

NHLTA is pleased to announce that we are now accepting speaking proposals for our next annual conference, to be held on Tuesday May 9, 2023. We will be returning to The Grappone Center in Concord, NH for next year's conference. Whether you've worked in the New Hampshire library community for decades or you've just started this year, we want to hear from you!

## **CONFERENCE THEME AND GOAL**

The theme of the 2023 Conference is "First Amendment: Censorship and Advocacy" and our keynote speaker is Martin Garman, director at Amherst College Library (MA), outgoing chair of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee and recent editor of the new ALA Intellectual Freedom Manual. The overarching goal of our annual conference is to provide a platform for NHLTA members to learn and exchange ideas, to hear about successes and challenges that face public libraries across our state, and to reunite and make new professional connections with others who are committed to better serving our New Hampshire libraries and communities. We aim to ensure that library trustees understand the various laws that govern public libraries and the scope of their authority as elected trustees, in order to enhance their ability to carry out their responsibilities.

## **DIVERSITY OF SPEAKERS - MIX OF ROLES AND PERSPECTIVES**

At our 2023 conference, as usual, we will be offering the basics (RSAs, effective meeting management, funding sources, etc.). If you have a **new twist** on perennial topics for newly elected trustees and those needing a refresher, **we'd love to hear from you!** If you care about New Hampshire public libraries and have something to say about it, we want you to speak!

We welcome topic proposals from first-time speakers, from industry experts and from everyone in between. Presentations by fellow trustees, library directors and staff, service providers, industry non-profits and authors are all valuable perspectives for our attendees.

## **OUR AUDIENCE**

Our audience of elected and appointed library trustees (and some library directors) come to their positions from a wide diversity of backgrounds and experiences. While our attendees are drawn from across New Hampshire, keep in mind that 71% come from small (less than 6,000 people) and very small communities (less than 1,500 people). Some trustees oversee library directors with a large professional workforce while many oversee only one or two employees. Be aware that many in our audience require large fonts/easy to read slide decks and need participant questions to be repeated for all to hear.

## **TOPICS WE'RE LOOKING FOR**

*Our surveys indicate that the following topics are in demand:*

- Meeting Management
- Budgeting and Financial Management
- Sources of Library Money
- Issues Affecting Small and Micro Libraries
- Capital And Long Range Planning

- Building Expansions/Renovations
- Strategic Planning
- Censorship/First Amendment Issues
- Human Resource Management: Performance Reviews, Hiring And Disciplinary Topics
- Policies And Procedures- Best Practices
- Library Advocacy
- Trustee/Staff/Friend Relations – Who Does What?
- Friends Groups
- Technology For Trustees
- Social Media And The Library
- Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Issues
- Human Interest
- Burnout/Self-Care
- Innovative Programming

### **SESSION FORMAT OPTIONS**

**Concurrent 75 minute session** (includes 15 minutes for questions)

- Individual presenter
- Panel presentation

**Roundtable discussion leader** (Group leader for small group for a deep-dive into a specific topic.)

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

The NHLTA Education Committee will review all proposals to ensure that we have a diversity of topics, presenters and viewpoints. We'll let you know if your proposal has been accepted in early November.

### **SPEAKER BENEFITS & LOGISTICS**

If you are selected to speak at the 2023 Annual Conference we will waive your attendance fee. We will reimburse for covered travel expenses properly submitted.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL:**

<https://nhltatrusters.wufoo.com/forms/2023-nhlta-conference-session-proposal-form/>

**The deadline for submitting proposals is Midnight Friday October 28, 2022.** We'll let you know if your proposal has been accepted in early November.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Ashley Methot**

*Event Coordinator*

*NH Municipal Association*

On behalf of NH Library Trustees Association

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