

Candidates for President: Jayne Beline and Karen Klapperstuck

Jayne Beline

Biography

Education and Work Experience

MSIS, Drexel University
BS, College Misericordia

Director, Parsippany Public Library from 1990 to present
District Consultant, Scranton Public Library, Scranton, PA
Head of Children's Services, Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barre, PA
Adjunct Professor, Children's Literature, College Misericordia, Dallas, PA

NJLA Activities

Currently Member at large, NJLA board
Second Vice President, 2009-2010
Treasurer, Scholarship Trust Committee
Chairperson, Administrative Section
Chairperson, Membership Committee
Conference Program committee member
Secretary, NJLA Executive Board

Other Professional Activities

LibraryLinkNJ Transition Board
SWAT Team, New Jersey State Library
Morris Area Information Network (MAIN) Planning Council
HRLC Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Board Member, various years
Pennsylvania Library Association, various committees; Certificate of Merit, 1989

Community Awards and Activities

Dean Gallo Vocational Award, Rotary Club, 2010
President, Parsippany Kiwanis Club 1999-2000
Kiwanian of the Year, 2001
Good Scout Award (Service to the Community)
Member, Senator Robert Martin's Education Advisory Committee
Board of Directors, Parsippany Police Athletic League
Parsippany Mayor's Wellness Committee

Statement

This is a time when many New Jersey libraries are struggling to exist. Meanwhile, state, county and local governments are facing budget challenges. The use of all types of libraries has increased as users are trying to find jobs, go back to school, develop new skills and find free entertainment for their families. The New Jersey Library Association is the best organization to lead libraries through this crisis by positioning them as institutions that enhance the quality of life and the economic development for our citizens as well as support high academic achievement for students of all ages.

The leadership skills that I have acquired as a library administrator and in various civic organizations will help me to guide NJLA through its advocacy efforts. As president, I will use my office to assist NJLA's Executive Director and the Executive Board to develop marketing and other strategies and foster partnerships with private and public agencies for the benefit of all libraries. These initiatives will help launch a successful membership campaign that will further enhance the effectiveness of NJLA and bring the library community together to promote and strengthen New Jersey's libraries.

Karen Klapperstuck

Biography

Education and Work Experience

M.S.L.S. Catholic University of America, Washington, DC
Virtual Branch Manager, Monroe Township Public Library, 2009–present
Director, Bradley Beach Public Library, 2000–2009

Professional Affiliations and NJLA Activities

American Library Association (ALA Committee on Education, 2008-2010), PLA & YALSA (YA Galley Committee, Member, 2008-2009 and Chair, 2009-2010)

New Jersey Library Association: Executive Board, 2006-2009; IT Section; YA Section; Chair of Leadership & Education (subcommittee of Professional Development); Conference Committee, Co-chair, 2009-10 and 2010-11

Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative (CJRLC), Executive Board Member, 2003-2009

ALA Emerging Leader, 2007; NJ Academy of Library Leadership, 2003; NJLA Emerging Leader, 2002

Conference and Presentation Highlights:

- Getting Started with Your Virtual Branch, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, NY, Apr. 2010
- Innovations in Libraries: Mobile, Real-time Librarians (with Amy Kearns, Joe Murphy and Lisa Carlucci-Thomas), Queens Library, NY, Nov. 2009

- “New Librarians/ Emerging Leaders: Give Them Tools, Get Them Involved,” (with Connie Paul and Pat Tumulty), 2006 PLA Conference, Boston, MA, Mar. 2006
- Various presentations at NJLA Annual Conferences on the topics of leadership, technology and small libraries

Statement

The great strain felt by libraries in New Jersey and around the country fills the pages of our library communications. We rally, we talk, we write on blogs, Facebook and newsletters. Yet when our budgets were not under attack, we often failed to educate the public about how vital libraries are and the wide variety of services libraries provide. Even our regular library users are unaware of all we do! We've gotten so caught up in the fight for survival we've neglected our true mission as librarians. Librarians and library staff must focus on service today and for the future. We cannot lose sight of the driving dollars and budget line items because we need to continue our budget defenses. At the same time, however, it is critical that we continue to push forward with sound and creative technologies, programming and collection development. The opportunity to learn, share and innovate is something our organization provides well for its members.

