

RAILS Report

Illinois Library Association Conference

RAILS will have many staff members attending the Illinois Library Association conference in Rosemont on October 18-20. Some ways to engage with us:

- Attend our retirement reception for Deirdre Brennan on Tuesday, October 18 from 5 – 7 p.m., in Rooms 25-30 at the convention center. You can come any time during these hours, though there will be a short ceremony starting at 5:30 p.m. Complimentary appetizers and beverages (beer, wine, and soft drinks) will be served. Thanks to our platinum sponsors, Ancel Glink and Baker & Taylor; and our gold sponsors, Auto-Graphics and HR Source. If you are not planning to attend the conference, you are still welcome to attend the reception. [Please register!](#)
- Visit us at the RAILS booth (#812) during exhibit hours (Wednesday, October 19 from noon – 5p.m. and Thursday, October 20 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.).
- Attend the “[Crisis in Specialized Libraries](#)” panel discussion with RAILS Member Engagement Manager Dan Bostrom and staff from RAILS member libraries on Wednesday, October 19 from 1:45 – 2:45 p.m.
- Learn more about RAILS’ school library data project by visiting our ILA Poster session on Thursday, October 20, from 9:30 – 11 a.m., in the exhibit hall. Janette Derucki, RAILS Research Specialist, will be on hand to discuss the project and answer questions.
- Help celebrate RAILS’ receiving the 2022 [Robert R. McClarren Legislative Development Award](#) by attending the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 18 at noon (pre-registration required).

RAILS Board member Becky Spratford will also present at:

“[Actively Anti-Racist Service to Leisure Readers: Foundations](#),” followed by a [discussion session](#); and “[Get On Board: Encouraging Library Workers to Run for Local Library and School Boards](#).”

Deirdre Brennan Retirement

The October 17th meeting of the Consortia Committee will be Deirdre Brennan’s last meeting of this group before her retirement on November 18th. In addition to attending the October 18 reception at the ILA Conference, you can wish her well, and see wonderful notes from other well-wishers, at <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/YTWsjOFY>.

RAILS Executive Director Position

The search for RAILS’ next Executive Director is underway, with Bradbury Miller Associates engaged by the RAILS Board to conduct a search. As the position won’t be filled before Deirdre’s last day, Monica Harris has been appointed Interim Executive Director as of November 18.