

A SHORT HISTORY OF UNITED FOR LIBRARIES

The first Division of the American Library Association was the American Library Trustees Association created in 1890. ALA was mindful of the important role that trustees played in the realm of the local public library. As ALA expanded and more specialty libraries were formed and new librarian positions created, so did the number of Divisions. The name of the trustee division was changed in 1999 to the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates reflecting a greater outreach in the community by library trustees.

In 1975, a project started under the ALA Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) to compile a directory of known Friends of Libraries groups in communities and campuses became the core of a separate organization: Friends of Libraries USA or FOLUSA.