

MARAC

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference

Delaware • District of Columbia • Maryland • New Jersey
New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

MARAC Membership Meeting
2025 October 31, 12:00pm
Virtual (Zoom)

Agenda

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm.

II. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved at 12:03pm.

III. Approval of [Spring 2025 General Membership Meeting Minutes](#)

The minutes were approved at 12:04pm.

IV. Chair's Report

The MARAC Steering Committee has charged three new committees, working on Climate Change, Advocacy, and Records Retention. Each of these committees has begun their work and we are excited to hear what they accomplish.

Nominations for open MARAC positions are open until December 1. Members are encouraged to nominate themselves or someone that they know.

We approved a moratorium on new awards for the next three years. With the new Ron Becker and Danna Bell awards, the committees (Steering, Finance, and Awards) need some time to re-establish themselves with financial stability and workload.

We are starting to develop the process for the next MARAC strategic plan, which is slated to begin in 2026. This will begin with listening sessions for the MARAC committees and the general membership. These will be scheduled by Zach Hottel and Deb Schiff soon.

Zach gave kudos to the Membership Committee for the "Member Minute" series that was published on LinkedIn during National Archives Month.

Thanks to Elizabeth Surles for volunteering to serve as our new Development Coordinator!

V. Meeting Coordinator's Report

Mary Mannix gave the Meetings Coordinator's report. We had 73 attendees and a handful of vendors at the MARAC Fall Symposium earlier this month. Thanks to Nick Zmijewski for his work as vendor coordinator and to the PC and LAC for their work. Thanks to Eira Tansey for facilitating the symposium; check out her work at [Memory Rising](#). Please let Mary know if you have any suggestions for future symposia.

If you're interested in working to coordinate our next virtual meeting (Fall 2026), e-mail Scott Keefer. We are planning for a New Jersey conference in spring 2027. As always, save the date for our next in-person conference at the Omni Richmond from April 30-May 2, 2026.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Amy Fitch gave the Treasurer's Report. Please see the [FY2025 Q4 Report](#) and the [FY2026 Q1 Report](#).

FY2025 ended with a net gain of \$36,726. The Harrisburg conference was a big success, with 374 attendees and a surplus of \$25,097. Steering approved transferring \$18,590 of this surplus into three funds: Archival Education, Disaster Relief, and Graduate Student Scholarship.

The first quarter of FY 2026 (ending September 30) ended with a net gain of \$19,979. This is lower than usual because symposia typically make less money than full conferences. Our interest income from CDs remains good for now (as they did in FY2025); as the CD moves closer to maturity, this income will decline. Expenses were low as well, with most restricted fund expenditure coming from the Ron Becker award. Symposium expenses project to be less than full conference expenses.

Last week Steering approved the budget for the spring conference in Richmond. It was a tricky budget due to higher hotel food costs. To avoid a deficit, we opted for modest food options and to forgo lunch during the plenary (there will still be a plenary, but it will be later in the afternoon). Conference registration rates will also go up by \$10 (this does not apply to student registrations; bridge rates likewise will only go up \$5).

VII. Awards Announcements & Presentations

Kira Dietz presented the awards announcements.

The **Arline Custer Memorial Award** was presented to *The Battalion: Citizen Soldiers at War o the Western Front* (book) and "Archivists and Emotional Labor" (article).

The **C. Herbert Finch Award** was presented to [The End of an Era: The Impact of the 1975 New York City Financial Crisis at CUNY](#), by Kate Mitchell of Baruch College. An honorable mention was presented to [Psychiatry, Insanity, and Religion in the Trial of Charles Guiteau](#).

The **Marsha Trimble Meeting and Travel Award for Fall Symposium** was awarded to Scylla Hecateis, a doctoral student in the Library and Information Sciences program at the University of Pittsburgh.

Tara Wink presented the **Diversity and Inclusion Session Award** to Erin Mustard and Nicole Wines of the RAICES Cultural Center and Meral Agish of the Queens Memory Project, Queens Public Library. Each awardee was presented with funding to support attendance and their poster presentation at the MARAC Fall Symposium this month.

VIII. New Business

No new business was presented.

IX. Invitation to the Spring 2025 Richmond Meeting

The Spring 2026 conference will be in Richmond, Virginia. The theme is Flowing Together: Community and Resilience in Archives. This highlights both the importance of the James River in the history of Richmond as well as themes that are very important for archives right now in a time of reduced resources. Our host is the Omni Richmond. Room rate is \$185 and registration will open very soon. Watch out for opossums (the unofficial mascot of Richmond!). The conference reception will be at the Library of Virginia. Richmond has a variety of things to do outside of the conference as well (many of them will be offered as tours on the Thursday conference).

X. Announcements & Adjournment

Deb Schiff put in a plug for the first [New Jersey Archival Film Festival](#), happening tomorrow (November 1) at Monmouth University.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.