



REFERENCE & ADULT SERVICES DIVISION

A DIVISION OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

2024 RASD Nominating Slate

President

Patricia Cruz

Vice President/President Elect

Jessica Brown

Treasurer

Valerie Harrison

Secretary (please choose one)

Anastasia Bazilevskaya

Emma Cesario

Sarah Stoss

Melissa Sutter



JESSICA BROWN

RASD

VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT

Jessica is an Adult Services Librarian at the Patchogue-Medford Library and currently serves as a Member-at-Large for RASD. She was previously part of the RASD Reader's Advisory Committee. Jessica is the Social Services Coordinator for the library and has the pleasure of supervising social work interns throughout the year.

As the Genealogy Librarian for Patchogue-Medford, she is able to assist others with their research and help people learn about their ancestors. She is the coordinator for Career Online High School and also provides Notary Public services. Jessica really enjoys working with the public and helping people in whatever ways she can. She loves crocheting, British mysteries, and hanging out with her dogs, Penny and Rocko.

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VALERIE HARRISON

RASD
TREASURER

My name is Valerie Harrison. I am an Adult Librarian Trainee at Bayport-Blue Point Library and a Public Services Trainee at Patchogue-Medford Library. I have been in the library field for seven years now, working as a Page, Circulation Clerk, and now Trainee. As a Trainee I have stepped up to take part in many different projects such as running the social media accounts for Patchogue-Medford and Bayport Blue Point Library. When I found out that RASD was in need of a Treasurer back in December of 2022, I quickly stepped in and fulfilled that role in January of 2023. I have enjoyed working with and helping out RASD immensely these past four months. I understand that the role of Treasurer is an important one and for that reason I have been working hard to keep RASD organized. My attention to detail and comfort with using spreadsheets has helped make me make that goal possible. Working with RASD's former Treasurer at Bayport-Blue Point Library has given be an extra advantage to be able to learn the role as quickly and smoothly as possible. I am running for Treasurer with the hopes of getting the opportunity to help RASD out more moving forward.

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ANASTASIA BAZILEVSKAYA

**RASD
SECRETARY**

My name is Anastasia Bazilevskaya and I would like to apply for a position of Secretary at RASD. I believe I have the necessary qualities and skills for this position. I am responsible, accurate, persistent, attentive to details, and hardworking; fluent in English, Russian, and Spanish; have excellent writing and listening, organizational and communication skills. Since 2017, I have been working as a Reference and Learning Center Librarian in Brentwood Public Library. I am involved in working at the reference desk, organizing and teaching various ESL classes, Citizenship classes, creating educational videos and organizing Friendly English Book Club. Before that, I worked as an Adult Services Librarian in Middle Country Public Library and did my internship at Young Adult/ Audiovisual Services Department in Patchogue-Medford Library. I have MSLIS from Palmer School of Library and Information Science at LIU and Master of Arts in Spanish from Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia in St. Petersburg. I am very enthusiastic about working with library patrons and teaching English to new immigrants and helping them become US citizens. During my free time, I enjoy reading, painting, gardening, and traveling and visiting art galleries with my husband and two daughters. Our family dog joins us in many of our activities. Thank you very much for considering my candidacy for the position of RASD secretary.

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EMILY CESARIO

**RASD
SECRETARY**

I am an Adult Reference Librarian at Central Islip Public Library, where I am responsible for nonfiction collection development and our community resources webpage. I have worked at Suffolk County libraries for seven years, holding previous roles at Emma S. Clark Memorial Library and Patchogue-Medford Library.

My favorite part of being a librarian is developing relationships with patrons, especially at book clubs and other library programs. I love bringing people together and starting conversations around books and big ideas. Another passion of mine is connecting patrons with the information and local resources that can change their lives, whether it's a career center, food pantry, or legal aid organization.

I received my M.L.S. from Queens College in 2022 and my B.A. in English, summa cum laude, from Stony Brook University in 2020.

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SARAH STOSS

**RASD
SECRETARY**

Sarah Stoss is a professional writer, editor, creative problem solver, and life-long bookworm. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and Literature and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Stony Brook University and is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Information and Library Science from the University at Buffalo. Sarah's love of learning and strong belief in intellectual freedom motivated her to change career paths, and she looks forward to promoting these values in her role as a librarian. Sarah's previous roles have included serving as a Development and Communications Associate for a nonprofit organization, a Communications Specialist for an architecture and engineering firm, a course instructor for undergraduate creative writing, and she is currently the Content Writer for University Support Services, an affiliate of St. George's University.

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MELISSA SUTTER

RASD
SECRETARY

I'm Melissa Sutter and I'm currently the outreach librarian in Adult Reference at Rogers Memorial Library. I have worked in Suffolk County libraries since 2014 in a variety of positions including page, circulation clerk, administrative assistant and finally reference librarian. I graduated from St. Joseph's University with a BA in English and minor in history in 2016 and received my MLIS from the University of Buffalo in 2021. Even before I began library school, my interest was in adult reference and outreach. It is often those with the greatest barriers to access that also have the most need for library services, and I enjoy finding innovative ways to reach those patrons where they are.

Libraries and their associations bear a responsibility to confront the challenges to equitable access we see every day and expand services accordingly. I hope to assist in this mission with a role within RASD.

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