

Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates



The Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) is a grass-roots library support group that seeks to improve the quality of life for Rhode Islanders by supporting libraries of all kinds. Through advocacy, education, and public awareness activities, COLA works to help improve library services throughout the state.

Advocacy: COLA has supported Rhode Island libraries for nearly forty years. Through petitions, Congressional testimony, and strategic communications with RI legislators, COLA has helped pass laws and enact budgets that help libraries.

Education: COLA's mission includes educating the public about the services Rhode Island libraries offer. We sponsor educational programs and training sessions, host cultural programs at libraries, and provide two scholarships to the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at URI.

Communication: COLA has been a catalyst for inter-group communication since its founding, bringing together educators, professionals, parents, students, library Trustees, and Friends' groups. While many of our members are librarians, COLA also includes and seeks out library users and supporters.

Board Members 2015-2016

CHAIR: Gale Eaton

VICE-CHAIR: Brigitte Hopkins

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Neeltje Henneman

DIRECTORS:

Emilie Benoit
Howard Boksenbaum
Brynn Bruno
Harold Gadon (Honorary Member)
Hildburg Herbst
Jay Litman
Patricia Raskin
Joan Ress Reeves (Chair Emerita)
Rose Ellen Reynolds (Chair Emerita)
Thomas Viall
Alisson Walsh

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED:

ARIHSL (Association of RI Health Science Libraries)
CRIARL (Consortium of RI Academic and Research Libraries)
CORI (Cornucopia of Rhode Island)
GSLIS (URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies)
OLIS (RI Office of Library and Information Services)
RILA (Rhode Island Library Association)
SLA/RI (Special Library Association of Rhode Island)
SLRI (School Librarians of Rhode Island)

RI Coalition of Library Advocates
PO Box 3777
Cranston, RI 02910

Dear Friend of RI Libraries:

It is time to update your COLA membership for 2016 and support Rhode Island libraries!

Since 1982, COLA has been the *only* statewide grassroots library organization. Libraries are constantly evolving to meet the needs of their patrons. So too, COLA continues to evolve as we advocate, educate, and communicate to our neighbors and legislators about the integral role libraries play in our communities.

At our annual meeting each February, COLA encourages excellence by awarding:

- the Bergeron and the Aldrich scholarships to aspiring RI librarians;
- the William E. Reeves Awards to Friends Groups for outstanding fundraising, outreach, education, and community service;
- the Sweetheart of the Year Award for significant contributions to RI libraries

In the fall, we offer informative programs for Friends, Trustees, and other advocates. Throughout the year we rally support for state-wide library initiatives.

For updates on our work, see our website (www.colari.org) or find us on Facebook as Coalition of Library Advocates.

Your support makes all this possible. Please join or renew your membership today.

Sincerely,

Gale Eaton, Chair

Do we have your email address? We'd love to keep you informed of all our sponsored activities on a regular basis. Make sure to include your email on your membership form!

Join us by sending in your membership form and check, or join online at www.colari.org

Resources for RI Library Advocates

United for Libraries:
ala.org/united/

ALA Advocacy University:
www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy-university

Edge Initiative: libraryedge.org

EveryLibrary: everylibrary.org

Geek the Library: geekthelibrary.org

I Love Libraries: ilovelibraries.org

Impact Survey: impactsurvey.org

The Library Report:
rhodeislandlibraryreport.org

Library Services in the Digital Age:
libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/01/22/library-services/

RI Office of Library Services: olis.ri.gov

Turning the Page: publiclibraryadvocacy.org

COLA 2016 Membership Form

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I am a:

- ☐ Library supporter ☐ Library employee

I am associated with the following libraries _____

Membership:

- ☐ Student \$15 ☐ Organization* \$35
☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Sponsor \$50
☐ Retiree \$20 ☐ Patron \$100

*We will provide a link to your website on ours.

COLA is a 501(c)(3) organization. Please mail your check payable to COLA to: COLA, P.O. Box 3777, Cranston, RI 02910 - or join online at colari.org.

Please consider volunteering by:

- ☐ Joining a committee
☐ Helping with event planning
☐ Public relations:
 ☐ Writing for the COLA newsletter
 ☐ Maintaining an online presence
☐ Serving on the COLA Board
☐ Other _____