



**Peter Coyl** (he/him)

Library Director & CEO  
Sacramento Public Library,  
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Type of Library:** Public

**Statement of Professional Concerns:**

As a candidate for the Executive Board seat designated for a Councilor with Rainbow Round Table (RRT) affiliation, I come to you with a long history of deep, impactful involvement with the round table. From my time on the Executive Board of the (then) GLBTRT, I have been fighting for protections and recognition for those in the LGBTQ+ community. As the GLBTRT Chair I was honored to collaborate on the letters that ALA sent to the Governor of North Carolina urging the repeal an Anti-Trans Bathroom law weeks before ALSC was set to hold meetings there and to the Governor of Georgia urging the veto of similar legislation the year ALA was set to meet in Atlanta. I was also honored to help organize and take part in the memorial at the Annual Conference in Orlando less than two weeks after the tragic murder of 49 of our LGBTQ+ community at the Pulse Nightclub. As an ALA Executive Board member, I will apply my experience and the lens of involvement in the Rainbow Round Table to the benefit of the entire association.

ALA's staff leadership is in a transition period. As an Executive Board member, I will be part of the onboarding of a new Executive Director for the association. It is imperative that we hire someone who can be a powerful advocate, a strong voice for ALA, our profession, and library users. As an Executive Board member, I will also ensure that ALA continues efforts to protect not only our library workers, but also our customers. Everyone deserves safety at the Library. Derogatory name calling and bomb threats cannot become the norm in our profession. I will work with our new Executive Director and the Executive Board as we seek stronger protections for library workers and users.

I commit to ensuring that voices from all across the association are heard and respected. I will work with Board colleagues to ensure our association is well-managed and the programs and services we provide strengthen our profession, enhance our core values, and ensure the safety and privacy of all who use our services.

**Previous Positions:**

Library Director, Montclair (NJ) Public Library, 2017-2021  
Senior Librarian, Dallas (TX) Public Library, 2014-2017  
Branch Manager, Dallas (TX) Public Library, 2012-2014  
Assistant Branch Manager, Dallas (TX) Public Library, 2011-2012  
Librarian, Hsinchu (Taiwan) International School, 2010-2011

**Education:**

Drexel University, Masters of Science, Library and Information Science (Concentration in Youth Services), 2010.

Mandarin Chinese, Mandarin Training Center, National Taiwan Normal University, 2007-2008.

Oakland University, Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration and Public Policy, 2006.

**Affiliation(s):**

Public Library Association (PLA), United for Libraries, CORE), Rainbow Round Table (RRT), Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF)

**ALA and/or ALA-APA activities:**

2023-present President-Elect Cindy Hohl's Advisory Committee, member  
2023-present ALA's 150th Commemoration Fundraising Campaign Cabinet, member  
2023 FTRF Nominating Committee, chair  
2022-present ALA Core Values Task Force, member  
2022-2023 FTRF President  
2021-present IFRT Councilor  
2021-2022 FTRF Fundraising Committee, chair  
2020-present ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC), member  
2020-2022 FTRF Vice-President  
2020-2021 FTRF Roll of Honor Committee, chair  
2020-2021 FTRF Nominating Committee, member  
2020-2021 FTRF Fundraising Committee, co-chair  
2020-2021 FTRF Developing Issues Committee, member  
2020 ALA Working Group on Condemning U.S Media Corporations Abridgement of Free Speech, member  
2019-2021 PLA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice, member  
2019-2021 IFRT Program Committee, member  
2019-2020 FTRF Trustee  
2019-2020 FTRF Roll of Honor Committee, member  
2019-2020 FTRF Developing Issues Committee, chair  
2017-2019 ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC), member  
2016-2017 GLBTRT, past-chair  
2015-2016 GLBTRT, chair  
2014-2015 GLBTRT, chair-elect  
2013-2014 GLBTRT Stonewall Book Awards Committee, chair  
2012-2014 GLBTRT Stonewall Book Awards Committee, member

**Offices held in state/regional library associations and other associations:**

2023-2026 California Library Association (CLA) Intellectual Freedom Committee, member  
2020-2021 New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) Intellectual Freedom Subcommittee, vice-chair  
2020-2021 Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS) Safely Opening and Operating Task Force  
2020-2021 BCCLS Mandated vs. Opt-In Services Task Force  
2019-2021 BCCLS Strategic Plan Committee

2019-2020 NJLA Public Policy Committee, member  
2019-2020 NJLA Intellectual Freedom Subcommittee, member  
2018-2020 BCCLS Delivery Task Force, member  
2018-2019 BCCLS By-Laws Committee, member  
2017-2018 BCCLS Special Populations Task Force, member  
2016-2017 Texas Library Association (TxLA) Intellectual Freedom Committee, member

**Honors and/or Awards:**

2023 Growing Together Award, Newton Booth Neighborhoods Association  
2023 Innovator's Award [Freedom to Read Foundation], Los Angeles Times Book Festival  
2016 40 Under 40, Drexel University  
2010 Knower Award, Philadelphia Chapter of the Special Library Association  
2009 Dorris Keller Hossler Endowed Fellowship, Drexel University

**Major Accomplishments:**

2023 Closing Panelist, California Library Association Annual Conference  
2023 Invited speaker, Rendez-vous des bibliothèques publiques du Québec

**Publications:**

The Librarian Identity Crisis. *American Libraries* [online], May 17, 2018.

Amid Tragedy, Libraries Can Offer Help and Hope. *American Libraries* [online], June 14, 2016.

Open to All: Serving the GLBT Community in Your Library, A Toolkit from the American Library Association Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table. 2015.

<http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org/rt/files/content/professionaltools/160309-glbtrt-open-to-all-toolkit-online.pdf>

**Number of Years as an ALA Member: 15**