



**Sara Dallas** (she/her)

Director

Southern Adirondack Library System

22 Whitney Place, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**Type of Library:** Public Library Consortium

**Statement of professional concerns**

It would be an honor to serve on the Executive Board of the ALA at this critical time in its history. I bring extensive professional experience working on intellectual freedom issues, sustainability, strategic planning, building collaborative partnerships, strengthening government policies, programs and funding in support of libraries. My career shows my continuous commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and social justice.

My priorities would help guide the ALA back to long-term financial stability; assist members to the greatest extent possible in responding to an unprecedented assault on our core values of the freedom to read and access to information; and work to make ALA an organization that embodies practices that are environmentally sound, economically feasible and socially equitable.

I am open to new ideas, concepts, and effective and efficient ways to strengthen and advance the American Library Association into the future.

**Previous Positions:**

Assistant Director and Outreach Consultant: Upper Hudson Library System, Albany NY; Outreach Coordinator: Mohawk Valley Library System, Schenectady NY; Outreach Librarian: Albany Public Library, Albany NY; Reference Librarian: Albany Public Library, Shenendehowa Public Library, Adirondack Public Library

**Education:**

School of Library and Information Science, (SUNYA) Albany, New York: Masters of Library Science, 1977; State University of New York at Albany, Albany, NY B.A. Rhetoric and Communication, 1976; School of Information and Library Studies 30 post graduate credits towards Advanced Certificate in Library Automation, Buffalo, 1984

**Affiliations:**

Freedom to Read Foundation, (2019-2021, 2021-2023 Board of Trustees and Executive

Board); LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund; Core: Leadership, Infrastructure Futures, United United for Libraries; Public Library Association; Intellectual Freedom Roundtable; Rainbow Round Table, Social Responsibilities Round Table, Sustainability Round Table

### **American Library Association**

2002-present	ALA Councilor at Large
2019- present	Committee on Legislation
2022	Chair, ALA Core Values Task Force
2021-2023	Sustainability Committee
2015-2019	Chair, Committee on Professional Ethics
2021	Forward Together Resolutions Working Group
2020-2021	Forward Together Working Group
2020-2021	Chair, Penguin Random House Library Award for Innovation Jury
2017-2020	Task Force on Sustainability
2017-2019	Award Committee
2018-2020	Rural, Native, Tribal Libraries of All Kinds Committee
2019-2020	Chair, Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children Jury
2019-2020	ALA Annual Program Review Jury (Intellectual Freedom Round Table)
2019-2020	Executive Committee (Intellectual Freedom Round Table)
2019-2020	Chair, Program Committee
2018-2019	H.W. Wilson Staff Development Award Jury
2002-2004	Committee on Research and Statistics
2008-2011	Board of Directors Public Library Association
2017-2018	Chair, Charlie Robinson Award Jury
2016-2018	Leadership Development Committee (PLA)
2015-2016	Social Media Working Group (PLA)
2015-2017	Continuing Education Advisory Group (PLA)
2014	Chair, National Conference Program Subcommittee
2016	National Conference Subcommittee (PLA)
2012	National Conference Subcommittee (PLA)
2013-2014	Chair, EBSCO Excellence in Small and or Rural Public Libraries Service Award Jury
2008-2010	Freedom to Read Foundation (PLA Liaison)
2009-2011	Communities of Practice Task Force (PLA)
2009-2010	Intellectual Freedom Roundtable (PLA Liaison)
2008-2010	Chair, Intellectual Freedom Advisory Group (PLA)
2008-2009	Chair, Gordon M. Conable Award Jury (PLA)
2006-2008	DEMCO New Leaders Travel Grant Jury (PLA)
2007-2008	Highsmith Library Innovation Award Jury (PLA)
2007-2008	Chair, PLA President's Events
1999-2001	Chair, Continuing and Independent Learning Services (PLA)
1998-2002	Services to Multicultural Populations (PLA)
1998-1999	Continuing and Independent Learning Services (PLA)

2006-2007 Executive Committee ASCLA/ICAN

**Offices held in state/regional library associations and other associations**

2019 – 2023 Trustee, Albany Public Library Albany NY  
2019-2023 Trustee, Capital District Library Council  
2002-2003 Council (NYLA - New York Library Association)  
2013-2014 Council (NYLA)  
2018-2021 Chair, Intellectual Freedom Committee (NYLA)  
2006-2008 Chair, Awards Committee (NYLA)  
2019-2020 Conference Program Committee (NYLA)  
2007-2008 Conference Program Committee (NYLA)  
2013-2014 President, Public Library Section (NYLA)  
2015-2019 Intellectual Freedom Roundtable (NYLA)  
2003- present Public Library System Director Organization (PULISDO)  
2005-2006 Chair, PULISDO

**Institute of Museum and Library Services**

1992, 1995 Evaluator for Library Services and Construction Act Title VI (Literacy)

**Honors and Awards:**

1992 ALA Bessie Boehm Moore Award for Outstanding Library Program for Older Adults  
2019 Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award: Fresh Food Collective Farm-2-Library Distribution program  
2005 Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award: Statewide Performer Database  
1996 Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award: Mohawk Valley Library Association – Older Wiser Learners

**Major Accomplishments:**

2019 Resolution for the Adoption of Sustainability as a Core Value of Librarianship (mover and served on the Sustainability Task Force)  
2018 Resolution to Honor African Americans Who Fought Library Segregation (mover and lead the effort) passed unanimously by ALA Council  
2019 Albany Public Library Trustee – elected by the voters in Albany NY.  
2019 ALA Committee on Professional Ethics amended Copyright: An Interpretation of the Code of Ethics (amended January 29, 2019), Conflicts of Interest Q&A (amended January 28, 2019) Enforcement of the Code of Ethics Q&A (amended Jan 28, 2019), Ethics and Social Media Q&A (January 28, 2019), Speech in the Workplace Q&A (amended April 30, 2019) served as chair of the committee  
1992-94 Established two libraries (secure girls and boys) with materials and programs in the NYS Division for Youth Tryon Residential Center  
1985 Established county-wide adult literacy programs and library services to older adults.  
1985 Adult literacy trained volunteer tutor

- 1993- Presented and planned programs for ALA National Conferences, Joint Council of Librarians of Color, PLA National Conferences, New York Library Association Annual Conferences; regional and local programs.
- 1984 Planned a New York State-wide conference on library services for older adults.
- 1985 - Outreach librarian who improved access to libraries and library services to all people in the community - people with physical disabilities, services for people who are blind, older adults, people with developmental or learning disabilities, living in institutionalized settings, educationally disadvantaged, unemployed or underemployed and live in rural areas.  
Provides library services and resources to outreach populations since as an outreach coordinator and mentor.
- 2011 Participant and trainer for the PLA Planning for Results series

**Publications:**

- The Post Star: “Libraries are Essential and They Need Help” April 2, 2021
- Public Libraries: “Red-State Strategies – SALS Libraries and Community Support” (S/O):28-30
- Public Libraries: “Information at Their Fingertips” (Dallas), 2013 (S/O):30–34
- New York Library Association “Library Standards for Services to Children: Outreach Standards” 1994
- New York State Library Bookmark – Outreach Advisory Councils 1988

**Number of Years as an ALA Member:** 25+ years

Preferred telephone number: 518-859-0742