

# 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.

Please Join Us!

## COLA Board of Directors, 2016-2017

CHAIR: Howard Boksenbaum

VICE-CHAIR / CHAIR ELECT: Cheryl McCarthy

SECRETARY: Gale Eaton

TREASURER: Neeltje Henneman

### DIRECTORS:

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Joan Ress Reeves (Chair Emerita)  
Rose Ellen Reynolds (Chair Emerita)  
Monica Schaberg  
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 2017-18 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](http://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,

*Howard Boksenbaum*, 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](http://www.colari.org)

## Resources for RI Library Advocates

United for Libraries:  
[ala.org/united/](http://ala.org/united/)

ALA Advocacy University:  
[www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy-university](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy-university)

Edge Initiative: [libraryedge.org](http://libraryedge.org)

EveryLibrary: [everylibrary.org](http://everylibrary.org)

Geek the Library: [geekthelibrary.org](http://geekthelibrary.org)

I Love Libraries: [ilovelibraries.org](http://ilovelibraries.org)

Impact Survey: [impactsurvey.org](http://impactsurvey.org)

The Library Report:  
[rhodeislandlibraryreport.org](http://rhodeislandlibraryreport.org)

Library Services in the Digital Age:  
[libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/01/22/library-services/](http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/01/22/library-services/)

RI Office of Library Services: [olis.ri.gov](http://olis.ri.gov)

Turning the Page: [publiclibraryadvocacy.org](http://publiclibraryadvocacy.org)

## COLA 2017 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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_