



## Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA)

President, Erlinda C. Naputi(NMI)

Vice President, Roland San Nicolas (GU)

Secretary, Brenda Mallen (RMI)

Treasurer, Jeffrey Libao (GU)

*"Strengthening Connections in the Pacific"* will be held in-person on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on December 04-07, 2022 ChST.

2022 marks the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pacific Islands Association of Library, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) Conference. We humbly invite our colleagues, partners, and friends to share and present their experiences and topics that we as librarians and libraries have strengthened our connections as our Pacific brothers and sisters.

Proposals will be assessed by the conference Planning Committee. The most successful proposals will meet the following criteria:

1. Relevance to conference theme
2. Applicability
3. Relevance to attendees
4. Clarity and organization of abstract

**Presentation-style proposal submissions** are due by 12:00 midnight Saturday, October 15, 2022 ChST. Proposals will be evaluated by the Program Subcommittee, and notification of acceptance will be made to successful applicants by Saturday, October 22, 2022.

### [SUBMIT A PRESENTATION-STYLE PROPOSAL](#)

In this packet, you'll find the following information:

- About the Conference Theme
- Proposal Submission Rubric

Please submit your proposal via email: [saipan.nmla2022@gmail.com](mailto:saipan.nmla2022@gmail.com)





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### ABOUT THE CONFERENCE THEME

#### *Strengthening Connections in the Pacific*

We are excited for our 31st Annual PIALA Conference as we establish pathways for our Pacific island communities to learn, achieve, succeed, and share our unique stories! Take advantage of this important opportunity to engage in-person with our colleagues through educational discussions and presentations via resource sharing and collaboration. It is my hope that our Pacific Island communities will be at the forefront of meaningful change when it comes to creating stronger resilient communities.

This year marks the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) Conference hosted by the Northern Marianas Library Association (NMLA) and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library-CNMI State Library. A time where our Pacific libraries and library colleagues, archives, and museums either are coming out from the COVID-19 pandemic or are experiencing the challenges of the 1<sup>st</sup> wave of this global epidemic. Now, more than ever we must reinforce our alliances; pivot our understanding of what it means to be a library, archive, and museum in the Pacific; and learn how we can strengthen the bonds that connect us across our vast ocean landscape.

When we strengthen each other, we embolden and empower one another. Our brothers and sisters in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Chuuk, Kosrae, Yap, Pohnpei, Republic of the Marshall Islands, American Samoa, and Palau—are all connected by our libraries, archives, and museums. The question I ask is “What are our libraries, archives, and museums doing to strengthen connections with one another?” As community anchor institutions, how do we strengthen our connections with our communities and our colleagues? What broad mix of community services and programs do we provide? What civic conversations, sensitive dialogues, political, or controversial topics do we help initiate or create spaces for free discourse? What banned books do we support? What cultural and historical information do we exhibit or are stewards of protecting and preserving? How do we build capacity for our local workforce? How have we strengthened our communities during the pandemic? How have we made our information accessible to all? How have we made our communities come alive? How have we evolved our programming throughout the year from natural disasters such as typhoons, floods, and now, the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond? What essentially makes PIALA great? Our island communities rely on each other for information, guidance, knowledge, and shared resources. As successful as these alliances have been, we can't afford simply to sustain them -- we need to update and strengthen them for a changing world. As we update our colleagues with new information, we are also building new partnerships to





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help solve shared problems. What makes PIALA great is that we revitalize our community, not only as a beautiful destination to visit, but a place where we appreciate and value the important programs and services we provide for our community.

The theme *Strengthening Connections in the Pacific* exemplifies our PIALA mission to enhance the quality of leadership in order to support and strengthen libraries, archives, and museums across the Pacific Islands. PIALA is a regional association committed to fostering awareness and encouraging cooperation and resource sharing among libraries, archives, museums, and related institutions of the Pacific Islands. The seeds of PIALA were first planted during the Governor's meeting held in Saipan in 1990, which was finalized in Guam the year after. Since then, the PIALA Conference is hosted by each island entity once a year in the Fall.

It is with this "hafa adai" spirit that we celebrate our 31st Annual Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) Conference hosted by the Northern Marianas Library Association (NMLA) and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library-CNMI State Library highlighting this year's conference theme: *Strengthening Connections in the Pacific*. We humbly invite you to join us in sharing your connections, strengths, and outlook for the future of PIALA. Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Respectfully,

Erlinda C. Naputi, PIALA/NMLA President

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### POSSIBLE CONFERENCE TOPICS

- Civic conversations
- Covid-19 pandemic successful programming
- Book bans and censorship
- Funding strategies
- Patron and library worker safety
- Information access
- Technology trends and challenges
- Issues about diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Strengthening book challenges
- Adapting library spaces
- Addressing threats to job security
- Collections and programs related to conservation
- Patron engagement: Creating connections that help our patrons explore their interests and develop skills in a real-world context
- Preservation

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### PROPOSAL SUBMISSION RUBRIC

	Proficient	Opportunity to Improve
Relevance to Theme	Strong connection to theme; proposal includes appropriate descriptors and details that support the theme.	Loosely connected to the theme; attendees may not clearly see the connection to the theme.
Applicability	The session details best practices and/or innovative approaches and strategies that can be implemented across disciplines and contexts.	The session details approaches and strategies that are not applicable to more than one discipline or context.
Relevance to Audience	The proposal addresses a topic that is extremely timely and relevant to the identified target audience.	The proposed topic is not timely or relevant to conference attendees.
Clarity & Organization of Abstract	The abstract is well written, describes the main points of the presentation, identifies a target audience, and has clearly defined goals and/or outcomes.	Abstract is difficult to follow, lacks organization, does not identify a target audience, and the goal is not clearly defined.
Total Points & Comments:		

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