

LibraryLinkNJ

Proposed FY24 Executive Board Slate

Recommended by the Nominating Committee

May 18, 2023

Background. In accordance with the LibraryLinkNJ Bylaws, the Board Nominating Committee submits a slate for membership consideration and action at the Spring Membership Meeting. This FY24 Executive Board Slate was developed by Board Nominating Committee members: Laurie Matassa, Chair, with Ranjna Das, John Foglia, Janina Kaldan, Jennifer Poldolsky.

LibraryLinkNJ extends sincere thanks and appreciation to the Executive Board members who are leaving the Board at the end of June:

- Chris Carbone, Public Library Representative; Director, South Brunswick Public Library
- Kathy Dempsey, Lay Representative; Founder, Libraries Are Essential
- Jennifer Podolsky, Member-at-Large; Director, Princeton Public Library
- Will Porter, Member-at-Large; Director, Sussex County Library System
- Jennie Pu, Member-at-Large; Director, Hoboken Public Library

Action. The proposed Executive Board Slate for FY24 is as follows:

Ranjna Das, Burlington County Library System (Burlington County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026

Ranjna Das has served as a member of the LLNJ Board for the past two years, and she is being nominated to serve a second term. Ranjna has served as Director of the Burlington County Library System for over 10 years. Before that she managed the library system's ebook service, online resources and served as their systems librarian. Ranjna has been involved in various committees, task forces, panels and boards on LLNJ and NJLA and continues to serve the statewide library community. Ranjna is currently Co-Chair of the LibraryLinkNJ Resource Sharing Committee.

Mary Fran Daley, Bernardsville Public Library (Somerset County)

Member-at-Large, Two-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025

(Filling remainder of term of board member who resigned effective June 30, 2023)

Mary Fran Daley, MLIS, is the Executive Director of the Bernardsville Public

Library in Somerset County. Beginning in libraries in 2004 as a Youth Services Library Assistant, Fran went on to pursue her MLIS at Rutgers University where she was awarded the Beverly Shoen CISSL Fellowship. While a graduate student, she served as the co-President of Library and Information Science Students Association at the 2009 Rutgers Student-2-Staff Representative. Upon graduation, she taught in New Jersey public schools for seven years in Pittstown and High Bridge. She has done committee work for AASL and was an ALA Emerging Leader. She has also served on the Family Advisory Council of the Goryeb Children's Hospital in Morristown and on her hometown's Recreation Commission. As a library director in the Main Library Alliance, Fran served on the Strategic Planning Committee and co-chairs the DEI Advisory Group. In addition to being a curious librarian, she is a parent to twin tweens, a defender of intellectual freedom, a maker of pumpkin squares, and a lifelong dog enthusiast. Her favorite book is *Song of the Lark*, and she frequently enjoys issues of décor and design magazines in the Libby app. Drawing upon her passions for diverse materials, organizational planning, youth, and STEM, Fran is honored to be considered for service as a Member-at-Large for LibraryLinkNJ.

Laura Giacobbe, Guggenheim Memorial Library, Monmouth University
(Monmouth County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 (1st term)

Laura Giacobbe is currently a first-generation faculty specialist librarian at the Guggenheim Memorial Library of Monmouth University. Previously, she was the Managing Assistant Director of Digital Content at Kean University's Nancy Thompson Learning Commons and the Assistant Director of the Gardner A. Sage Library at New Brunswick Theological Seminary where she curated collections with a special emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion. She is a certified Racial Healing Facilitator and is a co-facilitator of racial healing circles. As a Reiki Master Teacher and Meditation Instructor, Laura connects her racial healing work and social justice advocacy to mindfulness-based practices. She actively speaks at conferences on the concepts of white supremacy and racial equity in libraries. She earned her graduate degree in Library and Information Science from Drexel University where she was honored as both the Lone Nelson Scholar and the Rondeau Fellow for academic excellence. Her undergraduate degree was obtained from The College of New Jersey where Laura majored in Law and Justice. Outside of work, Laura is a rescue dog mom, vegan, tarot card reader, and true-crime podcast aficionado.

Shannon Kish, Robbinsville High School (Mercer County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 (1st term)

Shannon Kish is a School Library Media Specialist at Robbinsville High School, with more than ten years experience in school libraries. She has experience working with a range of ages, from preschool through adult. She regularly participates in district committees, focusing on areas such as Strategic Planning, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and School Data. She has also been a mentor to new school library media specialists, helping them through their provisional teaching years.

Shannon is a member of the New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL) and the International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE) and regularly attends their conferences. She also presents at these conferences when possible; this year she discussed using makerspaces to help with community service at the NJASL Spring Conference and will talk about collection development at ISTE's 2023 conference in Philadelphia.

Shannon received her Masters in Educational Technology with School Library Media concentration at New Jersey City University, Bachelor of Arts in English at Rutgers University-Camden, and Associate of Arts in English at Rowan College at Burlington County. She has certifications in New Jersey as a K-12 School Library Media Specialist, K-12 English Teacher, and K-6 Elementary Teacher.

Irene Langlois, Maplewood Memorial Library (Essex County)

Public Library Representative, Three-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 (1st term)

Irene Langlois is Interim Head of Outreach Services at the Maplewood Memorial Library. Irene has been a member of the LLNJ MentorNJ Project Team since its inception in 2015. After years in the Banking Industry, Irene started her second career as a Children's Librarian, moved into the role of Teen Librarian and then Head of Teens Services. While working with the Teens, Irene launched Create Space, the Library's makerspace. As Branch Manager of the Hilton Branch and in her current role, Irene serves on the boards of several community organizations. Irene has successfully applied for an American Library Association (ALA) Financial Literacy grant, an ALA/National Endowment of the Humanities grant, and six Department of Labor Adult Literacy grants. In her current role, she has expanded the Library's outreach to the community and oversees the Library's ESL program. She has worked for Maplewood Library for sixteen years. Irene has a B.S. from the University

of Buffalo and received her Masters of Library and Information Science from Rutgers University.

Michelle Sutton-Kerchner, President, Signatures & Folios Publishing Services
(Burlington County)

Lay Representative, Three-year term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 (1st term)

For over 20 years, Michelle has provided writing, editing, and project management services through her company Signatures & Folios. Michelle's portfolio reflects a diverse collection of disciplines, including work with prominent healthcare and publishing clients. Her background includes writing and editorial work, website launches, end-to-end publishing, multi-platform brand alignment, and marketing collateral. She looks forward to being part of our team.

Michelle began her career in publishing where she advanced to book and journal management positions. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in comparative literature, with a Minor in French, from West Chester University. She resides with her family in Burlington County. An avid book-lover, when she is not working with words, she enjoys reading them.