



## **MLA Executive Board Agenda**

Friday, April 9, 2021, 10 – 12

Virtual meeting via Zoom

*Join Zoom Meeting*

*<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82832523996>*

*Meeting ID: 828 3252 3996*

1. Call to order and vote to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2021 meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report (Bernadette)
3. ByLaws revision (Ellen R., Bernadette)
4. Conference Update
5. Legislative Committee (Will, Jennifer)
6. Codes of Conduct Revisions (Nora)
7. Updates
  - a. MBLC
  - b. MLS
  - c. NELA
  - d. MSLA
  - e. ALA Councilor
8. New Business
  - . Annual Reports from Sections and Committees
  - a. Executive Board transition meeting planning
9. Old Business
10. Adjournment

\*Next meeting: **Friday, June 11, 2021 @10am – TRANSITION MEETING**



## **Conference Committee**

April 2021

*The 2021 Conference will be virtual this year. "Let's Get Digital" will be held May 17-19.*

### **Meetings:**

The Conference Committee held virtual meetings on Friday, February 26 and March 19. Our next meeting will be on Friday, April 16 at 10 am on Zoom.

### **Registration is now open:**

**Fees:** There is a flat fee for all three days.

- Non-members = \$100
- Members = \$75
- Members (Retired/Unemployed/Students) = \$50
- Platinum Institutional - gets three (3) passes
- Gold Institutional - gets two (2) passes

**Conference Website:** The standalone website is live which features a complete schedule including descriptions and speaker bios and photos. Conference director, Kristen Collins created it, and the conference co-chairs are grateful for her hard work on it.

**Program Schedule and Recordings:** The 2021 program schedule is final. Conference Committee members are working with presenters to practice their presentations. One presentation was successfully pre-recorded; all other sessions will be live.

**PR:** The registration email has been sent out and about 35 registrants as of 4/6/21. The PR committee has sent it out to ALA Think-Tank, Association for Rural and Small Libraries, posted an event on FB, will send out to the library schools and via social media. The committee has deployed to a few listservs/consortiums. We'd like to see a broad reach beyond MA.

**Sponsorship:** As of 4/6/21, 13 sponsors are on board with 4 being paid (vs using the 2020 credit). Still working on getting more sponsors.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michelle Filleul, Conference Co-chair



## **Jordan Miller Committee Report**

April 6, 2021

Jordan Miller grant winner

This year's winner of the Jordan Miller Storytelling grant is the Greensboro Free Library in Greensboro, VT. The library will use the grant to hire Abenaki storytellers for a storytelling event that will honor Abenaki culture past and present in Vermont. The Abenaki storytelling event will be a part of the Greensboro Free Library's Summer Reading Program "Tails & Tales."

This was a very competitive year with 113 applications. Pam McCuen and Amy Dorsheimer, Jordan Miller co-chairs, read the grant applications and made the selection.

Preference went to New England libraries outside of Massachusetts. Next year preference will go to Massachusetts libraries.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam McCuen

Jordan Miller Committee Co-Chair



## **Leadership and Management Section**

April 2021

- LAMS held a section meeting March 18 via Zoom.
- There were 5 people in attendance
- Attendance was unexpectedly low due most likely to issues we were having with our Gmail account which have since been resolved.
- Structure of the meeting was an open conversation about issues and the decision making processes different libraries are using while determining reopening/expanding hours or services in the months ahead.
- Additional conversation included what positives have come out of their libraries (ie. new services) that will continue to be offered as library situations continue to change.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Sullivan, LAMS co-chair

## **Legislative Committee Report**

**April 2021**

Legislative Committee continued to meet both as a large group, but also in committees during the first part of 2021.

The Committee at large has been concerned with the following:

- **2021 Virtual Legislative Day** – LegComm is hosting four Legislative Day events in early April. As of writing, there are 280 people registered for the event, with 38 legislators confirmed to attend. Each session will be hosted by a legislator and feature speakers from the MBLC, MLA, MSLA and regional advocacy groups.
- **FY22 State Budget** – LegComm has reviewed the FY22 MBLC Legislative Agenda and are prepared to support this. It is still the early stages of the state budget season, but LegComm is preparing to encourage legislators to support the Agenda.
- **Legislative Breakfasts** – After some discussion, LegComm drafted a letter to networks, advocacy groups, and others involved in previous legislative breakfasts. The letter suggested that offering breakfasts was not a priority in 2021. There have been a very limited number of these events.

