ALA Center for Civic Life

Announces

The Conversation Continues:
Hosting Public Issues Forums @ your library
The Place Where Democracy Happens

Learn to convene and moderate community discussions in
4 free monthly online workshops presented through ProgrammingLibrarian.org with
support from the ALA Cultural Communities Fund.

Webinar 1:
Getting Started
An Introduction to Convening Forums @ your library
Tuesday, February 28
Now archived at:
http://www.programminglibrarian.org/online-learning/online-learning-
archive.html#.T1E-8MxaNqFO
Downloadable resources available at: http://connect.ala.org/node/167956

Speakers and Topics Included

Why Now and Why Libraries?
Nancy Kranich, Chair, ALA Center for Civic Life Advisory Committee

What is Deliberation?
Patty Dineen, Public Engagement Consultant/Contributing Editor, National Issues Forums Institute Website

Success Stories from the Field
Carolyn Caywood, Convener, Virginia Beach Public Library Forums and Fellow of the
Hampton Roads Center for Civic Engagement

Public deliberation is a process used to engage contentious, difficult issues from diverse perspectives. This
session will provide an introduction to deliberative conversations that public, academic, and school libraries
are convening and how these discussions are repositioning libraries in their communities.
Upcoming Webinars

Webinar 2:  
**Moderating Forums @ your library, Part 1—Nuts and Bolts**  
Tuesday, March 27, 4:00-5:00 EST; 3:00 – 4:00 CST; 1:00 – 2:00 PST  
[Registration](#)  
This session will cover what is involved in moderating a public deliberative forum in the library--how moderating is different from facilitating; how to promote deliberation; how to stay neutral but help people consider diverse perspectives; how to keep track of time and use an issue framework to help the group deliberate; and how to work with a forum recorder.

Webinar 3:  
**Moderating Forums @ your library, Part 2—Step-by-Step**  
Tuesday, April 24, 4:00-5:00 EST; 3:00 – 4:00 CST; 1:00 – 2:00 PST  
[Registration](#)  
This session will continue webinar #2--how to moderate and/or record a public deliberative forum at the library; a step-by-step guide to making a deliberative forum work, from introducing the issue and participants and showing the video, to deliberating about approaches and finding common ground; and ideas about how to gain practice moderating discussions.

Webinar 4:  
**Convening Forums @ your library—Nuts and Bolts**  
Tuesday, May 22, 4:00-5:00 EST; 3:00 – 4:00 CST; 1:00 – 2:00 PST  
[Registration](#)  
This session will cover the logistics and choices involved in planning to hold a forum--choosing the issue topic; setting the date; preparing the room and equipment; publicity; assigning moderators and recorders; participant registration; following up after the forum; and preparing issue-related resources for forum participants.

For More Information, contact:  
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The [American Library Association’s Center for Civic Life](https://ala.org/civiclife), launched in 2010 with the [Kettering Foundation](https://www.kettering.org), promotes community engagement and fosters public deliberation through libraries. The Center is building the capacity of libraries and librarians to help citizens engage in the civic life of their communities.