



## 2021 ABOS Election Candidates

### 15th Anniversary

#### Vice President/President Elect (3 year term)



**Lori Berezovsky**

I have served as the ABOS secretary for the past three years and have really enjoyed supporting ABOS in this role. I am particularly pleased to have been the chair of the Marketing Committee and as such, having a hand in the creation of Out & About, the ABOS newsletter. During my time on the board, my love of ABOS and my passion for outreach have both grown. I've learned so much and have been proud of what we've accomplished over the last three years. I would love the opportunity to serve as your Vice President/President/Past President, building on current successes and partnerships and moving ABOS forward to be the best it can be.

I hold an MLS degree from Emporia State University. As a librarian at Salina Public Library (KS), my work is constantly evolving. I manage all outreach efforts geared toward serving adults and have built a large group of lobby stop devotees and homebound delivery patrons. Because of the pandemic, I've been filming my Read Aloud Reminiscence programs for memory care units, and it has become so popular that I hope to continue it afterward. So many of my services and programs have been inspired by ABOS conference presentations. I'd love the chance to inspire all of you as Vice President/President/Past President!

#### Secretary (1 year term)

(These are in random order)



**Karen Bradley**

Greetings fellow ABOS Members. My name is Karen Bradley. I have been the Mobile Services Librarian for Arapahoe Library District in Colorado since 2014 and have been a member of ABOS since I learned about the organization. My passion for outreach and love for this organization has only grown over the years.

I have presented multiple times, been part of the Elections Committee, Conference Planning Committee, and ABOS Board of Directors. As part of the Conference Planning Committee, I have been Chair and Co-Chair for 2019 and 2020 respectively. Early this year I became a Board Member at Large and was part of the hard-working team that was given the daunting task of taking an in-person conference and turning it entirely virtual. Both the Board of Directors and the Conference Planning Committee worked tirelessly to make the conference a booming success while maintaining the overall feel of an ABOS conference; that of family and friends. We hit the ground running, learning as

we went, and managed to reach over 1,000 attendees, all the while making new connections and showing people the importance of outreach, particularly during these trying times. I am so proud to have been part of the team that accomplished this enormous feat.

As Secretary, I will continue to promote outreach and the ABOS organization. I will work diligently to perform duties outlined in the Secretary job description, particularly meeting notetaking, records maintenance, and general correspondence. My overall goal is to continue providing support to the board and be a friendly face to all of our members.



**Zach Roberts**

I joined ABOS in 2016, shortly after being hired as the Outreach Services Manager at MidPointe Library System in Southwest Ohio. I then moved to run the Outreach Department at Dayton Metro Library. My family and I recently moved to Virginia to explore new opportunities. I am currently the Information Services Manager at Prince William County Public Library. From this post, I run everything adult including programming and outreach.

I am a current ABOS Board Member at Large and have been honored to serve in this role. ABOS serves those of us that call library outreach our life, whether we run a bookmobile, serve seniors trying to learn how to use an iPad, or go to schools and do storytimes. Outreach is as unique as all of us, and ABOS is the organization we can all call our outreach family. This is why I have been honored to serve on the ABOS Board, on numerous ABOS committees and why I want to continue to serve this time as the ABOS Secretary.

It would be an honor to continue serving our outreach community as ABOS Secretary. I have gotten to know and work with many of you over the last several years and truly believe that ABOS is where we can make the most difference for library staff in the outreach world, and I want to be there.

## **Board Member-at-Large (2 year term) 3 positions open**

(These are in random order)



**Rosa Granado**

My name is Rosa M. Granado, and I am the Associate Director of MOVE for the High Plains Library District (HPLD) in Colorado. Outreach is one of the most misunderstood facets of public library services and also one of the most rewarding and impactful ways we can serve our community. I started in public libraries as a page, working my way up to an Outreach Librarian. I then served as the HPLD Outreach Manager for three years before moving into my new position. Under my management, the eight person department grew to 11 librarians and 8 associates and spurred further growth of the department which was recently rebranded as MOVE (Mobile, Outreach, Virtual, and Experiences) services. I am active in the ABOS community—

presenting Libraries Transforming Communities at ABOS in 2012, co-presenting Where Do We Go: Developing Priorities and Criteria for Outreach Services at ABOS 2019, and serving on the ABOS Advocacy Committee in 2020.

