

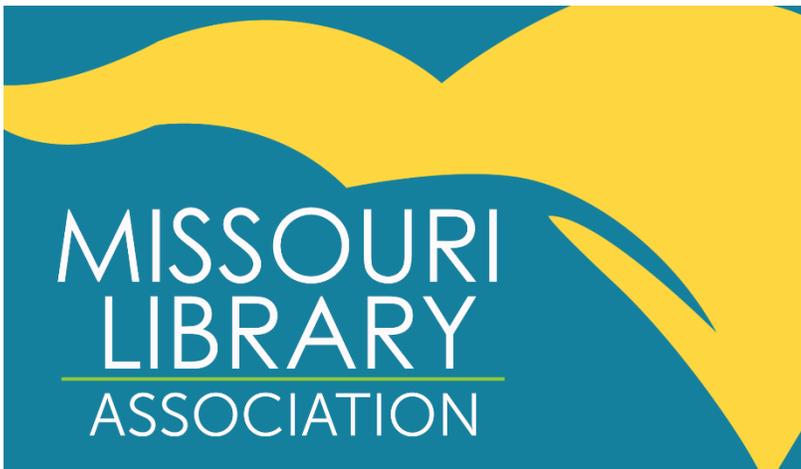
MO INFO

Newsletter of the Missouri Library Association

Election 2019

Volume 50, Number 5

SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE



Greetings from the MLA Nominating Committee! We have been hard at work securing volunteers for our upcoming MLA Officer Election. MLA has a long history of great leadership and that tradition will continue with this strong slate of candidates!

The MLA Election will open on August 26th and end September 6th. Members will elect a President- Elect and three Members-at-Large. Here is a little more bit information about each office:

The President-Elect serves MLA for three years. They are required to attend all Board meetings and can call special meetings if needed. They service as the leader of the organization and are responsible for signing contracts, planning and overseeing all MLA Committees and Committee appointments during their year as President.

They are asked to attend ALA Annual Conference and Library Legislative Days. As Past-President, they serve as Chair of the MLA Nominating Committee.

MLA Members-at-Large are elected for a two-year commitment. They are required to attend Board Meetings and the Annual Board Retreat. Candidates will serve as either secretary, Membership Chair or treasurer-elect as determined by the full MLA Board.

We are thrilled by the diversity of library types, state wide locations and library sizes that this slate of candidates represents. We look forward to every member's participation in the upcoming election!

Thank you,

The MLA Nominating Committee

Dr. Denise Adkins

Gerald Brooks

Mary Beth Revels

MLA President Erin Gray (ex-officio)

Committee Chair and MLA Past-President, April Roy

President-Elect

Anna Strackeljahn, Head of Collection Management, St. Louis Public Library



Anna Strackeljahn joined the team at St. Louis Public Library as the Head of Collection Management Services in March of 2019. Prior to that, she was the Director of the Campus Library at Lindenwood University – Belleville from 2016-2019 and was an Assistant Branch Manager and then a Branch Manager at St. Louis County Library from 2008-2016. Throughout her library career, she has been heavily involved in MLA. She was the Vice Chair and then Chair of the Professionalism, Education, Employment, and Recruitment CI from 2010 – 2015 and Chair of the Media and Publications Committee from 2013-2016. Anna has also been heavily involved in annual conference planning in St. Louis. She was the PR and Publications Chair in 2013 and one of two Conference Coordinators in 2017.

Anna is a proud University of Missouri SISLT alumna and earned her MLIS in 2008.

Candidate Statement

I'm very excited to be working in the state of Missouri again and am honored to have the opportunity to serve the Missouri Library Association as President. MLA is an organization that is close to my heart, as I believe that the connections and conversations that it forges are second to none. I want to lead MLA forward as we continue to provide great services to Missouri librarians. There is great opportunity for growth, innovation, and advocacy that we need to take advantage of in order to continue to provide value to our members.

Cindy Thompson, Associate Dean, University of Missouri-Kansas City



Cindy Thompson is Associate Dean at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's University Libraries. She began at UMKC in 2006 as the Interlibrary Loan Librarian and took on increasing responsibilities until she attained her current position in 2017. As Associate Dean, Cindy oversees operations for both the general and health sciences campuses of UMKC. Cindy received her PhD in Educational Leadership, Policy, and Foundations, and Public Affairs and Administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2014, her MA in Information Science and Learning Technology with an emphasis in Library Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2006, and her BA in Oxbridge History from William Jewell College in 2004. In the Missouri Library Association she is currently co-chair of the Access and Innovation Fund Task Force, and has previously served as Treasurer and Member-at-Large on the MLA Board, a member of the Website Subcommittee, and as chair of the Professionalism, Education, Employment, and Recruitment Community of Interest. Cindy lives in Kansas City's northland with her dashing husband and adorable children, loves spreadsheets, and bakes cupcakes whenever she can.

