



Library Executive Director Finalists:

Deery, Ryan:

Ryan currently serves as the Director of the Allegan District Library (MI), a library serving 20,000 people with an operating budget of \$1,005,000. Ryan is currently leading the library through a \$6.5 million Library Improvement Project that includes a redevelopment of the library's programs and services as well as an expansion and renovation of the historic Carnegie library facility. Over the last two years, Ryan has taken this project from community input and thorough analysis to detailed plans and implementation.

Previously, Ryan served as the Director of the Suttons Bay Bingham District Library in Suttons Bay, Michigan, a library serving 5,500 with a budget of \$150,000. In four years, Ryan transformed the library into "the beloved living room of the community" by focusing on customer service, community collaboration, programming, and technology and facilities updates leading to expanded hours and funding.

Ryan first experienced the power of libraries to change lives and communities at the Petoskey District Library in Petoskey, Michigan where he grew up. Ryan received his B.A. in English from the University of Michigan, an M.S. in English from Utah State University, and his M.S. in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University where he was awarded an Accessible Libraries for All Fellowship (ALFA).

Ryan's successes include building strong community partnerships, privately funding significant capital upgrades at both the Allegan District Library and Suttons Bay Bingham District Library, developing strong internal and external relationships, and leading libraries through periods of growth and transformation.

McCormick, Bryan:

Bryan McCormick is the current Director of the Hedberg Public Library in Janesville, WI and has been in that position for the last 11 years. Before heading to Janesville, Bryan spent five years as Director of the Martin County Library in Fairmont, MN, and prior to that posting was Director of the Muehl Public Library in Seymour, WI for three years.

Professionally, Bryan is the current Chair of COLAND, the Council on Library and Network Development, and was appointed by the Governor to serve on COLAND in 2014. Bryan has also participated in the Public Library System Redesign project, is a member of the Steering Committee, and was appointed by Dr. Tony Evers to serve on that committee. Bryan has also been a member of the American Library Association for a number of years, was the previous Chair of the Certified Public Library Administrator Review Committee and is a current member of the Ilich Award Jury for technological innovations.

While in Janesville, Bryan has worked to empower the library staff, encouraging them to solve problems and assist patrons at the counter. He has also encouraged staff to be creative with their ideas and to try innovative new approaches to programming. Bryan also worked to bring RFID technology, self-check stations and a materials sorting machine to the library several years ago and is currently finishing up a philanthropic campaign to help renovate the Hedberg Public Library and bring 21st century services and needs to the community.

Bryan has his M.S. in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin and his M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix.

Sugden, Sarah:

Sarah Sugden is a passionate, positive advocate for libraries and the humans they serve. A life-long library lover, Sarah got her first library job when she was 14 years old, at her local public library. That first library job began a 30-year career working in libraries of various types serving diverse communities of varying sizes. Her library work has included library administration, facility maintenance, renovations, and expansions, financials, fundraising, youth services, cataloging, collection development, library mascots, programming, outreach, and puppetry. Sugden is absolutely convinced that being a librarian is the best job in the world.

In 2005, Sarah returned to the public library where she had gotten her first library job (and first library card!). As the Director of the Waterville Public Library in Waterville, Maine, Sarah has led a team in transforming a neglected, dreary library into a vibrant, welcoming community hub and leading civic institution. She was awarded the "I Love My Librarian" Award in 2014 by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, American Library Association, and the *New York Times*. In 2017, under Sarah's leadership, the Waterville Public Library received from the Institute for Museum and Library Service the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for libraries.

Sarah has been involved with numerous community initiatives and organizations, including Rotary, the local historical society, and the local school board. She is a self-professed bookworm and loves birdwatching, nature, public art, puzzles, and spending time with family and friends. She holds degrees from Dartmouth College and Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.