



Slate of Nominees for Officer Positions 2019-2020

Office of Vice President/President Elect

Nora Blake, Director at Emily Williston Memorial Library

Candidate statement:

I believe MLA is a valuable resource for library workers throughout Massachusetts. I want to ensure that MLA's reach continues to grow while at the same time continuing to strengthen the support that we provide to libraries and library workers statewide. MLA has dedicated, creative and tireless volunteers and staff who work hard to offer the best of the organization to our members and I would be honored to be able to work alongside these individuals to offer all that we can to our membership, now and in the future.

Office of the Treasurer

Bernadette Rivard, Director at Bellingham Public Library

Candidate Statement:

I am the Director of the Bellingham Public Library; a position I have held for nearly 11 years. I graduated from Simmons in 2001 and after a couple of short term positions, worked for 6 years at the Milford Town Library as the Tech Services Librarian and Assistant Director. I was a previously an elected member of the Bellingham Public Library Board of Trustees. I have been an MLA member since 1999 when I was a student at Simmons and became a member of the Intellectual Freedom Committee. I have since served two terms as the organizations' Treasurer as well as on the Investment and Public Relations Committees.

I am running for Treasurer of the Association for two reasons. First I see an opportunity to contribute to the financial stability of the organization, assist with setting financial policies and procedures to take us into the future. I also see an opportunity to advance the position of the association as a leader for Massachusetts librarians in advocacy, peer relationships and mentoring, and continuing education. I see libraries as the living rooms of our communities, places where all members of the community can meet to accomplish their personal goals, be they academic, recreational or aspirational. Advancing that message is a task I take seriously and aspire to spread that message to Massachusetts librarians, libraries and residents. Thank you for considering me for the honor of serving the organization.