I often tell the participants of Emerging Leaders that this is THEIR association. And it's true. As members, we are capable of making the NJLA stronger and more effective. The NJLA has been integral to my career development and professional satisfaction. When I returned to NJ in 2000, my involvement introduced me to many professional role models, personal inspirations, and friends. We are so lucky in NJ to have a strong professional association and a great reputation for innovation in the library field at large. It would be one of my goals as president to not simply preserve our strength and reputation but to further both. I will work to encourage librarians to become members and leaders in committees and sections and make a difference to NJLA and our profession. As we all know, our greatest challenges lie ahead.

Candidate for Secretary

Anne Wodnick

Biography

Anne Wodnick is the Director of the Gloucester County Library System (GCLS), Mullica Hill, NJ. Prior to her appointment as Director, Anne served as Branch Manager of the GCLS Logan Township Library. She is Vice President of the Board of Directors of the LOGIN Consortium (Libraries of Gloucester/Salem Information Network). She serves as a member of the LibraryLinkNJ Statewide Delivery Task Force. Past experience includes serving as Treasurer of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative and participating on the NJ State Library “Libraries Transform Lives” Advocacy Task Force. Anne is immediate Past-Chair of the NJLA Member Services Committee, and has been a member of NJLA since 1992.

Education

Master of Library Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
BA in Organizational Management, Cabrini College, Radnor, PA

Statement

I believe that active membership in NJLA is essential for everyone who is concerned about the future of libraries in NJ. The current economic conditions have shown the need for librarians, support staff, and trustees to be part of a strong advocacy organization such as NJLA, and the need to build an extensive network of support for libraries. As a member of the NJLA Executive Board, I look forward to exploring ways to encourage more involvement in the association by all our members and building pathways for increased membership among all who serve in libraries.

Candidates for Member-at-Large: Ingrid Bruck, Allan Kleiman, Judy Macaluso, Mary Martin, Daragh O'Connor, John P. Porcaro, Dale Spindel.
(Vote for four. Three candidates will be elected to three-year terms. One candidate will be elected to a one-year term.)

Ingrid Bruck

Biography

Director, Long Branch Free Public Library, 1997 to present
Branch Manager, Irving Public Library System, Texas, 1994-1997
Children's Librarian, Grand Prairie Public Library, Texas, 1991-1994
Coordinator of Children's Services, Farmingdale Public Library, New York, 1975-1977
Technical Advisor/Director, Biblioteca de Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, 1973-1974
Chief Librarian, Proyecto Linguistico Francisco Marroquin, Antigua, Guatemala, 1972-1973
Para-Professional Children's Librarian, Mattapan Branch, Boston Public Library, 1968-1972

Simmons College, MLS, 1972 Boston, Mass.
Mattapan Community Coalition, Title V, MA, 1972
The Science Place Museum School, Storyteller, Dallas TX, 1981-1991
School Board Proclamations, Mesquite ISD, TX, 1984 & 1986
Young Writers Workshop: Library-PTA-School Partner Project, Mesquite TX, 1987-1997
Volunteer Award, City of Mesquite, TX, 1988
MISD Council PTAs Texas Life Membership Award, 1989
TPTA-TEPSA Outstanding Volunteer Service Award, 1989
Scholarship in the name of Ingrid Bruck, Beasley Elementary, TX, 1989
MISD Council PTAs Yearbook Dedication, TX, 1991
MISD Council PTAs National Life Member, TX, 1992

Supervisor of the Year Award, City of Grand Prairie, TX, 1993
Urban Libraries Section NJLA, 1998- present
CJRLC Board, 2001-2006, 2010
NJLA Public Library Task Force Funding Scenarios, 2002
Training Strategies Class, Gates Foundation, Seattle WA, 2002
Outstanding Contribution to the Community, The City of Long Branch, 2005
Library Network Services Regulations Review Committee, 2005
NJSL Library Network Review Board, 2007-2009
LMxAC Board, 2009-2011
NJLA Board, 2009-2011
NJSL Libraries Transform Lives Task Force, 2010
LibraryLinkNJ Transition Board, 2010- 2011

Statement

I think the greatest challenge now facing NJ libraries will be to develop strategies for a sustainable funding base. The current financial crisis is causing a wide spread reduction of library hours and services, layoffs, furloughs and, worst case, library closings. I think members of the NJLA Board are in a unique position to help make a positive difference for libraries, and that is why I am running to serve a second term on the NJLA Board.

