

## **Awards Committee Report MARAC Spring 2026 Steering Committee**

The “[ONGOING-Record-Keeping Awards Spreadsheet](#)” and “[Master List of Achievement and Service Award Winners](#)” are up-to-date through fall 2025 awards. After the meeting in Richmond, we will get the latest awards on the lists and added to the websites.

We are working on some changes to manuals and guidance for individual committees (noted below in committee reports) and once we have resolved those, I hope to have the overall Awards Manual go through a major update before subcommittee leadership changes in the summer (or make sure we get outgoing leadership input before they end their terms).

I do need to work on a resolution to the home and management of the Danna Bell Graduate Student Scholarship, but we hope that the silent auction at the MARAC meeting will help reach our initial fundraising goal to go live in the upcoming cycle.

On a chair’s note, I would like to thank all of our outgoing leadership on subcommittees for all their hard work, as this is the last Steering meeting before their terms end and I look forward to working with incoming chairs and co-chairs! Many thanks to Sarah, Ali, Amy, and Jodi!

Reports from awards subcommittees are included below.

***Arline Custer Committee (Sarah Almond)***: The majority of the Arline Custer Memorial Committee’s work takes place after the Spring meeting and a full report of activities will be submitted at the Fall meeting.

Queries about submission dates have already started to arrive. The Committee is pleased to welcome Allison Fischbach as the 2026-2027 Senior Co-Chair, beginning this summer.

***Distinguished Service Award (Ali Zawoyski)***:

The DSA will be presented at the Richmond business meeting. The decision has been made and the winner will be in attendance, but we are keeping the information confidential until then.

The DSA chair and Awards chair now have access to the DSA manual and we will be working on updates to the workflow, requirements, and resubmission process to encourage more nominations in the future.

## ***Finding Aid/Finch Awards (Amy Poe):***

### **C. Herbert Finch Online Publication Award**

The Finding Aids Award Committee received seven submissions for the 2025 Frederic M. Miller Finding Aids award. Of the seven submissions, one was recommended for resubmission for the C. Herbert Finch Online Publication Award. The committee selected as the recipient (first-place) of the Frederic M. Miller Award Finding Aids Award:

- 1) Nien Cheng Collection – Slippery Rock University Archives and Special Collections

<https://as-slippery.klnpa.org/repositories/2/resources/206>

Submitted and authored by Sara Dickensheets

The committee allocated \$300 of the \$500 Miller Finding Aids Award budget to the Miller Award winner.

The quality of this year's submissions warranted the recognition of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

- 2) Library Company of Philadelphia Records – The Library Company of Philadelphia

[https://findingaids.library.upenn.edu/records/LCP\\_MSS00270](https://findingaids.library.upenn.edu/records/LCP_MSS00270)

Submitted and authored by Dana Dorman

- 3) Joan Didion and John Gregory Dunne Papers – NYPL

<https://archives.nypl.org/mss/186276>

Submitted by Heather Lember/authored by Emily Dunne and Amy Lau

Both 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will receive an award of \$100. The NYPL award will be divided between authors Emily Dunne and Amy Lau at \$50 each.

### **Frederic M. Miller Finding Aid Award**

In consultation with the MARAC Awards Chair, the committee decided to align the eligibility window for the C. Herbert Finch Online Publication Award with the calendar year, matching the eligibility window for the Frederic M. Miller Finding Aids Award for greater clarity, and providing an opportunity for in person recognition of Finch awardees at the MARAC Spring Conference.

To ensure coverage for online publications during the transition, the eligibility window for the next call for Finch Award nominations will be extended to encompass the period from July 2025-December 2026. In the cycle to follow, the eligibility window for the C. Herbert Finch Award will run from January 2027 to December 2027, and each calendar year thereafter. The Committee will actively communicate the change in the awards cycle and promote the awards in announcements to membership, the Mid-Atlantic

Archivist, and may pursue other channels for broader reach. *[Additional note from the Awards Committee Chair: We will work on aligning existing documentation with these changes in the upcoming quarter, as noted in "Other Business" below.]*

### **Committee Membership Rotation**

As of June 30, 2026, Amy Poe (Sr. Co-Chair) and Matthew Snyder (elected to temporarily fill slot vacated by Benjamin Blake) are slated to rotate off the committee.

As of July 1, 2026, newly elected incoming committee members are: Matthew Snyder (Jr. Co-Chair elect), New York Public Library and Lexy deGraffenreid, Princeton University Library.