Candidate Statement

I am thrilled to be nominated for President of the Missouri Library Association. This Association has been an invaluable support for my career, providing a source for learning, a network of professionals, and so much more. I am impressed by the strides we have taken as an organization since I first joined, and by the strong direction in which we are headed. In my years with MLA I have seen the Association from a variety of perspectives: as a student, a new professional and member trying to find my footing, a CI member and chair, a committee member and chair, and an at-large board member and Treasurer. My time as MLA Treasurer was particularly exciting as it was the year that the association received the Access and Innovation Fund donation. I learned more than I could have imagined about the inner workings of MLA as I worked through making decisions and drafting policies to support the sustainability of those funds in supporting Missouri Libraries for the long-term. Other rewarding experiences in service of MLA have included awarding the Bohley Scholarship to promising future librarians,

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planning and executing Trivia Night (and raising record funds!) to support that scholarship, and serving on the website subcommittee to help maintain our infrastructure. As President, I am confident that my leadership experience and my broad understanding of MLA will pair with my energy and enthusiasm to strongly support the rest of the Board in continuing our momentum. I am most looking forward to continuing our work toward implementing the strategic plan, guiding us through the initial years of the Access and Innovation Fund, and further expanding benefits to all members through continuing education and advocacy. Missouri is a great place to be a librarian, and the membership of MLA is a big part of why – together, we can keep growing.

Member-At-Large

Otter Bowman, Library Outreach, Daniel Boone Regional Library



Otter Bowman joined the support staff at the Daniel Boone Regional Library in 2004. She began as a shelver, working part-time as she single-parented her three children. She soon took on more responsibilities, working first as a weekend floater on the public service desks, and then as a member of the Reference Team. In 2010 Otter joined the Outreach department, providing services to bookmobile and homebound patrons. She is currently a driver and story teller for DBRL's Bookmobile, Jr. and Book Rover services to childcare centers, and compiles the monthly statistics for youth outreach. She also works as a Sunday Senior Associate, helping the Librarian-in-charge manage the Columbia Public Library location on one of the busiest days of the week.

Otter earned her BA from Hunter College CUNY in 1989, and she began her MLIS studies at the University of Missouri last year. She was the 2018 recipient of MLA's Ronald G. Bohley scholarship. She is a current member of both MLA and the American Library Association.

Candidate Statement

Being nominated to run for Member-At-Large is a great honor. I am excited for the opportunity to pay back some of the support that MLA has given me through the Bohley scholarship by serving in this way. As both a long-term public library employee and a current Library and Information Sciences student, I will bring a unique perspective to the Board. The number of paraprofessionals working in our field is significant. If elected I endeavor to represent fairly the MLA membership and ensure that all members have a voice. I would also like to study the possibility of lowering MLA's sliding scale fee payments for nonprofessional staff so that paying dues and enjoying MLA membership could be a more realistic option for a greater number of Missouri library workers.

Amy Held, Youth Services Librarian, Jefferson County Library – Arnold Branch



Amy Held is the Youth Services Librarian at the Arnold Branch of the Jefferson County Library. She has worked for the Jefferson County Library starting as a Page in 1992. She advanced to Circulation Clerk, and Children's Library Associate, before taking the position as Children's Librarian upon receiving her MLIS from the University of Missouri in 1999.

Amy has been a member of MAYPL (Metropolitan Area Youth Public Librarians) since 1997 holding the offices of secretary and chair multiple times. She has been a member of MLA since 2010. She has served as the YSCI (Youth Services Community of Interest) Chair in the past. Amy also served on the Missouri Building Block Picture Committee for several years, including a term as Chair of the committee.

Candidate Statement

I am honored and excited to have been asked to run for a Member-at-Large position with MLA. I have been a member of MLA since 2010 and have found it to be a great source of resources and assistance to my job. I believe that I could be a valuable asset to MLA representing public libraries and youth librarianship in Missouri.

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Katie Hill, Director, Cape Girardeau Public Library



Katie Hill is the Library Director at Cape Girardeau Public Library in Cape Girardeau, MO. She has served in this position for just over a year. Prior to taking over at CGPL she was the Director of Coffeyville Public Library (Coffeyville, KS) from 2013-2018 and the MLS Program Director at the School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) at Emporia State University (Emporia, KS) from 2009-2013. Katie is active in the Cape Girardeau community serving in many civic organizations and boards such as Rotary and Zonta. Katie is also very active in the library profession. During her time in Kansas she served on the planning committee for the 2015 joint conference between the Kansas Library Association and the Missouri Library Association, was elected to the KLA nominating committee in 2015 and 2017, and she served as Vice President of the executive board of the Southeast Kansas Regional Library System from 2015-2018. Since joining the Missouri library community she has been serving on the MLA Legislative committee and the executive board of MALA. Katie earned her MLS degree from Emporia State University in 2009 and is a 2018 graduate of the Mountain Plains Library Association's Leadership Institute.