**Advocacy Action Subcommittee** – This group is made up of members of LegComm, MSLA, and other stakeholders. This is the group actively engaging with EveryLibrary. This group's work includes:

- Working with John Chrastka from EveryLibrary on a new advocacy initiative.
  - **Orientation Packet for Legislators**
    - **Currently on our fourth draft**
  - **Communications with Ranking Members in the Legislature and members of the Library Caucus**
  - **Expanding Legislative Day to include the public; this will involve the public taking a pledge to support Mass. Libraries**
    - **Meeting to discuss further, 2/9**
  - **MLA/MSLA Advocacy Retreat to:**
    - **Set advocacy agenda for the future**
    - **Begin building coalitions**

LegComm continues to benefit from working with members of MBLC, MLS, MSLA, WMLA, and CMLA, who regularly attend our meetings.

Next meeting: April 23, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Co-Chair, Jennifer Harris, Plymouth Public Library, retired & Co-Chair, William Adamczyk, Milton Public Library



## **Library Information Technologies Section**

April 2021

LITS met in February and March. At our March meeting, we launched a plan to work with the Massachusetts Library System on a technology and privacy LibGuide with a specific Massachusetts library focus. We have scheduled our May meeting for the week after MLA 2021 in hopes of attracting some new interest during the conference.

Respectfully submitted,  
Callan Bignoli



## **Public Relations Committee Report**

April 2021

### **PR Committee Administrative Highlights**

#### *Association Support*

On March 28, 2021, the Public Relations Chairs received a request to assist the Admin Board on drafting a Code of Conduct policy that was more positive in tone for the purposes of Executive Board. PR Chairs Andrea Puglisi and Jocelyn Tavares made some suggestions to the Google Document, and President Nora Blake accepted or rejected the suggestions.

### **PR Committee Highlights**

#### *Conference Updates*

MLA PR is offering its program, Controlling the Beast: Making Social Media Work for your #LibraryLife. PR Members Andrea Puglisi and Erin Fragola will lead workshop while Manny Leite will moderate.

Work has been focused on promoting conference through national channels, as well as the usual statewide promotional measures.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Puglisi and [Jocelyn Tavares](#)

Public Relations Chairs



## **Readers' Advisory Section Report**

April 2021

The Readers' Advisory Section met on February 2nd for a business meeting and a discussion of the Western genre. The Section also met on April 1st and had a business meeting to discuss changes in the Section executive board.

At the end of this fiscal year, Alene Moroni will step down as co-chair and Anna Mickelsen will take her place. Pam Aghababian will continue on as co-chair for an additional year. We will find a new secretary from our membership.

We continue to look for new members, as our active group is small. We look forward to Conference when we can put our name out there a little bit more.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Aghababian and Alene Moroni, co-chairs





# Treasurer's Report

## April 2021

### Massachusetts Library Association March 31, 2021

<b>Starting Balance</b>				<b>\$7,477.66</b>
<b>Income:</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Notes</b>		
	400.2	Conference Exhibitor Income		
	400.3	Conference Meals		
	400.5	Conference Sponsor Income	659.00	
	410	Membership	4999.00	
	410.1	NELA Joint Memberships		
	420	Program Income		
	400.6	Other Income		
	430	Committee Fundraising		
	440	Sponsorships/Donations/Other	PPF Loan	59,892.00
	491	Transfer from Investments		
			<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$15,550.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
	600	Program Expenses		
	610	Scholarship	Jordan Miller Award	500.00
	630	Travel		
	650	Dues & Subscriptions		
	670	NELA Membership Expense		385.00
	700	Conference		
	700.11	Conference AV Expenses		135.00
	700.12	Conference Awards		
	700.13	Other Conference Expenses	Docusign	318.75
	700.6	Conference Printing & Copying		
	700.8	Conference Payroll	Kristen	2055.45
	700.9	Conference Credit Card Fees		51.15
	750.1	Payroll	Rebecca	1213.76
	750.101	Payroll Tax	Both Employees	1156.27
	750.102	Payroll Workmen's Comp	Both Employees	20.18
	750.103	Payroll Vendor Fee	Both Employees	184.00
	750.11	Postage		
	750.12	Taxes & Filing Fees		
	750.2	Professional Services	Annual Accounting Services	
	750.3	Credit Card Merchant Fees	Non-conference	210.36
	750.4	Website Hosting		
	750.5	Insurance		
	750.6	Telecommunications	Cell Phone	76.63
	750.7	Travel		
	750.8	Printing & Copying		
	750.9	Equipment & Software	Monthly Gsuite & Zoom Upgrade	317.58
			<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,624.13</b>
<b>Balance as of</b>			<b>Quickbooks Balance</b>	<b>\$16,403.53</b>
			<b>Statement Balance</b>	<b>\$16,403.53</b>

