



REFORMA proudly endorses [Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada](#) as the American Library Association's 2022-2023 Presidential Candidate. Pelayo-Lozada has dedicated her career to advocating for libraries, strengthening ALA, and elevating librarians of color.

Pelayo-Lozada will lead with REFORMA and ALA members for an association that practices racial equity, inclusion, and anti-racism, models organizational excellence and sustainability, and commits to our core values through partnerships that amplify our ideals.

She began her career at the County of Los Angeles Public Library's Lomita Library as a page and has worked as a clerk, children's librarian, teen librarian, and adult services librarian. She is currently the Adult Services Assistant Manager at the Palos Verdes Library District in Southern California and the Executive Director of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA).

Joining ALA as an MLIS student at UCLA, Lessa is a 14-year dedicated member committed to improving upon and celebrating the strength of ALA and the National Associations of Librarians of Color. She just completed a 3-year term as an American Library Association Executive Board Member and 2-year term as Chair of the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE). Pelayo-Lozada also served on the Steering Committee of the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in 2015-2018. She was a 2011 ALA Emerging Leader and has been influential in working on numerous ALA committees.

"I am humbled to carry Reforma's endorsement through my campaign for ALA President," says Pelayo-Lozada, "The support from colleagues energizes me to continue to elevate the hard work we are all doing, leading together for change to make ALA truly equitable. Mahalo nui loa for doing this work with me."

REFORMA looks forward to working with the first Pacific Islander President of the American Library Association. We believe Pelayo-Lozada is an exceptional candidate who will continue the work to build the equity, diversity, and inclusion that is needed in the library profession and within ALA. We know Pelayo-Lozada will represent REFORMA and ALA members, the libraries they support, and the values they hold.

Join REFORMA in voting for [Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada](#) during the ALA election March 8-April 7, 2021. For more information, visit [lessaforlibraries.com](https://lessaforlibraries.com) #LessaForLibraries

Established in 1971 as an affiliate of the American Library Association (ALA), REFORMA has actively sought to promote the development of library collections to include Spanish-language and Latino oriented materials; the recruitment of more bilingual and bicultural library professionals and support staff; the development of library services and programs that meet the needs of the Latino community; the establishment of a national information and support network among individuals who share our goals; the education of the U.S. Latino population with regard to the availability and types of library services; and lobbying efforts to preserve existing library resource centers serving the interests of Latinos.

For more information, please visit [reforma.org](https://reforma.org).

REFORMA Executive Committee