

2024 Member Annual Meeting

October 28, 2024
Devens Common Center

Agenda

9:30 a.m. – Registration and Breakfast

10 a.m. – Welcome and Introductions

- Hope Houston, President, MLS Executive Board
- Sarah Sogigian, MLS Executive Director

10:15 a.m. – MLS Business Meeting, Presided by Hope Houston

- Presentation and Vote of November 2023 Member Annual Meeting Minutes
- Presentation and Vote of the FY26 Plan of Service and Budget
- Presentation and Vote of 2025 Slate of Candidates for the MLS Executive Board

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) Update

- Maureen Amyot, Director, MBLC

Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) Legislative Committee Update

- Kathy Lussier, Committee Co-Chair

11 a.m. – Megan Piphus, Keynote Speaker

12 p.m. – Lunch

1:30 p.m. – Afternoon Presentation

- CultureAlly

3 p.m. – Closing Remarks

Acknowledgements

This past year, we are proud to have implemented new and exciting opportunities for our members.

Your voice has made this work possible. Thank you for your participation and advocacy.

MLS is honored to continue to work with many talented individuals and organizations.

I recognize that MLS' success is shared with many people. Thank you to our dedicated member library staff for their leadership in providing the best services to their communities; to our board of directors for guiding MLS on our path; to our collaborators and supporters; and to our incredible and dedicated staff, without whom none of our success would be possible.

**Sarah Sogigian,
MLS Executive Director**

Keynote Speaker

**Megan Piphus,
2X Emmy Award Winning Puppeteer and Ventriloquist**



We are thrilled to welcome Megan Piphus as the keynote speaker at our 2024 Member Annual Meeting! Megan taught herself puppetry and ventriloquism by watching VHS tapes that her mother checked out at the library. She spent her teenage years traveling the nation singing and performing ventriloquism at schools and churches.

In 2010, she graduated valedictorian of her class at Princeton High School and became known as the “Valedictorian Ventriloquist.”

She became the "Vanderbilt Ventriloquist" when she started college at Vanderbilt University, where she studied Economics, Music, and Spanish and graduated with honors.

While in college, she appeared on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno as a ventriloquist and in June of 2013, she received yes's from all four judges on America's Got Talent. After graduation, Megan continued her education and received a Master of Science in Finance from Vanderbilt University.

After graduate school, she worked in real estate finance and development, underwriting and closing over \$2.4 billion worth of commercial real estate. While working in real estate, she performed on television shows Tu Si Que Vales (Italy), Die Puppenstars (Germany), and Showtime at the Apollo with Steve Harvey, where she received a standing ovation from the Apollo Theater audience.

In 2019, in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati, she performed and wrote songs for a TV musical series teaching young children basic financial literacy. Megan won two Emmy awards for best composition and best children's short from the series.

Since 2020, Megan has played the role of Gabrielle, a 6-year-old black girl Muppet, on Sesame Street. After training for a year to learn Muppet style puppetry with the cast of Sesame Street, Megan became the first black female puppeteer to perform on Sesame Street in September of 2021. Megan is a mom of two young boys - Leo and Ty.



Massachusetts Library System
Annual Business Meeting
Monday, November 6, 2023
Devens Commons Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA 01434

Minutes

The meeting was convened by President of the Executive Board, Anna Bognolo, at 11:30 am.

The November 2022 Annual Business Meeting minutes were presented.

- A motion was made by Joseph Rodio to accept the minutes as presented, and Clayton Cheever seconded the motion.
- President Bognolo called for any discussion. Hearing none, she called for a vote.
- The motion passed by show of hands/voice vote.

The Massachusetts Library System Plan of Service and Budget was presented.

- A motion was made by Joseph Rodio to accept the Plan of Service and Budget as presented, and Hope Houston seconded the motion.
- President Bognolo called for any discussion. One question was asked by Matthew Bejune. After response, President Bognolo called for a vote.
- The motion passed by show of hands/voice vote.

The 2024 slate of candidates for the MLS Executive Board was presented.

- A motion was made by Hope Houston to approve the slate of candidates as presented, and Will Adamczyk seconded the motion.
- President Bognolo called for any discussion. Hearing none, she called for a vote.
- The motion passed by show of hands/voice vote.

The President asked for a motion to adjourn:

Shannon Compton so moved, and Clayton Cheever seconded.

The motion passed by show of hands/voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Massachusetts Library System Plan of Service and Budget FY2026

Introduction

We are pleased to present the Massachusetts Library System's Plan of Service and Budget for Fiscal Year 2026. We have been incredibly honored and grateful for the strong support from the legislature over the past few years and have applied the funding to ensure sustained services and creation of new opportunities. Including, conception of the Browse Borrow Board program and multiple member grants and scholarships. This document will be complemented by our annual Action Plan. Our current Action Plan can be found on our website, and the new one will be shared prior to July 1, 2025. The Plan of Service will present our service list for the upcoming fiscal year and the Action Plan will address how we will focus on our strategic initiatives.

MLS will be conducting a strategic planning process in 2025, in which we will engage with member library staff, stakeholders, and colleagues at collaborative organizations in setting our path for the next few years.

