



**BALTIMORE COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES Information and Application





Vision

Empowered and engaged individuals for a more inclusive and connected Baltimore County community.

Mission

Providing opportunities to explore, learn, create and connect.

Values

Our customers and communities

Equal access and intellectual freedom

Flexibility and collaboration

Diversity and inclusion

Continuous improvement





Baltimore County Public Library is governed by a seven-member administrative board appointed by the County Executive for a five-year term with the possibility of reappointment for an additional five years. The board operates under Laws of Maryland Related to Public Libraries.

Responsibility

The Board of Library Trustees has the legal authority and responsibility to oversee the library system is well managed.

Areas of responsibility include:

- Hires and evaluates the library CEO, who manages the day-to-day operations of the library system.
- Establishes library policy working with the CEO and staff to ensure the library system is sound and responds to the needs of the public. Major policy areas include personnel, collection development, public service planning, technology and budgeting.
- Stays up to date on current library trends through reading headlines, attending professional meetings and visiting other libraries.
- Serves as an advocate to convey the value of the public library while sharing the mission, identifying funding resources and garnering support of elected officials, community members and business leaders.

The board currently meets in the morning on the third Tuesday of the month.

Qualifications:

As a candidate for a library trustee position, you must be a resident of Baltimore County and representative of the constituent base the library serves. You must also have:

- Demonstrated interest in the library.
- Readiness to devote time and effort to attend board meetings, serve on committees, advocate for the library and participate in other trustee activities.
- Ability to plan creatively and carry out plans effectively.
- Ability to analyze efficiency of business procedures and to be a part of the accountability in the process.
- Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work well as a member of the team.

How to Apply and Selection Process

Vacancies are available periodically and filled from the pool of candidates who have completed applications. Please see the included application or online at bcpl.info.

When a position is available, all applications are reviewed by the current Board of Trustees. Interviews are granted to candidates based upon level of experience and diversity, including but not limited to diversity of race, gender, professional background and geographic residency to ensure our board provides an accurate cross-representation of Baltimore County. Upon completion of the interviews, the name(s) of those most qualified are sent to the County Executive, who makes the final appointment. Upon appointment, the candidate is required to file a financial statement with the Baltimore County Ethics Commission.

About Baltimore County Public Library

Today, our library is a safe zone, a civic center, a technology hub and a space for ideas and learning. There is no other place where you can get the same array of services and experiences so easily, conveniently and mostly free with a library card. Baltimore County Public Library's role in the community continues to evolve to meet the county's needs in the areas of education, economy, equity and engagement. A robust collection, an array of services and customer-oriented programs serve all ages and interests to improve the quality of life, create equitable access and opportunities for education and lifelong learning for Baltimore County residents and the millions of visitors to our 19 branches, four mobile units and the virtual online branch.

Recent Projects Include:

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Anti-racism book discussions and story times
- Digital collection with e-books, e-magazines, audiobooks and streaming services (hoopla and Kanopy)
- Digital equity with Chromebook giveaways and long-term lending of Chromebooks and internet routers
- Entrepreneur Academy and a small business consultant on staff
- Free WiFi in branches and parking lots
- Library of Things for borrowing (Chromebooks, hotspots, CPR Kits, outdoor activities, board games, telescopes and more)
- Meal and snack distribution
- Mobile Library Support Center
- My Librarian to help with job search, technology or using our resources
- Summer Reading Challenge

What Our Current Trustees Are Saying

"The library is so much more than a place of books. It is a community resource center/hub. It is a place to access computers, charge electronics, attend programs, apply for passports, get winter coats, get meals...In short, It is for many a lifeline. For me to be a part of serving this important institution is an honor and most gratifying." **Anne West**

"In my second term on the Board of Library Trustees, I truly appreciate the many opportunities board members have to support library staff, advocate for the innovative services residents of Baltimore County deserve from their public library and work together to set policies that move the library forward. Our board members are proud to share passion and expertise as we participate in strategic planning and ensure that our communities are well represented." **Jane Eickhoff**

"Libraries are a great equalizer in our communities, they provide knowledge and space that is accessible for all. I have been looking for an opportunity to volunteer for an organization that I care deeply about and feel honored and humbled to serve in this role." **Havaca Ganguly**



Are you ready to serve on the Baltimore County Public Library board? Join us!



Board Member Application and Questionnaire

Please complete entire form and submit to: Sonia Alcántara-Antoine at ceo@bcpl.net
or mail to: Baltimore County Public Library, Attn: Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, 320 York Road, Towson, MD 21204

Personal:

Name: First			MI	Last		County Council District
Address						How long resident of Baltimore County?
Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Email			
Social Media Handles: Facebook _____ Twitter _____ Instagram _____ TikTok _____						

Employment history:

Name of Employer	Position	Type of Business or Organization	
Employer Address		Dates	Phone
Name of Employer	Position	Type of Business or Organization	
Employer Address		Dates	Phone
Name of Employer	Position	Type of Business or Organization	
Employer Address		Dates	Phone

Education:

Institution	Degree and Major	Dates Attended
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BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Please list your past and present memberships on boards, committees and organizations:

(business, civic, community, fraternal, political, professional, recreational, religious and social)

Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service
Organization	Role/Title	Date of Service

Please list notable achievements in your service to above organizations:

Please describe any other volunteer experience:

Other:

Have you ever been convicted, plead guilty or plead no contest to a crime? (If yes, please explain.) ☐ YES ☐ NO

BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Please mark the skills and/or interests you bring to our board:

	Library Industry		Business Management		Accounting
	Policy Development		Fundraising		Law/Legal Issues
	Personnel		Outreach/Advocacy		Government
	Public Relations		Strategic Planning		Other:

Other unique talents or skill sets you bring as a board member?

Time commitment:

Board meetings are currently on the third Tuesday of the month at 8 a.m. and generally end at 10:30 a.m. Meetings may be virtual or in person at branches throughout the county. Would you be able to attend on this schedule? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Please list three references:

Name	Relationship	Phone Number
Name	Relationship	Phone Number
Name	Relationship	Phone Number

Optional: Attach resume

Questions: Contact Sonia Alcántara-Antoine at ceo@bcpl.net or 410-887-6160.



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