



# BAY STATE LIBRARIES

The Newsletter of the Massachusetts Library Association

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## MLA Slate of Office Candidates 2002

This Spring, the Massachusetts Library Associations will hold elections for the offices of Vice President/President Elect, Treasurer, and New England Library Association (NELA) Representative. Following are introductions from each of the candidates and a few words about their hopes for the office.

### Vice President/President Elect

#### Jean Canosa-Albano Springfield Library

I am honored to stand as a candidate for vice-president/president-elect of the Massachusetts Library Association. MLA is a community of librarians, dedicated to improving service to our communities of users through four key action areas: improving the strength of the Association; advocating for library funding; increasing the diversity of the Association; and speaking out about First Amendment rights. Each of these core goals reflects a call for *renewal*. Under the direction of past president Jim Sutton, focus groups and surveys were administered to past, current, and non-members of the Association. The insights gleaned are leading to a *renewal* of the Association's mission,

vision, and goals, as well as a commitment to use our newsletter and web site more effectively to communicate with members. Massachusetts' current economic trends have adversely affected libraries, meaning we need to *renew* and redouble our advocacy efforts, educating legislators and stakeholders of the essentiality of libraries in tough times. . Our profession also needs to creatively *renew* itself by recruiting new and more diverse members; so too must the Association support recruitment initiatives both into the field and into MLA. Initiatives such as the USA PATRIOT Act *renew* our commitment to the defense of intellectual freedom; our Association is a valued resource to help members with this often challenging issue.

My library experience includes work in circulation, reference, and youth services. I have worked at the Springfield Library for sixteen years, and am the head of youth and outreach services there. I earned a B.A. in Spanish from the University of Massachusetts, and my MLIS from the University of Rhode Island, where I was inducted in Beta Phi Mu. I am a member of MLA, ALA, NELA, PLA, and REFORMA, The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, where I am currently serving as the Massachusetts State Coordinator. My experience with MLA includes over three

years of service on the Executive Board as co-chair of the Public Relations Committee and two years as a Conference Committee member. I am also active in the Western Region, serving on its Youth Services Advisory Board and YSLead Massachusetts steering committee and facilitating young adult workshops. I attended the inaugural YSLead youth services leadership institute as a mentor as well as the 2001 and 2002 NELA leadership workshops.

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I have been extremely fortunate to work with many dedicated librarians at my library and through MLA, learning from them and renewing my commitment to librarianship. I would be honored to serve as the Association's president and appreciate your consideration.

**Carolyn Noah  
Central Massachusetts Regional  
Library System (CMRLS)**

I stumbled into librarianship, and the profession became a passion. Advocates who are passionate and articulate about libraries are critical to the way we are perceived--and funded. MLA leads the campaign and is the voice for our united message.

I believe I can continue to forge the path that MLA has taken to focus Massachusetts librarians on advocacy. To make our voices heard loudly, MLA must identify issues that bring staff of all types of libraries together. Our association must continue to lead in building collaborations among library organizations to increase our strength.

I am concerned that we consciously work to broaden our membership so that librarians and MLA members look more like the communities we serve. It is critical that MLA offers professional development opportunities that inform and inspire and provide the occasions we all need for professional and personal interaction.

Strengths I will bring to MLA include management, advocacy, facilitation, the ability to foster collaboration, a sense of play, and not least, passion.

*Ms. Noah is the Administrator of the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System in Shrewsbury. She received undergraduate and MLS*

*degrees from the University of Texas, Austin. She has served MLA as: ALA Councilor; member, Task Force on Professional Education; Chair, CIS Committee on Standards; and co-chair of "LIFE: Library Information for Educators", a joint MLA/MSLMA project. She has taught as adjunct faculty at Simmons and Cambridge Colleges, and served on many committees of the American Library Association. She has written extensively on using the Internet in libraries.*

**Treasurer**

**Deborah Abraham  
Everett Public Libraries**

These are difficult times for Massachusetts Libraries and our members. With local budgets especially tight our Association is all the more important. We need a strong organization to keep library issues before decision makers, to communicate our value to users and political representatives, to share our problems and solutions and finally to rally our spirits.

As Director of the Everett Libraries since 1995, President of NOBLE (2001-2003) and Chairperson of the Planning Committee that created the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System, I have had experience with budgets and finance. My recent Association activities have included the Legislative Committee and conference panel member. I have also worked on the Legislative Breakfast Committee for the Northeast area since 1997. In addition to an MLS from Simmons, I have an MBA from Babson College (1995) which will, perhaps, find application to the office of Treasurer.

I will work with MLA officers and colleagues to make the most of our

Association financial resources in order to provide opportunities to work together to face the challenges ahead.

**Philip McNulty  
Boston Public Library**

Thank you for considering me as Treasurer of the Massachusetts Library Association. I have gained budgetary experience through many positions since becoming a librarian in 1980. Currently I serve as the Assistant Administrator of the Boston Region, and develop the budget and coordinate the services for the Metro-Boston Library Network. In 12 years as Director of the Medway Public Library I developed annual budgets, capital budgets, and construction budgets. Service with the Minuteman Library Network as President, Assistant Treasurer, and frequent budget committee member also contributed to my financial skills.