When I moved back East in 1997 after living in Texas for 22 years, my first introduction to NJ libraries was through the regions. I am indebted to CJRLC for welcoming me to New Jersey and connecting me with the rest of the New Jersey library community. I am convinced that change takes place at the grassroots level where the regions work. I value the unique ability of the regions to connect to the local strengths of multi-type libraries. I think we have to take a multi-type library approach because all libraries are in this financial crisis together, and each type of library poses unique challenges and strengths. I am committed to help bring the local connections and strengths of multi-type libraries in New Jersey to the NJLA Board.

If you elect me to serve another term on the NJLA Board, I would bring along my home library's strong commitment to serve the English literacy needs of a diverse community and my strong desire to provide NJ libraries with job search resources for the unemployed and underemployed.

It's been an honor to serve one term on the NJLA Board. I would welcome the opportunity to serve again.

Allan M. Kleiman

Biography

BA, Brooklyn College, NY, 1973

MLS, cum laude, St. John's University, NY, 1974

Advanced Coursework in Public Libraries, Columbia University SLS, 1978-1982

Allan began his professional career in 1974 at the Brooklyn (NY) Public Library working at various branch libraries and as a Science Reference Librarian at the Central Library before becoming the Chief of Service to the Aging in 1981. Allan followed-up his experience at the Brooklyn Public Library as the Coordinator of Adult Services for the Queens (NY) Public Library before moving to New Jersey. Since then his full-time positions have included: Director of the Cranbury and Irvington Public Libraries; Consultant for Automation and Technical Services for LSSI at the Jersey City Public Library; Head of Reference at the Westfield Memorial Library; and Assistant Library Director at the Old Bridge Public Library. It was at Old Bridge that he created the "senior spaces" concept being adopted by libraries all over the United States. Currently Allan is the Interim Library Director at the Montville Township Public Library and weekend Reference Librarian at the South Plainfield Public Library.

He is a frequent speaker at NJLA and other conferences around the country on the topics of library services to the baby boomers, Gen X, collection development, and older adults. Allan was awarded the Margaret Monroe Award for Adults Services from the American Library Association in 2006. He is the past Chair of INFOLINK's Diversity Committee; past president of NJLA's Special Population Section; past Chair and member of ALA's Library Service to an Aging Population Committee and has been active in NJLA's Reference Services Section. He currently serves as NJLA's 2nd Vice-President (2010-2011).

Statement

Once again, libraries of all types face challenges. This time it is not just challenges dealing with intellectual freedom we have become a target for but challenges to our total existence as institutions. It is as if someone has taken a bull's-eye and aimed their dart straight at libraries. But this time they cannot and will not drive us apart--not by type of library not by our geography! This time we WILL be united together to face these challenges head-on! NJLA can provide the message for us but it is up to each and every one of us to deliver that message directly with local success stories to our trustees, friends, library customers, school districts, senior centers, nursery schools, township committees, freeholders, and state and federal legislators. The message must continue to be loud and clear. Libraries are the best example of cost effectiveness in NJ.

Libraries are the best example of sharing resources in NJ. Libraries are the best example of what's possible in NJ. And we all know that each Library cannot do it on its own. We need to fight together for the existence of the New Jersey State Library, local public libraries, school libraries, special libraries and academic/college libraries. The New Jersey Library community cannot give up this fight. It is not just our own existence that we are fighting for but for everyone in the State of New Jersey who visits our libraries every day, once a week, once a month, or maybe once a year. I have spent most of my library career being an advocate for those who often do not have a voice in libraries. I understand how to get the message out! It is my pledge if elected as a Member-at-Large to work with NJLA staff, the NJLA Board, and membership to ensure that our story is told across the Garden State each and every day of the value of our libraries, our library staffs and how we truly make a difference and change people's lives each and every day. Libraries are an everyday—365 day event!

