacy work of the Association.

1.B.1 We will more actively gather advice and ideas from colleagues in other states and organizations, such as EveryLibrary, in order to find ways to improve our advocacy work.

Responsible: Library Advocacy Community of Interest

Date: 2025

1.B.2 We will work to increase participation in advocacy at all levels and in all regions of the state.

Responsible: Advocacy Community of Interest

Date: 2026

1.B.2 We will provide more training to help members become advocates for library budgets, issues, and initiatives.

Goal 2: Encourage more statewide participation in ArLA activities

Strategy 2.A. We will strengthen networking opportunities.

2.A.1. We will seek to offer regional in-person gatherings annually, for professional development and for networking.

Responsible: Executive Board

Date: 2027

Strategy 2.B. We will enhance broader participation in the Annual Conference

2.B.1 We will study and consider other systems for planning and preparing conferences.

Responsible: Executive Board

Date: 2027

Goal 3: Strengthen the organization of the Association.

Strategy 3.A. We will study and refine ArLA's structure.

3.A.1 We will consider ways to make reports and recommendations more accessible to Executive Board members as well as interested others.

Responsible: ArLA Secretary

Date: 2025

3.A.2 We will develop a system to appoint task forces to deal with questions or topics, including multi-type library representation and clear end-dates for the projects.*

Responsible: Executive Board

Date: 2025

Strategy 3.B. We will find ways to develop leaders and ensure ongoing leadership.

3.C.1 We will establish a system of communication with graduates of ALL-In and with ALA Emerging Leaders, in order to better harness initiatives and energy.

Responsible: Emerging Leaders Committee

Date: 2026

3.C.2 We will seek ways to enhance continuity for committees and communities of interest.

Responsible: Executive Board

Date: 2027

Strategy 3.D. We will make ArLA's communications and office activities more effective.

3.D.1 We will determine how to make more effective use of the current operating system, and consider more extensive use of other platforms for email and telephone contacts, as well as document storage and access.**

Responsible: ArLA Secretary

Date: 2026

*We will need to try to ensure appointment of known leaders as well as incorporate new members, while being cognizant of library types and regions).

** Meant to include some training for Wild Apricot, and exploration of Google Docs versus Drop Box.

Approved:

Strategic Planning Committee: July 2024

ArLA Executive Board: August 2024