Over the years I have worked at the Morrill Memorial Library in Norwood, The Somerville Public Library, Winchester Public Library, and part-time in the Wellesley Free Library, Wellesley School Libraries, and the Morse Institute in Natick. In these changing times the promotion of the profession is as important as ever and I will take every opportunity to promote librarians and the libraries they serve. Two issues that deserve strong attention from MLA are the recruitment and education of new librarians, and the articulation of the continuing importance of libraries amidst profound changes in how people communicate and obtain information.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve MLA and further the good works of the association. A sound financial footing is essential to these works and I will endeavor to continue the careful management of previous treasurers.

## NELA Representative

**Pat McLeod**  
**David & Joyce Milne Public Library,**  
**Williamstown**

I have been the Director of the Milne Public Library for the past four years. Prior to that I have worked in and with libraries in New York, New Jersey and all of New England. I enjoyed my years of travel and training, and realized that the libraries in Massachusetts were the most well appointed. With new building projects in every county, well-informed staff, and wonderful cooperatives and professional organizations, I jumped at the chance to work in the Commonwealth.

During the past few years this library automated and became full members of C/WARS, we added shelving, a computer center, new reference area, doubled the staff, increased the budget almost 50%, and made numerous building improvements. Now that the heavy work is done, I have a personal and professional responsibility to participate in the leadership of MLA.

My MLS is from Rutgers University and I was a Media Director for a county library system in New Jersey for eleven years. I moved to Vermont and worked for the OCLC Network in New York State for 6 years, I briefly strayed the profession and worked for Ingram Library Services as a Library Sales Representative for New York and all of New England. I bring many different experiences to the MLA board and look forward to representing the diverse membership of this organization.

I am currently very interested in the aspect of advocacy and marketing of libraries. I think a new world is upon libraries to be absolutely vital to their communities and marketing and

advocacy are the keys even more so during troubling economic times. I am honored to have been asked to serve as the NELA representative and to help the librarians and libraries in Massachusetts become the model for exemplary library service.

I am a current Executive Board member for the Western Regional Library System, a member of MLA and NELA, and active with ALA and the Library Information and Technology Association (LITA).

**Elaine W. Winquist**  
**Director, Duxbury Free Library**

I have been active in both the Massachusetts Library Association and the New England Library Association since 1974 and am delighted to be able to run for a position that would enable me to serve both. I served as chair of NEMICRO, now the Information Technology Section of NELA, and then as Junior and Senior Director on the NELA Executive Board. I have served as secretary of the MLA Technical Services Section and recently chaired the Section. I have actively participated in both MLA and NELA conference committees. As the Massachusetts representative to NELA, I hope to keep alive the vital connection between the two associations and to keep each informed of the other's political and professional issues. In these economically troubled times, it is important that MLA continues its promotion of libraries and its strong advocacy in the Commonwealth. To do this, it needs to be informed and up-to-date on regional issues and to form partnerships with other library advocates. I am honored to continue the tradition set by past representatives.

## MLA Section Candidates

### Technical Services Section

**Chair**  
**Rose Hickey**  
**Duxbury Free Library**

### Youth Services Section

**YSS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect**  
**Cheryl Hansen**  
**Oxford Public Library**

Cheryl is a graduate of the 2002 YSLead Massachusetts Institute, and presented at the 2001 MLA Annual Conference. She participated in the "Mother Goose Asks Why" pilot project co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Center for the Book and the Central Massachusetts Library System, and now trains other librarians to be MGAW programmers. She received the 2001/2002 Massachusetts Reading Association State-Wide Literacy Award and the 2001/2002 Central Massachusetts Reading Council Celebrate Literacy Award. Cheryl will graduate with an MLS from Simmons College in May 2003.

**YSS Secretary**  
**Mary Puleo**  
**Parlin Memorial Library, Everett**

Mary is the current YSS Secretary and is hard at work organizing the YSS program "The ABC's of Advocacy" for presentation at this year's MLA Conference. She holds an MLS from Simmons College and is an active member of the Association of Library Services to Children's Research and Development Committee of ALA.

*The section offices will be voted on at the MLA conference, April 30-May 2, 2003, in Springfield.*

## Places & Faces

### *People in MA Library News*

The Bellingham Public Library welcomes new Assistant Director and Children's Services Librarian **Sharon Brown**. Ms. Brown is the former Head of Children's Services for the Cumberland, Rhode Island Public Library, and has over 20 years of experience in children's librarianship.

**Michael Colford** is the new assistant director of the Saugus Public Library. Michael previously served as Head of Technical Services at the Reading Public Library, and is MLA's current Conference Co-Chair.

Burlington Public Library Acting Director **Laura Hodgson** has now been officially named Director. Ms. Hodgson was previously the Head of Reference for the Wilmington Public Library.

In March, the Haverhill Public Library will welcome new Director **Nancy Rea**. Ms. Rea has served as a senior librarian in the Arundel County, Maryland Library System since 1991. She is a graduate of Massachusetts' Wheaton College, and received her Master's in Library Science from the University of Maryland.

The Worcester Public Library has filled four new positions. The Reference Services Division will be led by **Jane Peck**, a former reference supervisor. Another former reference supervisor, **Kate Ogle**, will head the Branch Services Division. Former collection development librarian **Anne Hrobsky** will serve as the new Youth Services Division Head. The Technology Services Division will be led by **Wei Jeng-Chu**. Ms. Jeng-Shu is and active member in ALA and OCLC, and comes to the library from Illinois.

**Lorraine Sousa** will serve as Library Media Specialist for the new Miller Elementary school in Westford.

The Quinsigamond Community College welcomes two new staff members: **Joy Wolfe** as Collection Development Librarian, and **Denise Cross** as Technical Services and Systems Librarian.

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