Judy Macaluso

Biography

Ocean County Library - Supervising Librarian, Branch Services 3/2010- present
Ocean County Library – Teen Services Coordinator 2000-2010

Lakewood Public Library – Teen Services Librarian 1997

Ocean County College – Adjunct Reference Librarian 1996-1997

Education

M.L.S. Rutgers University 1996

B.A. Humanities Georgian Court University 1993

State of NJ Certified Public Manager Course 2009

Professional Membership and Activities

ALA/YALSA (YALSA - Teen Advisory Group Committee Chair 2008-09)1997-present

NJLA (YA - Section – President in 2004) 1996-present

Presenter: NJASL, NJLA, NJLA Urban Libraries, LibraryLinkNJ

Somerset County Staff Day, SJRLC, Burlington County Staff Day

Awards & Achievements

OCL Directors Award for Programming Excellence for “The Gangwise Project” 2007 & “Neighbor Connecting” 2010

OCL Most Valuable Team for Young Adult Team 2008

OCL Unity Award for “Good for the Soul: Serving the African American Community” 2008

OCL Librarian of the Year 2000

NAACP Community Service Award 2009

Statement

I have served one year on the NJLA Executive Board as a member-at-large (one year position). This experience has inspired and prepared me to seek the member-at-large (3 yr. position). My professional strengths are knowledge and experience in the areas of diversity, teens, “new” adults (ages 18 and up), library administration and community partnerships. I strongly believe that NJ libraries, both individually and on a statewide level, can and must form strategic partnerships with law enforcement, government agencies and community groups to bring library services to our growing diverse communities. Many agencies working together is a more efficient and effective use of tax dollars. NJLA can provide the visionary leadership to continually transform our libraries to meet the needs of all our citizens. From the poor and disenfranchised to the digitally connected customers - we serve everyone. I am anxious and ready to be part of this exciting future.

Mary C. Martin

Biography

Director, Long Hill Township Library, 2007 to present

Assistant Director, Glen Rock Library, 2005 - 2007

Supervising Librarian/Trainer, Morris County Library, 2004-2005

Systems Librarian, County College of Morris, 2001-2004

Head of Technical and Computer Services, Fort Smith Public Library (AR), 1996 - 2001

2006 recipient of *HRLC Leadership Award*

Current chair of statewide Library Network Review Board

Current treasurer of Morris Automated Information Network (MAIN) consortium

Former chair of HRLC Technology Committee

Former trainer in Super Library Supervisors program

1998 Cybrarian of the Year for Arkansas

MLS, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1995

Statement

As the director of a small public library, I am acutely aware of the challenges that face New Jersey libraries as we try to find our way through the new economic landscape in which we find ourselves. How do we stay relevant to our customers and balance the desire to offer new technologies such as eBooks while still serving our more traditional customers? How can we be proactive and plan for the future when we have been shaken to the core by last year's realization that in the blink of an eye, part or all of our funding can be taken away?

When do we decide that we can no longer continue to do more with less, and how can we have the difficult conversations with our staff, boards, communities and political leaders to decide which services will need to be cut in order to balance our shrinking budgets? And finally, how can we frame the way we think about things so that we can learn to embrace (or at least tolerate) the need to justify and market our library services to the community and to our political leaders? Unfortunately, I feel that this is now a necessary part of ensuring that we get the funding and support that we need in order to serve our communities.

I don't have the answers to these questions. But if I am elected to the NJLA Executive Board, I will be part of the discussion at the state level. Many people have expressed concern to me that libraries are dying. I don't agree, but I do know that if we want to remain relevant, strong and vibrant, we need to work at it and we need to communicate better with each other. I want to use the CASE method (copy and steal everything) to learn good ideas from my colleagues at NJLA – including simple and effective advocacy and marketing tools – and then make sure these ideas are communicated to other librarians around the state who can use them.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Daragh O'Connor

Biography

I have been a professional librarian for 20 years. My career began as a cataloger for the H.W. Wilson Company in the Bronx, NY who hired me while I was studying library science at University College Dublin, Ireland, where I earned my DLIS. This was followed by a 2 year stint at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. In 1998 I accepted the position of Supervising Librarian at Livingston Public Library and was inspired by the huge contribution that public libraries make to community life in New Jersey. A 2 year tenure as the Director of Cedar Grove Public Library came next where I helped this stand-alone library join the PalsPlus consortium. I am currently the Director of River Edge Public Library, a founding member of BCCLS.