Respectfully Submitted:

*Bernadette O'Quinn*

Fidelity Investments Accounts	10/31/2020	12/31/2020	1/31/2021	3/31/2021
Cash Reserves	4827.2	4827.6	4827.64	4827.72
Investments	134544.9	149618.15	149414.16	155555.76
<b>Total Fidelity Accounts</b>	<b>139372.10</b>	<b>154445.75</b>	<b>154241.8</b>	<b>160383.48</b>
Wild Apricot Receivables				
<30 Days	2330	390	2486	4560
30-60 Days	1605	40	265	1155
60-90 days	0	143	20	1125
90 days +	1085	1203	183	785
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>5020</b>	<b>1780</b>	<b>2956</b>	<b>7625</b>

## FY21 Budget vs Actuals

Income		
	FY 21 Draft	Actuals as of 3/31
400 Conference Income		
400.1 Attendee Registration	95000.00	
400.2 Exhibitors	35000.00	
400.3 Meals	500.00	
400.4 Basket Raffle	2000.00	
400.5 Sponsors	10000.00	659.00
400.6 Other Income	500.00	
400 Total Conference Income	143000.00	659.00
410 Membership Income		
410 Membership	50000.00	32620.00
410.1 NELA Membership	2500.00	690.00
410 Total Membership	52500.00	
420 Program Income	14700.00	
430 Committee Fundraising	0.00	50.00
440 Committee Sponsorships/Donations	850.00	436.00
490 Other Income	500.00	10183.18
491 Transfer From Investments	10000.00	13000.00
Total Income	221550.00	57638.18
Expenses		
600 Program Expenses	6305.00	
610 Scholarships	1800.00	500.00
620 Site Costs	1800.00	-644.80
630 Travel	6030.00	
640 Meals	9794.00	
650 Dues & Subscriptions	250.00	
660 Miscellaneous	645.00	
670 NELA Membership Expense	900.00	2850.00
700 Conference Expenses		551.00
700.1 Meals	68000.00	
700.11 AV Expenses	15000.00	3135.00
700.12 Awards	0.00	100.00
700.13 Other Expenses	300.00	318.75
700.2 Site Costs	5550.00	
700.3 Speaker Fees	9000.00	
700.33 Postage		
700.4 Travel		
700.5 Hotel Expenses	4500.00	
700.6 Printing & Copying	7000.00	1922.27
700.7 Supplies	1600.00	

700.8 Contract Services		
700.81 Conference Manager Salary	28000.00	15787.74
700.9 Credit Card Merchant Fees	4000.00	51.15
700 Total Conference	142950.00	21865.91

750 Office Expense		
750.1 Payroll	19000.00	11739.38
750.101 Payroll Tax	8000.00	9293.32
750.102 Vendor Fee	4000.00	1956.05
750.103 Worker's Comp	400.00	177.18
750.1 Total Payroll	31400.00	23165.93

750.11 Postage	300.00	185.01
750.12 Taxes & Filing Fees	150.00	260.00
750.13 Office Supplies	1000.00	
750.2 Professional Services	5000.00	4200.00
750.3 Credit Card Merchant Fees	4000.00	2521.47
750.4 Website Hosting	2000.00	1823.99
750.5 Insurance	1000.00	758.40
750.6 Telecommunications	1500.00	688.53
750.7 Travel	1300.00	106.94
750.8 Printing & Copying		
750.9 Equipment & Software	1500.00	2969.06
750 Total Office Expense	50650.00	36679.33

Total Conference Income	143000.00	659.00
Total Conference Expense	142950.00	21865.91
Conference Profit/Loss	50.00	-21206.91

*This includes a \$13K  
Transfer from Investments  
and a \$9892 PPP Loan,  
actual income is 34087.18*

Total Other Income	78550.00	56979.18
Total Other Expenses	78174.00	39384.53
Total Other Profit/Loss	376.00	17594.65

Total Income	221550.00	57638.18
Total Expenses	221124.00	61250.44
Total Profit/Loss	426.00	-3612.26

Actual Loss without Transfer or PPP Loan		-26504.26
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## MBLC Director's Report to MLA Executive Board

April 2021

Commissioner Cluggish and I testified virtually regarding the **FY2022 Legislative Agenda** in front of the Joint Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, March 9 as part of their Economic Development/Housing/Labor hearing. We were asked questions about State Aid to Public Libraries as well as the reopening process for public libraries.