Candidate Statement

It's hard to believe that I have been working in the library profession for ten years; six of those years as a public library director. I am honored to have a place in this profession. Libraries play a vital role in any community and I find myself awestruck to see and hear of the impact that we librarians make every day in the lives of our patrons. Even with this great impact we can do more, serve more, and offer more. But we can't do more if we don't advocate for ourselves more. This is where the Missouri Library Association can help. My recent move to Missouri has allowed me to witness the importance of MLA and I am excited to become an active member of this organization to help Missouri librarians be better advocates for their libraries and their communities.

Shannon Midyett, Assistant Director, Poplar Bluff Municipal Library



Shannon Midyett serves as the Assistant Director of the Poplar Bluff Municipal Library. She has been with PBMLD since starting as a Library Page Shelver in 1993. Shannon earned her BS in Organizational Management from William Woods University in 2008.

Shannon was active locally to help ensure the passage of legislation to establish sales tax for Missouri libraries and was instrumental in the passage of Proposition 1 that established a quarter-cent sales tax for Poplar Bluff Municipal Library, tripling its annual revenue.

Serving at PBMLD when it was the pilot library for the Missouri Evergreen project, she has been active in the ME community since its inception in 2011. Shannon currently serves as the Chair of the ME Circulation Committee and as an ex-officio member on the Missouri Evergreen board. She has been a member of the Missouri Library Association and American Library Association for more than 10 years.

Candidate Statement

I am honored to be considered as a Member-at-Large for the Missouri Library Association. I have seen firsthand time and time again the transforming power of libraries. I have served my community through our local library for over 25 years beginning in high school as a page and working my way up to Assistant Director, a position I have held successfully for the past six years. MLA has been vital to ensuring libraries across Missouri can continue to make an impact on the lives of our patrons and the citizens of Missouri. If elected, I will be committed to upholding and continuing MLA's long-standing tradition of strengthening libraries, librarians, and providing life-changing service to our communities.

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Sandy Schiefer, Journalism Research and Digital Access Library, University of Missouri School of Journalism

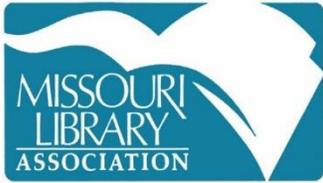


Sandy Schiefer is the Journalism Research and Digital Access librarian for the University of Missouri School of Journalism and head of the Columbia Missourian Newspaper Library. She is a member of MLA, ALA, ACRL, MACRL, and Politics, Policy and International Relations Section of ARCL (PPIRS). Building on her Bachelor's in Computer Science from Washington University in St. Louis, Sandy earned her Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Missouri in 2008. She served as a University of Missouri's Government Documents librarian for eight years before progressing to the journalism position as in 2017. She is also liaison for the Departments of International Studies, Geography, Political Science, and the Truman School of Public Affairs. Sandy currently serves on the ALA Membership Meetings Committee and the Membership Committee in ACRL PPIRS. She is also the Chapter Councilor for the Missouri Chapter of ACRL and attends both ALA Annual and Midwinter Conferences.

An MLA member since 2006, Sandy was actively involved in the MLA Government Documents Community of Interest and is currently a member of the Awards and the Bylaws and Handbook Committees. She has also presented at several MLA conferences, most recently at the 2018 conference delivering "Evaluating News and Information." For the same year she was also Co-Chair for the Pre-conferences.

Candidate Statement

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Member-At-Large for the Missouri Library Association. MLA is a wonderful resource and opportunity for our members to get involved in a professional organization and to sharpen their skills in providing assistance and information access to our patrons. And because many libraries across Missouri, whether public, private or academic, are striving to provide those same benefits but are not aware of the resources that MLA membership offers, I will make it one of my core tasks to reach out to non-MLA members so that they can join our energetic and motivated team. Additionally, I am looking forward to encouraging and mentoring our members to serve on committees, strive for leadership roles and participate in annual conferences. I am eager to begin this mission of service to MLA and to librarians throughout the state.



The Missouri Library Association, Columbia, MO, est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter of the American Library Association, Chicago, IL.

MO INFO Submission Guidelines

MO INFO (ISSN 0884-2205) is published six times/year (January 15th, March 15th, May 15th, July 15th, September 15th, and November 15th).

The most recent issue as well as back issues of *MO INFO* can be viewed on the MLA membership webpage at <http://molib.org/mo-info-newsletter/>.

MO INFO is produced by the Publications Committee. To facilitate the Committee's production process, please follow the submission suggestions below.

Article format:

- Microsoft Word document
- Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA
- Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired

Article and Advertising Submission Deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication. Article copy submitted by email to the committee at moinfonews@gmail.com

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