

Suffolk County Library Association

2027 Executive Board Nominees

For the position of Vice President / President Elect:

Melissa Sutter



I'm Melissa Sutter and I'm running for Vice President/President Elect of the SCLA Board. I've held a Member-at-Large position on the SCLA Board for the last two years and would love the opportunity to continue serving the library professionals of Suffolk County. Since 2014, I have worked in Suffolk County libraries in a variety of positions including page, circulation clerk, administrative assistant, librarian trainee, and currently outreach and reference librarian at Rogers Memorial Library. I graduated from St. Joseph's University with a BA in English and minor in history and received my MLIS from the University of Buffalo in 2021. I am about to complete my last semester in the Public Library Administration (aka director's course) in the fall. Through the course of my career and service on the SCLA Board I realized that all library workers, from administrators to pages, wear more hats than ever before, but receive less acknowledgment and more scrutiny with each passing year. SCLA is vital to the forms of professional collaboration we need to overcome these daily challenges in libraries. Through networking, resource sharing, workshops, conferences, connections on our listserv, and more, we can create not only a bright future for libraries, but genuinely rewarding workplaces for all library staff. SCLA and its divisions are dedicated to enriching and uplifting our membership in their very varied roles within libraries. I hope I can contribute to these efforts as Vice President/President Elect in 2027.

When not touting the incredible societal impact of libraries, I can usually be found baking, doing so poorly on the daily NYT puzzles that I should just quit already, riding more roller coasters than is medically advisable, or road tripping and eating too much with my husband.

For the position of Secretary:

Susan Kandle



Hi, I'm Susan Kandle, and I'm excited to be running for a second term as SCLA Secretary. Over the past year, I've had the privilege of holding the Secretary position, for which I have been involved in organizing SCLA events and advocating for public libraries, as well as taking and posting minutes for our monthly meetings.

As the Connections Manager at Connetquot Public Library, I've spent 25 years in the library field, always at the forefront of helping people connect with information, technology, and opportunities. My role spans everything from working directly with the public—whether helping with research, providing digital tech education, or scheduling programs—to handling Marketing and Public Relations. I coordinate community events, oversee all library programs, manage our quarterly newsletter, create engaging digital content, and make sure our social media and community outreach reflect the heart of what we do.

I'm also deeply passionate about Deaf culture and continuing my education in American Sign Language. Making libraries more accessible to the Deaf community is not just a part of my job—it's a personal commitment to ensuring everyone has equal access to information and resources.

Beyond my professional life, I'm a stepmom to three amazing girls. They inspire me every day to be strong, resilient, and independent, and I strive to model those values for them.

I'm asking for your support in continuing to be a part of the SCLA 2027 Executive Board, where I can collaborate with our incredible team to expand our reach and build a stronger, more inclusive network for library professionals across Suffolk County. Together, we can grow, innovate, and make a lasting impact for the library staff and communities we serve.

For the position of Member At Large - Annual Dinner:

Jennifer DeVito



Jennifer DeVito is a reference librarian at the South Country Library. She is also an Associate Librarian at the Stony Brook University Libraries. She holds a Master of Science in Information Technology and Design from SUNY Polytechnic Institute, a Master of Science in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Bachelor of Arts from The New School for Social Research.

Jacquelyn DiLorenzo



My name is Jacquelyn DiLorenzo. I am nominating myself for the position of Member at Large Annual Dinner.

I have dedicated more than 24 years to public library service, including over 18 years as a Children's Librarian at the Connetquot Public Library. Throughout my career, I have been committed to fostering literacy, lifelong learning, and educational opportunities for children and families. I have developed and implemented innovative programming with a strong emphasis on STEM education, early literacy, and community engagement.

I am a graduate of Connetquot High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Statistics from Stony Brook University, followed by a Master of Science in Library and Information Science from St. John's University. My educational background, combined with my extensive experience in Children & Family Services programming, has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of library operations and the evolving needs of the communities libraries serve.

In addition to my professional career, I currently serve as President of the Connetquot Central School District Board of Education, where I have demonstrated a commitment to fiscal responsibility, transparency, strategic planning, and student success. My experience in public governance has strengthened my ability to analyze budgets, develop policy, collaborate with diverse stakeholders, and make thoughtful decisions in the best interest of the community. I also serve as Secretary of the

Bohemia Civics Association, further reflecting my dedication to community service and civic engagement.

As a lifelong resident of the Connetquot community, I am passionate about public service and believe libraries are essential centers for education, innovation, and community connection. Serving on the Suffolk County Library Association Board would allow me to combine my decades of library experience with my leadership in public service to help support and strengthen library services throughout Suffolk County. I would be honored to contribute my professional expertise, collaborative leadership, and commitment to ensuring that our libraries continue to meet the evolving needs of the communities they serve.

For the position of Member At Large - Membership:

Danielle Minard



Danielle Minard is an Adult Services Librarian at Comsewogue Public Library who focuses on outreach and delivering community-centered services although, like many of her colleagues, she wears many hats. She is on Comsewogue's EAP, Staff Wellness, and Green Team Committees. She also supervises the library's social work interns and Adult Department Pages and has helped spearhead library-wide initiatives such as animal fostering (come visit our rats!) and plastic bag recycling. She is a member of the Long Island Library Conference Committee, helping to bring you your favorite annual conference since 2017. She has been librarianing since 2012.

Sara Bedell-Spataro



Sara Bedell-Spataro is a creative librarian with more than 15 years of experience in public libraries, specializing in community outreach, technology instruction, dance education, and public service. Her work has included facilitating dance workshops, leading book clubs, and providing over a decade of technology instruction to diverse communities. Sara is passionate about creating inclusive and engaging library spaces. Throughout her career, Sara has remained dedicated to supporting

lifelong learning, creativity, and community connection through innovative programming and outreach initiatives. With a strong commitment to public service and member engagement, she would be honored to serve the SCLA Board as Membership Chair and contribute their experience, leadership, and enthusiasm to the organization and its members.