I gave the legislative agenda briefings and Commissioner Cluggish issued a call to action at each of the four virtual MLA/MSLA **Library Legislative Day** event sessions. The [legislative page](#) on our website includes the FY2022 Legislative Agenda (<http://mbclclegislativeagenda.com/>), fact sheets for each of our affiliates that include updates on how they have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, the [Top 5 Reasons You Should Care about the Legislative Agenda](#), the [Benefits of State Aid](#), and more.

ALA will not be having a Fly-in or **National Library Legislative Day** this year. However, the Public Policy and Advocacy office (PPA) has organized some targeted outreach with members of Congress. Maria McCauley, the Cambridge Public Library director (and a member of the ALA Executive Board) and I met with staff from Senator Markey and Rep. Clark's offices virtually on Tuesday, April 6 and will meet with Rep. Auchincloss (and/or his staff) on Tuesday, April 13. We created a website that details how we are using IMLS LSTA and CARES Act funds in Massachusetts: <https://mbclclsta.com/>

IMLS will be awarding the MBLC \$3.5 million in **American Rescue Plan Act** (ARPA) funds in April. COSLA hosted a call with IMLS Director Crosby Kemper and IMLS staff on March 18, at which they shared initial guidance on spending priorities. The priorities include:

- a. First, to enable libraries to reach residents with internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and other digital inclusion efforts, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce development needs. The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations:
  - Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - Unemployment
  - Broadband availability;
- b. Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;
- c. Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs; and
- d. With respect to (a), (b), or (c), reach tribal and museum partners best positioned to assist with pandemic response efforts, in addition to traditionally eligible library entities, where appropriate.

All project activities will have to be completed and all funds obligated by September 30, 2022. In addition, there is no match requirement for these funds.

We are in the process of gathering input regarding possible uses of our ARPA funds and will be scheduling a call with our State Advisory Council on Libraries, among others, but our preliminary ideas include the following:

- Providing hotspots, Chromebooks, and other devices
- Funding e-resources to support schools, job seekers, summer learning, etc.
- Virtual programming support (partnering with museums, if possible)
- Online summer learning platform support

- IT/Technology assistance for small libraries
- Statewide assessments of public libraries' HVAC systems, broadband availability, and ADA accessibility
- A limited number of direct grants to support digital inclusion efforts and pandemic response

The **Build America's Libraries Act** has been introduced in the Senate (S. 127) by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and in the House (H.R. 1581) by Representatives Andy Levin and Don Young. ALA reached out to MLA and me to ask us to contact our delegation to ask them to consider co-sponsoring the bill.

The legislation would provide \$5 billion to fund upgrades to the nation's library infrastructure to address challenges such as natural disasters, COVID-19, broadband capacity, environmental hazards, and accessibility barriers. Eligible uses of the funding include conducting facilities condition assessments, needs assessments, and master planning; financing new library facilities; or making capital improvements to existing library facilities, including buildings, grounds, and bookmobiles.

Funding would be distributed through IMLS to state library agencies, which would then award grants on a competitive basis to libraries in each state. Funding would be prioritized to libraries serving marginalized communities, such as high-poverty areas. Additionally, IMLS would provide funding directly to tribal libraries. We have held preliminary internal discussions about how we might potentially use funds from the Build America's Libraries Act if it becomes law. We have discussed using Build America's Libraries Act funds for single-purpose projects including for HVAC upgrades, ADA access, and broadband/technology, and would focus on our most underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Massachusetts is one of 15 states that currently have library construction programs, and we would want to be careful not to jeopardize the strong support and funding we currently have for public library construction and renovation in the Commonwealth.

**CARES Act Spending:** The MBLC has awarded \$117,000 in funding for eBook collections (Overdrive content) to the Library for the Commonwealth. The funds will be used to add to the collection to reduce hold waitlist times and to expand collections serving teens, job seekers, and to support summer learning activities.

**LSTA Update:** LSTA consultants (Lyndsay Forbes, Shelley Quezada, Kate Butler, and Evan Knight) worked throughout March reviewing and commenting on draft applications. Input from consultants is used by applicants to better conceptualize and strengthen their LSTA Direct Grant applications. Final applications were due on April 6, 2021. Applications will be reviewed and scored by State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL) members and a final recommendation will be made during the May SACL meeting. SACL's LSTA Direct Grant recommendations will be presented during the July monthly board meeting.