Strategic Plan: 2021-2026

Current Strategic Initiatives:

Initiative 1: MLS ensures its services are sustainable, prioritizes member needs, and equitably serves all member types.

Initiative 2: MLS empowers leaders to emerge at every level of library service, connecting staff throughout the stages of their careers.

Initiative 3: MLS will take the lead in convening important conversations and support members facing initiatives focused on DEI: diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and social justice.

MLS Services:

(Statewide) Delivery - library materials delivery service to over 500 libraries across Massachusetts with support of our vendor, Optima Shipping.

Online Content - access and support for the suite of statewide databases; manage Commonwealth eBook Collections, the statewide eBook program for over 650 schools, non-network public libraries, and academic libraries.

Training and Professional Development – live and recorded learning opportunities developed in house, through contractors, and self-directed by members, that provide library workers with the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the needs of their community.

BiblioTemps® - employment service that specializes in the recruitment of skilled library workers for short-term and temporary to permanent placements in public, academic, and special libraries.

Consulting - advice and support that helps member libraries achieve their goals in a variety of areas, including strategic planning, collection development/maintenance, and space planning.

Cooperative Purchasing - in collaboration with the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium (MHEC), provide consortium pricing for library supplies and materials.

MassCat - the online resource sharing network for school, special, and small public libraries in Massachusetts.

Mediated Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery - borrowing and lending of requests facilitated by the Resource Sharing Team on behalf of member libraries, often for items located outside the network, state and country; MLS contracts with the Boston Public Library to provide statewide document delivery service.

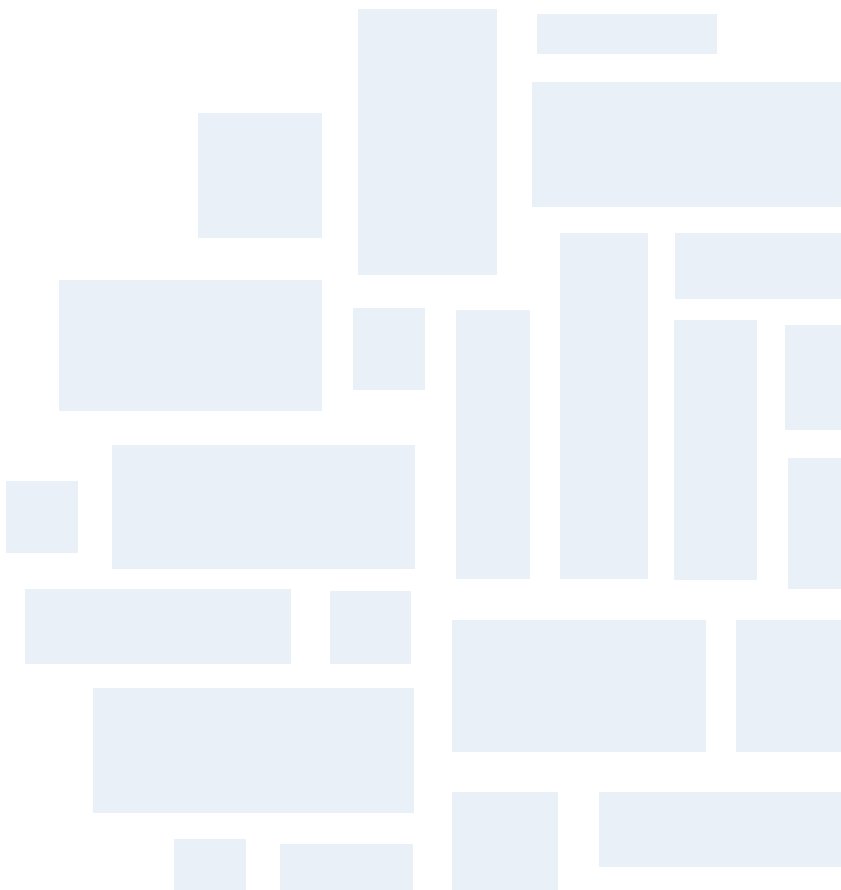
Statewide Programs, Collaborations, and Initiatives - lead the Summer Library Program, special programs and initiatives, and grant opportunities.

MLS Staff

Name	Title
Laura Bogart	Resource Sharing Assistant
Kathryn Bowen	Resource Sharing Assistant
Alison DeMers	Resource Sharing Librarian
Sarah Donnelly	Event & Project Manager
Michelle Eberle	Consultant
Christine Farrar	Consultant
Amanda Fauver	Membership/BiblioTemps® Manager
Heidi Flynn	Resource Sharing Assistant
Dodie Gaudet	MassCat Cataloger
Heather Hibbard	BiblioTemps® Assistant
Scott Kehoe	Library Resources Director
Oscar Lanza-Galindo	Consultant
Shirley MacLean	Member Services & Office Support
Amanda Malikowski	Delivery/Communications Coordinator
Jack Martin	Communications Manager
Terry McQuown	Consulting & Training Services Director
Betsy Meaden	Business & Human Resource Director
Vincent Nguyen	Resource Sharing Assistant
Anna Popp	Consultant
Lida Refah	Staff Accountant
Tressa Santillo	Electronic Resources Manager
Bradley Schmidt	Executive Assistant
Sarah Sogigian	Executive Director
Jane Stimpson	Consultant
Amos Thomas	IT Specialist & Webmaster
Hillary Washburn	Instructional Designer & LMS Administrator