I've worked in library outreach for over a decade and am dedicated to serving patrons who face barriers in accessing library service and advocating for how Outreach Librarianship is defined, measured, and practiced. I strive to lead the field of outreach librarianship by publishing articles challenging departments across the country to define outreach so that we can develop more focused and strategic outcomes across the field (ODLOS Intersections Blog, 2019; ABOS Out and About Oct. 2019). Additionally, I advocate for more education within the field of Outreach Librarianship and have been featured in the University of Southern California's Conversation with Leaders. I hold a Master of Arts in School Library Instructional Leadership from the University of Colorado, Denver and a Master of Management and Library Information Sciences from the University of Southern California.



**Crystal Harris**

I am delighted to apply for the Board Member-at-Large position. I have worked as the Manager of the Bookmobiles and Mobile Services Department within the St. Louis County Library system since 2016. I supervise over 20 staff members that operate a large fleet dedicated to serving 60 elementary schools, 109 preschools, 120 senior centers, 220 homebound patrons and various other locations where library material is not easily accessible. I have been able to successfully spearhead various outreach initiatives and strengthen all aspects of the outreach department at SLCL. I have also spent some of my career as a neighborhood Branch Manager. I understand what it takes to act as a support person to branch staff and managers as well as make sure all are aware of the many benefits outreach has brought to the library and the patrons.

I helped organize the 2020 ABOS virtual conference via the planning committee and I enjoyed working with all of the various library staff and vendors to help make that conference an enjoyable experience. I was awarded the opportunity to present at the 2018 ABOS conference. Both of my presentations yielded interest, participation and excellent dialogue. I enjoy networking and meeting people from other library systems that want to know how to start various outreach and mobile service initiatives. I have been lucky enough become a member of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and spread the word on how wonderful outreach can be for diverse library staff and patrons.

I hope you will consider my nomination. Like my predecessors in STL, I hope to continue to raise awareness and praise about the wonderful achievements within the ABOS field. I also believe I could be a huge asset for the 2021 conference taking place in my hometown of St. Louis, MO.



**Jenn Koetz**

My name is Jenn Koetz, and I am the Bookmobile Operator for the Brown County Library in Green Bay, Wisconsin. I have served in this role full-time for nearly two years; and prior to being full-time in outreach services with the library I was as an Administration Associate and, before that, a Senior Library Assistant in our Youth Services Department. As a trained educator, I worked with a non-profit organization for nearly a decade prior to my time with the Brown County Library.

The library has fortunately become my second career as I am truly thankful for the opportunities that I have experienced during these past twelve-and-a-half years, and I could not imagine anything other than working in outreach services. Serving community members outside of the traditional library walls by bringing our services and resources directly to them is such an honor and privilege. I love offering our community members the very same services and experiences as though they were in one of our physical libraries including presenting storytimes, readers advisory, lending items, answering reference questions, providing tutorials on technology devices or sites, and interacting with all who come to our outreach locations. Representing the library to an average of 10,000 customers annually is such a joy, and a responsibility that I do not take lightly.

Through the Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services I have been able to connect, learn and grow so much in the field of outreach. I look forward to continuing that connection and growth; and to work closely with the ABOS membership to help each other learn, grow and provide support in outreach services to better serve our communities.



**Michelle Fernandez**

My name is Michelle Fernandez, and I am Senior Librarian at the New York Public Library, where I am one of the first full-time librarians hired to run the Bronx Bookmobile, a program begun in 2019 to connect underserved communities in New York City to crucial Library resources. I am an outgoing, community-oriented librarian with strong communication and problem-solving skills and a passion for social justice and accessibility. As such, I find outreach to be my true calling.

Professionally, I pride myself on my versatility: my background includes positions as varied as Director of a small urban library, Program and Partnership specialist, Volunteer Coordinator, and Academic Librarian. I have operated pop-up libraries in shopping malls and business districts, and assisted with campaigns for library funding. I consider bookmobile work to be not just a dream job, but the culmination of all of my experiences and the best use of my skills and passions.

A first-generation college graduate, I obtained my MA in English Literature from the University of Puerto Rico, an educational experience which taught me the value of equity and access in a US territory where neither is guaranteed. I also hold an MS in Information Studies from SUNY Albany, and I got my start in public, academic, and state libraries around the New York State Capital District.

I am currently a member of the ABOS Advocacy Committee, and was a recipient of the 2020 Carole Hole Conference Scholarship Award. I am a regular contributor to Public Libraries Online, and a member of ALA, New York Library Association (NYLA), and REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. I would be honored to serve on the ABOS Board as a Member-at-Large, and thank you for your consideration!



**Liz Anastasi**

The importance of outreach and advocacy for libraries is hard to exaggerate. As we all know, positive library experiences can lead to life-long library users and advocates. ABOS is an invaluable resource and support system for anyone in outreach services, providing continuing education, networking, and an opportunity to share and collaborate with similarly-passionate colleagues from near and far. With 2020, a new normal emerged, and with it, a paradigm shift in library, and especially outreach services. Now more than ever we need the connections and support of our partners and colleagues and ABOS is rising to the challenge -- facilitating relationships and innovation. As a part of the ABOS Board, I will strive to support and expand this essential interchange of ideas and education for which ABOS is so well-known.