**Trustee Deep Dives:** The MBLC Trustee Deep Dives continued in March with two sessions on trustee recruitment on March 16 and 25. Maura Deedy led the sessions that emphasized the importance of recruiting a board that reflects the make-up of the community that the library serves. The well-attended sessions provided best practices and provided an opportunity for trustees to share ideas and experiences. The Trustee Deep Dives continue with sessions exploring strategic planning on April 4 and April 22. For more details and to register visit the MBLC's calendar: <https://mblc.libcal.com/calendar/main?cid=3880&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=3880&inc=0>

Maura is also putting final touches on her session for MLA Annual: "Does the Mayor Have a Library Card: Understanding Local Government and Making Libraries Important to it" in which attendees will learn about different types of municipal government in MA, and how to build relationships with elected and appointed leaders. We'd like the panelist to share their perspectives as town manager (or mayor) and perspectives on working with the library from the municipal side. The panelists will be: Nicole LaChapelle, Mayor of Easthampton; Mehreen Butt, City Councilor in Wakefield, and John S. Mangiaratti, Town Manager in Acton.

Shelley Quezada has been working with April Mazza from MLS on preparing for the **School Readiness Toolkit** workshops that will be offered in April. The School Readiness Toolkit training is another excellent example of MBLC and MLS collaboration. On March 25 Shelley also presented at the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health agency's (SAMSHA) "monthly social check in."

The **Communications team** will be launching the 2nd annual First Lady of the Commonwealth and Blades Summer Challenge. This summer, the team is coordinating with Beanstack (the summer tracking software) to integrate the challenge into the software with a template and badges that kids earn as they hit reading benchmarks.

The team is also working with Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative to coordinate statewide trainings for public librarians and with the Collaborative and public libraries to create technology how-to videos for senior citizens.

**MLS Update February 2021**  
**Sarah Sogigian, Executive Director**

**Strategic Initiative 1**

MLS ensures its services are sustainable, prioritize member needs, and equitably serve all member types.

Goal	Actions	Measurement of Success	Monthly work toward Goal
MLS ensures service value to all member types.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLS will develop a guide to its levels of services, clarifying what benefits are available to each member type; the guide will be shared broadly and in several formats</li> </ul>	<i>Member library staff at a broad level will have a greater understanding of MLS services and resources.</i>	
MLS will continue to strengthen its partnerships and collaborations to allow MLS to focus on what it does uniquely well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLS will establish a partnership process, including a rubric, liaisons, expectations, policy and evaluations of current and new partnerships for opportunities and overlap.</li> </ul>	<i>MLS will report out annually on the value of their partnerships.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLS registered to be a sponsor of the MA School Library Association Conference.</li> <li>Developing new ways of “exhibiting” including recorded videos, and learning how to engage with members at events using various event platforms.</li> </ul>
New Services will be designed to deliver the greatest statewide impact, able to expand and contract due to available funding and need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MLS will create guidelines and criteria for new and established services for value and impact.</li> </ul>	<i>As an element of service review or introduction, MLS will be able to detail the impact of the service.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building off of our work last month, we discussed and selected a new method to share end of the year stats and comments with the membership.</li> </ul>

### **Strategic Initiative 2**

MLS empowers leaders to emerge at every level of library service, connecting staff throughout the stages of their careers.

Goal	Actions	Measurement of Success	Monthly work toward Goal
MLS promotes excellence and continuity by providing professional development, conversation and community around leadership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MLS develops a process for reaching out to members/training participants, asking them to report on how MLS programs have helped them.</li></ul>	<i>Member library staff recognize the transformative value of building and maintaining a professional network.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Began Spring CE season.</li><li>Continue identifying leadership training topics and external presenters.</li></ul>
Leadership, professional development, and networking opportunities will have flexible offerings in order to include participants from various library types, library sizes, and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Linked to S.I.1, G.1: MLS will develop a guide to its levels of service, clarifying what benefits are available to each member type; the guide will be shared broadly and in several formats.</li></ul>	<i>MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the number of professional development opportunities via type of opportunity, intended audience, training modality and type of library.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continue identifying leadership trainings in a variety of online formats for member staff in informal and formal leadership positions.</li></ul>

### **Strategic Initiative 3**

MLS will take the lead in facilitating important conversations, and support member-facing initiatives focused on DEI: diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and social justice work.