I have a B.A. in history and English and an M.A. in history from University College Dublin, Ireland. My professional affiliations include the American Library Association

for 20 years and the New Jersey Library Association for 13 years. I have also been active in the Executive Board of BCCLS and chaired the BCCLS Public Relations Committee.

Statement

New Jersey libraries are in crisis. Drastic budget reductions combined with increased usage mean we will have to be even smarter in our strategic choices in order to survive and thrive. In this environment there are many opportunities to redefine the meaning of the word “library”. By embracing change we will discover better ways to use technology and share resources. NJLA will be a leading voice for libraries in flux.

JP Porcaro

Biography

- MLIS, Rutgers School of Communications, Information, and Library Studies, 2006. This degree was earned as part of the 2003 New Jersey State Library/IMLS 21st Century Urban Librarian Recruitment Grant class

Virtual Services Librarian, New Jersey City University Library

Belleville Public Library 12/96-08/09:

- Department Head; Children's Services Department, 04/05-08/09.
- Reference Librarian; Reference Department, 02/04-04/05.
- Library Monitor (part-time), 12/96-02/04.

St. Peter's College, Systems & Electronic Resources Librarian (part-time) 04/08-10/08.

South Orange Public Library, Adult Services Librarian (part-time) 12/04-04/08;

Montclair High School Library, Spring '06 Semester MLIS Intern.

Founder of **8bitlibrary.com**, the #makeithappen blog and the internet's largest active resource for gaming in libraries.

ALA Emerging Leaders Program Steering Committee member.

ALA Committee on Membership Meetings task force member.

Founding Convener of the ALA Comic Book and Graphic Novel Member Initiative Group.

Elected Board Member (Member-at-Large) for the NJLA Information Technology Section.

American Library Association Emerging Leader, 2010.

New Jersey Academy of Library Leadership, 2008.

Statement

As a young librarian with an excitement and enthusiasm for libraries, as well as a vested personal interest in them (i.e. seeing that there still *are* libraries in 30 years), I am highly interested in serving the NJLA. Since the start of my career, I've been to every NJLA conference and served on various NJLA committees because I believe our contributions as an association affect library services across the entire state. These are challenging times indeed, and my involvement is also because I believe it is critical that the library community continue to push forward and be innovative. As founder of **8bitlibrary.com**, one of the highest trafficked library blogs on the web, I am also innovating and influencing librarianship on a national level.

While many praised and applauded the fact that the NJSL took “only” a 43% cut in last year’s state budget, I personally saw it as a fumble. We can and should be doing better. This can be achieved three ways: an increase in the means and openness of communication between library decision makers, staff of libraries, and our professional association; a shift of focus from mere advocacy to relevant and useful services to our stakeholders; and clearer leadership from the NJLA. I believe these are solutions that can “save” libraries for ourselves, for our communities, and for all other young librarians who have a long and exciting career ahead. This is why I want to serve on the NJLA Executive Board.

Dale Spindel

Biography

Director, Kenilworth Public Library, 1997-present; Co-Chair, NJLA Personnel Administration Subcommittee, 2001-present (co-chair 2003-7 & 2010-present), including participation on Model Personnel Manual taskforce, 2005-6; One Book New Jersey co-chair, 2010; NJLA Funding Fair Committee, 2009; Readers Advisory Round Table, 2005-08; New Jersey State Library Blue Ribbon Task Force on Libraries of the Future, 2007-8; NJLA Service Award to an Individual, 2007

Education

MLS & MA (music history and theory), Rutgers University; BA, The George Washington University.

Statement

During a library career that has spanned more than three decades, I cannot remember a time when libraries and librarians of all types have been more beleaguered than they are today. NJLA must continue to communicate to politicians as well as to the general public that not only are libraries essential to the democratic process, but also that they contribute immeasurably to the quality of life of the constituents they serve; public, school, academic and special libraries are needed now as much as they ever have been. At the same time, NJLA must continue to do what it can to ensure that the continued existence of libraries does not come at the expense of those of us who have chosen to work in them. Throughout my career, I have been an outspoken advocate for fair and equitable compensation for library workers and am ready and willing to continue that good fight during the difficult days that surely lie ahead.