Currently I am serving as the Chair of the New York Library Association's New York State Battle of the Books Planning Committee. I am proud to have served a number of organizations including Conference Planner for the 2019 New York Library Association's Youth Services Section Annual Conference; President, VP, Conference Planner, and Secretary of the Westchester Library Association; and founding President and long-time board member of the Westchester Library System Battle of the Books.



**Laura Cashell**

My name is Laura Cashell. I'm the Project Coordinator on the Tri-Town Bookmobile (TTB), the PR Coordinator for MSAD #60, and working in Adult/YA Services at the D. A. Hurd Library. I'm applying for an ABOS Board Member-at-Large position. Currently, my focus on the TTB includes creating and implementing virtual outreach programming. Other responsibilities include book purchasing, cataloging/processing, fundraising/grant writing, managing communications, social media, OPAC, and the TTB website. Pre-COVID, my responsibilities also included Outreach (daycares/rec. summer camps), in-person promotions, event planning, and route development.

As the PR Coordinator, I facilitate open and clear communication between the MSAD #60 Administration, staff, and the community. In this role, managing a community email box and posting social media and blog updates are key responsibilities. Working in Adult/Young Adult Services at the D. A. Hurd Library (DAH) has provided me the opportunity to research, plan, execute programs and events

for patrons. I provide outreach services to community members unable to visit the library themselves (pre-COVID). I also manage social media and event promotion. Highlights/Awards/Grants include: Managed project timelines and goals and ensured the successful launch of the TTB Wrote grants and received awards: ALA, Diverse BookFinder, The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Marc Motors, Hannaford, Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) award at the 2020 ABOS conference Created collaborative programming with Berwick Public Library, D. A. Hurd Library, Martha Sawyer Community Library, and MSAD #60 school libraries on events: National Take Your Child To The Library Day, Hour of Code, Science/STEM Mondays Virtual collaborations planned: TTB/NHS Theater Storytime, TTB/NHS Book Club.

I welcome the opportunity to support ABOS members on their Outreach adventures, as I have been supported and mentored by the ABOS community. Thank you, Laura Cashell



**Kim Jones**

Hi my name is Kim, I am married and have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. I live on a farm in Millerton PA with cows, chickens and a horse. I am avid outdoor person, love horses, camping, quilting and started piano lessons last year. I started my outreach adventure at the Chemung County Library District in 2007 as a full time Bookmobile driver. I absolutely love my job and this is where I plan to be until my career is done. I have been on the Bookmobile for all of those 13 years, with one other staff member until 2013, now the sole bookmobile staff. I travel all over Chemung County making stops at Day cares, Head Starts, private schools, Senior facilities, High-rises, community stops and Community events and festivals. There is story time right on the bus with the whole class coming on board for a story and to get a book to barrow until I return .In 2015 I began an adult Book club right one the bus the 2nd Friday of each month, the patrons love it and it is still going strong.

I attend my first ABOS conference in 2008 and I was hooked and very thrilled to know a conference even existed for the Bookmobile world. I have since attended 8 other conferences. In 2012 I was a presenter and brought our Bookmobile with me to Richmond VA to show it off. Gathering information at the conferences made it much more possible to put our new bus together in 2011. In 2020 I became part of the Continuing Ed Committee working alongside some very knowledgeable people. If I am elected to serve on the board I would be honored to help and assist this great organization.



**Rachel Hadidi**

I am a Community Outreach Librarian for Plano Public Library. I am passionate about bring library services into the community to those who need it most. I love to share our library's method for getting all staff involved in outreach so they can bring their expertise and skills to those underserved. I train staff to provide classes and services with our community partners. I am currently of the 2021 ABOS Marketing Committee. As a Community Outreach Librarian for PPL, I identify community outreach partnerships for the five libraries within our system, evaluate potential

outreach sites, and oversee the outreach teams. As community needs are identified, I coordinate library resources and programs serving diverse populations and develop specific programs based on the needs of these populations. The programs are presented by the library staff (myself included) at local community events, allowing PPL to engage and reach underserved populations within the community.

One of the most rewarding experiences I have enjoyed is as a STEM mentor to girls in local, underserved middle schools as part of the Girls in STEM program. This experience has taught me the value of listening, and improved my ability to be flexible and adapt to different situations, as every girl has a different passion, expectation, and experiences.