



**The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking**  
**Connecticut - Massachusetts - New Jersey - New York- Pennsylvania - Rhode Island**

**21st Annual Joint Mini-Conference**  
**Friday, May 16, 2025**  
**Center for Puerto Rican Studies Library and Archives**  
**2180 3rd Avenue**  
**New York, NY 10035**  
**Call For Proposals - Deadline: March 21, 2025**

The Joint Mini-Conference (JMC) brings together presenters from the National Associations of Librarians of Color (NALCos): the American Indian Library Association (AILA), Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking.

The Joint Mini-Conference has traditionally been a free, full-day event open to librarians, library staff, and others as an opportunity to network and exchange information about library services, collections, and projects that serve newcomers and underserved populations in our communities.

Since the events that sparked a racial awakening in the US in 2020, libraries have focused more on creating welcoming and inclusive spaces, advocating for equitable access to information, fostering civic participation and economic opportunity, and ensuring literacy and lifelong learning. This year's theme, "**Cross-Cultural Communication in Libraries**," aims to highlight what libraries around the country have been doing to provide insight into understanding cultural differences, promoting effective communication, and fostering a mindset of openness, empathy, respect, and curiosity toward diverse perspectives. Effective cross-cultural communication is crucial when working with culturally diverse populations.

Presenters are encouraged to describe, from their own perspective, ways in which their work reflects the theme and has successfully:

- Engaged communities of color through programming, outreach, partnerships, or by providing services that support and empower communities of color
- Provided collections and programs that connect more deeply with Black, Latino, Asian, Indigenous, and other communities of color, and which accurately and authentically reflect the cultural perspectives of these diverse communities
- Created an inclusive library by increasing outreach and engagement to under-served populations and actively engaging with members of these populations
- Expanded awareness and adherence to a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive workplace by engaging in more intentional recruitment and development of employees from underrepresented groups
- Promoted training opportunities for library personnel that give them the skills needed to provide effective services to diverse populations

## PRESENTATION FORMAT:

- The RNE Joint Mini-Conference program will be held from 10 am - 4 pm
- Presentations will run approximately 25 minutes each, followed by a 5-minute question-and-answer period. Time will be finalized once the conference schedule is completed.
- Presenters may use slide decks and/or video clips during their presentations.
- Presentations are expected to be made in person.

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Proposals, presentations, and papers must be written and delivered in English.

Proposal should include:

1. Title of the presentation
2. Name, title, institutional affiliation, and full contact information (including a valid email address) for each presenter
3. Abstract of 300-500 words
4. A short biographical profile of each presenter and a professional photograph for public relations and publication on the Joint Mini-Conference (JMC) website and other conference-related materials.
5. Presenters should share their presentations with the Committee so they can be published on the RNE website. We would like to invite you to view previous presentations listed on the RNE website (Events tab - Past events- Joint Mini-Conferences) or by visiting the following link: past [Joint Mini-Conferences](#).
6. Proposals should be submitted electronically (as a single Microsoft Word or Google document attachment) to [reformane@gmail.com](mailto:reformane@gmail.com).

Please include the subject heading: 2025 Joint Mini-Conference Proposal

## THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS IS FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025

Any questions should be directed to the Joint Mini-Conference Chair: Elisa Garcia, at [elisagarcia@nypl.org](mailto:elisagarcia@nypl.org) and Joint Mini-Conference Committee Member Asunción Cora, at [asuncioncora@nypl.org](mailto:asuncioncora@nypl.org).

Subject: JMC'25 - Call for Proposals.

Thank you,

Elisa Garcia - Chair, Joint Mini-Conference Planning Committee

Asunción Cora - Joint Mini-Conference Planning Committee

Madellen Garcia – President, REFORMA Northeast Chapter

21st Annual Joint Mini-Conference Committee