Goal	Actions	Measurement of Success	Monthly work toward Goal
MLS will integrate the core values of diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and social justice into its policies, practices, procedures, and programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In collaboration with partner organizations, MLS will explore hiring a coordinator/consultant to support the membership in this work.</li><li>MLS will work to align internal policies and procedures to the tenets of DEI.</li></ul>	<i>MLS will demonstrate both increased resource allocation as well as substantive, visible progress in representation throughout MLS services.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MLS is now a institutional member of several local and national associations (listed below)</li><li>Membership in these groups has a two-fold benefit: 1. We are able to support the work these orgs are doing and 2. Provide resources and opportunities to MLS and our members.</li></ul>



Following the lead of trusted experts, MLS will build awareness in using the DEI tenets with member library staff to identify and eliminate barriers to inclusive library services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with member libraries, research and tailor a DEI evaluation framework for member libraries.</li> </ul>	<i>Member library staff are confident in using the core values of DEI with their communities.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue identifying DEI training topics and external presenters.</li> </ul>
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#### Additional monthly notes:

#### MLS institutional Memberships:

MLA-MA Library Association

CMLA-Central MA Library Advocates

WMLA-Western

MA Library Advocates

Digital Commonwealth

ARSL-Association of Rural and Small Libraries

Reforma

American Indian Library Association

Black Caucus of ALA

ALA-American Library Association including:

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Roundtable, Library Instruction Roundtable, Learning Roundtable, Rainbow Roundtable, Social Responsibilities Roundtable.

\*MA School Library Association does not offer institutional memberships; some of our staff are individual members.



## **Massachusetts School Library Association (MSLA) Update to MLA Executive Board – April 2021**

MSLA announced **its legislative priorities** at this week's virtual Legislative Day, i.e., support for MBLC's Library Legislative Agenda and a call for comprehensive census of school library services and resources in public schools and require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and to gather these data annually, e.g., physical space, staffing and qualifications, collections, and annual expenditures and budget.

This is a necessary first step in addressing inequities that have been pointed out by the Special Commission to Study School Library Services. We must identify schools where improvements are needed before they can be addressed properly.

We are seeking legislative support to accomplish this.

MSLA held its [Annual Conference](#) (virtual), March 21-22, 2021  
"School Librarians at the Crossroad: Be the Hero of Your Journey,"  
Turnout was good; there was net revenue due to low cost.  
Membership increased to 621.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion theme was a major part. We plan to continue this theme in future professional development.

Recordings of many sessions have been made available to registrants.

**The Next Board virtual meeting** is April 14, 2021.

### **Contacts:**

- Laura Luker, President, [luker.laura@gmail.com](mailto:luker.laura@gmail.com)
- Emily Kristofek, Office Manager/Event Planner - [emilykristo@gmail.com](mailto:emilykristo@gmail.com)
- Greg Pronevitz, Director of Outreach - [greg@pronevitzconsulting.com](mailto:greg@pronevitzconsulting.com)

**Massachusetts School Library Association**  
PO Box 336, Wayland, MA 01778  
<https://www.maschoollibraries.org/>



Report from NELA Representative

For MLA Board Meeting 4/8/21

The NELA Board met on March 26, 2021.

- NELA Conference will be “hybrid.” There will be some days that will be all-remote, and there will be one day that will be in-person at Holy Cross. Due to space restrictions, this will have a limited number of attendees. The theme is “Play It Your Way.”

### **Virtual Conference Details**

#### **Dates & Themes**

September 1st - Advocacy

September 14th - Diversity

October 1st - Leadership/Management

### **In-Person Conference Details**

#### **Date & Location**

October 18th - Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

- **Nominations:** NELA has begun its nominating process for 2021. Nominations are sought for VP/President-Elect, Treasurer, and one Member-at-Large (formerly “Junior Director” position.) If anyone is interested in being nominated for a NELA Office, please feel free to contact me.
- **Emerging Leaders Virtual Cohort:** This is a new program, that will link emerging leaders from around New England in a long-term learning program. It is not directly related to NELLs< but approaches similar topics. Application is up and open. Deadline to apply is May 1. Cost to attendee will be \$100. Scholarships are available. A letter was sent to the state associations requesting a \$500 contribution. We have heard back from Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island pledging \$500 each. Vendor sponsor letters were also sent to target vendors. Funding received will go to speakers and costs associated with the program.
- **Emerson Greenaway:** Nomination form is out. So far we have one nomination. Please submit nominations using the form if you have someone in mind.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista I. McLeod, NELA Rep.