MLS Executive Board

Name	Title	Library
Hope Houston	President	Bentley University
Anna Bognolo	Past President	Greenfield Public Library
Shannon Compton	Vice President	BayPath University
Rebecca Morin	Treasurer	Worcester Art Museum
Allyson Malik	Clerk	Oak Bluffs Public Library
Matthew Bejune	Director	Worcester State University
Megan Brooks	Director	Wheaton College
Christina Dominique-Pierre	Director	Buckingham Brown and Nichols Middle School
Maria Palacio	Director	Acton Memorial Library
Claudia Palframan	Director	Dupont Middle School, Chicopee
Thomas Raffensperger	Director	Westfield State University
Joseph Rodio	Director	South Hadley Public Library
Miki Wolfe	Director	Morse Institute, Natick
Sarah Jackson	Ex Officio	Boston Public Library
Maureen Amyot	Ex Officio	Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners
Sarah Sogigian	Ex Officio	Massachusetts Library System



Massachusetts Library System				
Fiscal Year 2026				
Line Item Budget Personnel				
	FY 2025 REV1	FY26	Change (+ or -)	
A. Personnel Costs				
A. Salaries and Wages				
Consulting Staff	562,654.55	756,298.57	193,644.02	
Member Services/Office Support Staff	495,900.69	532,209.77	36,309.08	
Resource Sharing Staff	297,015.46	420,862.45	123,846.99	
Administration Staff	460,736.35	534,095.26	73,358.91	
A. Salaries and Wages	1,816,307.05	2,243,466.05	427,159	New hires
B. Applicable Benefits	811,829.80	823,630.24	11,800	New hires
SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL	2,988,735.85	3,067,096.29	78,360	

**Massachusetts Library System
Fiscal Year 2026**

Line Item Budget

	FY 2025 REV 1 Budget	Fy 2026 Budget	Change (+ or -)	Identification of Changed Items
OPERATING EXPENSES				
A. Books and Other Library Materials				
1. Online Content - Reference	900,000.00	900,000.00	0	
2. Online Content - eBook	2,000,000.00	1,269,857.73	-730,142	In addition to participant contributions
3. Professional Collection	5,000.00	5,000.00	0	
B. Equipment				
1. Computer Hardware and Software/Online Util	150,000.00	150,000.00	0	
2. Office Equipment and Furnishings	20,000.00	20,000.00	0	
3. Vehicles	0.00		0	
C. Office Expenses				
1. Supplies	50,000.00	50,000.00	0	
2. Postage	15,000.00	15,000.00	0	
3. Telephone	40,000.00	40,000.00	0	
4. Printing/Marketing	10,000.00	20,000.00	10,000	
5. Travel				
a) In-state	50,000.00	50,000.00	0	
b) Out-of-state	40,000.00	40,000.00	0	
6. Equipment Maintenance and Repair	2,000.00	2,000.00	0	
7. Space Rental/Electricity	210,568.51	212,965.92	2,397	
8. Audit	35,000.00	35,000.00	0	
9. Other	388,958.12	388,958.12	0	
D. Regional Vehicle Expenses	0.00	0.00	0	
E. Contractual Services (Attachment B - Excludes Online Content)	7,244,737.52	7,884,121.94	639,384	
SUBTOTAL	11,161,264.15	11,082,903.71	-78,360	
III. SUB-CONTRACTED SERVICES (Attachment C.)				
	100,000.00	100,000.00	0	
TOTAL	11,261,264.15	11,182,903.71	-78,360	

CY25 Slate of Candidates-October 28, 2024

Executive Board Members (3 year term)

- Clayton Cheever, Morill Memorial Library, Norwood
- Robert DeFabrizio, Massachusetts Trial Court Libraries
- Lisa Downing, Forbes Library, Northampton
- Kate Gomes, Holbrook Public Library
- Nicole Daviau, Porter Memorial Library, Blandford

Executive Board President/Past President (2 year term)

Allyson Malik, Oak Bluffs Public Library

Shannon Compton, PhD, AHIP, will serve an additional year as Vice President

Treasurer (1 year term)

Christina Dominique-Pierre, Buckingham, Browne, and Nichols School, Cambridge

Clerk (1 year term)

Miki Wolfe, Morse Institute, Natick

Recommended by the Nominating Committee:

Name	Library	Municipality
Anna Bognolo, Chair	Greenfield Public Library	Greenfield
Hope Houston	Bentley University	Waltham
Allyson Malik	Oak Bluffs Public Library	Oak Bluffs
Joe Rodio	South Hadley Public Library	South Hadley
Betsy Meaden	MLS	MLS Ex Officio
Sarah Sogigian	MLS	MLS Ex Officio