

LibraryLinkNJ

Proposed FY25 Executive Board Slate

Recommended by the Nominating Committee on April 18, 2024

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 FY25 Executive Board Slate was developed by Board Nominating Committee members: Bonnie Lafazan, Chair, with Corey Fleming, Laura Giacobbe, and Laurie Matassa.

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

- Phillip Berg, Member-at-Large; Executive Director, Main Library Alliance
- Janina Kaldan, Special Library Representative; Library Manager, Shinn-Lathrope Health Sciences Library
- Bonnie Lafazan, Member-at-Large; Assistant Director, Springfield Free Public Library
- Laurie Matassa, School Library Representative; Media Specialist, Jackson Liberty High School

Action. The proposed Executive Board Slate for FY25 is as follows:

Amy Behr-Shields

Summit Free Public Library (Union County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (1st term)

Amy Behr-Shields is the Director of Summit Free Public Library. Amy has her master's in library and information science and is a certified professional with the Society of Human Resources Management. Prior to her role as a Director, Amy worked as a Human Resources Generalist and Youth Services Department Supervisor for Somerset County Library System. Amy is passionate about integrating human resources and leadership with empathy.

Luca Manna

PALS Plus library consortium (Passaic County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (1st term)

Luca Manna is the Executive Director of the PALS Plus library consortium, a position he's held since March of 2016. Luca began his career at the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS) in 1993 and remained there until March of 2016. Throughout his tenure at BCCLS, Luca actively served on a variety of procedural and administrative committees. For LLNJ, Luca is currently the co-chair of the Resource Sharing Committee (2023 -) and has served on the Delivery Task Force (2019-2023), the TOPCATS sharing group (2020), the Delivery Evaluation Team (2018), and the LLNJ Strategic Steering Committee (2016). By serving on the LLNJ Executive Board, Luca hopes to continue to support the strides LLNJ has made in recent years of broadening services and fostering collaboration among New Jersey libraries.

Joan Serpico

Moorestown Library (Camden County)

Member-at-Large, Three-year term: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (2nd term)

Joan Serpico graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a BA in English and received a Masters in Library Science from the University of Maryland. She has worked in special, academic and public libraries since 2002. She moved to NJ in 2004 and lives in Chesterfield, NJ. Her first love was adult programming where she was able to bring together members of the community through lectures, workshops, film and music at Mount Laurel Library and Franklin Township Public Library. She recently served as Coordinator of Adult Services for the Burlington County Library System and, in December 2019, became the Director of the Moorestown Library.

Helen-Ann Brown Epstein

Virtua Health Sciences Library (Burlington County)

Special Library Representative, Three-year term: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (1st term)

Helen-Ann is celebrating her 50th year as a Health Sciences Librarian. She has concentrated her efforts on hospital librarianship, especially clinical outreach, expert searching and teaching. She has enjoyed working in hospitals, an academic medical center, and training for the National Library of Medicine Network of Libraries and an information resource vendor. Currently, Helen-Ann is the Informationist for Virtua Health, a five-hospital health system in southern New Jersey. Her totally digital library allows Helen-Ann to step out of the Library and make rounds and sit on many hospital wide committees. She is active in her local Medical Library Association Chapter as well as serving MLA on national committees, juries and mentor to her colleagues. Helen-Ann is a graduate of the MLA Research Training Institute and holds a Distinguished accreditation in MLA Academy of Health Information Professionals. Her greatest honor is to be a MLA Fellow.

Carina Gonzalez

Governor Livingston High School Instructional Media Center (Union County)

School Library Representative, Three-year term: July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (1st term)

Carina Gonzalez (she/her) is a Media Specialist at Governor Livingston High School's Instructional Media Center. Her passions in librarianship include social justice, access, and intellectual freedom. She began her career as an Elementary Library Media Specialist followed by being a High School Library Media Specialist. She then went on to become an Outreach Academic Librarian, an Adult Services Public Librarian, and has now returned to high school librarianship. Carina is an accomplished writer, professional web designer, entrepreneur, and consummate gamer from tabletop to console. You can learn more about her at www.librariancarina.com.