

ALA Report

October 2020

On September 18, ALA Council met virtually to discuss budget matters. ALA is experiencing a budget short-fall due to the cancellation of ALA Annual Conference last June. ALA has filed a claim with their insurance and awaits news on what 'damages' will be covered.

ALA Midwinter (January 22-26) will be held virtually, and based on Council discussions, it won't come as a surprise if Midwinter remains virtual for some years. As always, Midwinter will highlight sessions germane to the future of libraries. Several prominent speakers are scheduled to present including, Ibram X. Kendi, author of *Stamped from the Beginning*, and *How to be an Anti-Racist*. Dr. Kendi will be joined by Keisha N. Blain, an award-winning historian. Drs. Kendi and Blain are co-authors of *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019*, which is set to release in February, 2021. Kendi is a renowned scholar, and an excellent writer. I learned a lot from reading his books, and highly recommend them to all of WLA's membership.

For a full list of speakers and registration information, go to <https://2021.alamidwinter.org/>.

As the school-year settles into itself and library visits become more routine, I would like to remind WLA members to [report any challenges](#) to materials in their collections to the Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF). Professionals at the OIF are available to assist you throughout the life of any given challenge; I am a resource as well. If you would prefer to contact me first, and work together with the OIF, it would be my privilege to assist you. You may contact me at 307-382-1701, or by emailing me at librarian@westernwyoming.edu.