### **Other Business**

Updates to the master list of Miller and Finch award recipients were shared with the MARAC Awards Committee Chair, drawing on research by the committee and the MARAC archivist.

Starting with the next award cycle, the committee will begin using a Google form to gather submissions for both the Miller award and the Finch award.

The committee is working on suggested changes to the Finding Aids Awards Committee manual: incorporating new submission guidelines/use of forms for submissions and reflecting changes to the Finch Online Publication award eligibility cycle.

### ***Scholarship Awards (Jodi Boyle):***

Since January, the Scholarship Committee publicized, reviewed, and selected the Meeting and Travel Award recipients for Richmond and the Ronald L. Becker Award for Professional Development recipient. We had a high number of applicants for the Trimble and Klein Awards, more than double from two, three, and four years ago. Applicants included archivists with full-time positions whose travel funding was cut or severely reduced as opposed to just grad students, part-time employees, or professionals seeking employment.

Marsha Trimble Meeting and Travel Award (\$600)

Joseph Azizi

Archivist

University of Virginia

**13 applicants for the award this year.**

Joan Echtenkamp Klein Meeting and Travel Award (\$600)

Jasmine Malone

Archivist for Digital Collections and Research

Towson University

**12 applicants for the award this year.**

Karen A. Stuart Local History Collection Workshop & Conference Attendance Award  
(\$300)

Nova Kulakowski

Nova Kulakowski is a MSIS student at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a concentration in archives management and part-time archives associate at the Stewart Bell, Jr. Archives, part of the Handley Regional Library System, Winchester, Virginia. This repository's collections focus on the history of the Lower Shenandoah Valley with an emphasis on Winchester and Frederick County.

**2 applicants for the award this year.**

Ronald L. Becker Award for Professional Development (up to \$1,500 – recipient asked for \$1,033)

Nicholas Muller

Archivist/Librarian with multiple part-time positions in NYC and NJ

Received the award to finance classes towards a Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) certificate from the Society of American Archivists

**3 applicants this year.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kira Dietz

Awards Chair

April 23, 2026

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## Communications Committee Steering Report

**April 24, 2026**

The Communications Committee is composed of Missy Nerino, Lara Szypszak, Carolyn Friedrich, Jill Tominosky, Michael Martin, Diane Bockrath, Anna Juliar, Kathleen Donahoe, Megan Craynon, Nicole Font, Alexander Callahan, Taylor Schuler, Daniel Stimpfle. Sara Predmore and Kevin Clair serve in an *ex-officio* capacity.

### Committee Assignments

- Chair: Missy Nerino
- *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* Editorial Board: Carolyn Friedrich, Editor; Lara Szypszak, Associate Editor; Jill Tominosky, Advertising Editor; Anna Juliar, Caucus News Rep
- *The Practical Archivist* Editorial Board: Megan Craynon and Diane Bockrath, Co-Editors-in-Chief; Michael Martin, Nicole Font, Alexander Callahan, Taylor Schuler, and Daniel Stimpfle, Editorial Board Members
- Social Media Coordinator: Kathleen Donahoe

Molly Tighe previously served on the committee as part of *The Practical Archivist* Editorial Board. On April 20, 2026, Molly resigned from the committee due to other commitments.

We thank Molly for her invaluable contributions to the committee over the years, in her former capacity of Co-Chair, but also as a member of the TPA Editorial Board, where she helped tremendously with organizing internal processes.

### *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* (MAA)

The Spring 2026 (Vol. 55, No. 2) issue of MAA was published on April 10. A social media post advertising the issue was shared on Facebook and LinkedIn. An announcement will be shared in SAA's *In the Loop* newsletter.

This issue marks the fourth entirely digital issue since the decision last year to eliminate print copies. While the turnaround time for creating the issue with the designer has

remained about the same, the cost-effectiveness of the change so far indicates that this has been a net positive. Feedback has been shared with the designer and vice versa to improve turnaround times and continue to support the MAA's relationship with the Print Center.

This issue includes an article on how Library of Virginia archivists developed primary source lesson plans and online resources for archivists to use in the classroom. A final "advertisement" highlights what conference attendees can look forward to during the Spring Conference in Richmond, Virginia. Also included in the issue is an article about the University of Baltimore's use of AI to support an oral history project as part of the University's 100th anniversary. This issue features a Committee Update from the Membership Committee. Finally, this issue includes an interview with historian Ian A. Isherwood about his book, *The Battalion: Citizen Soldiers in World War One*, and a review of the recent anthology of essays, *Researching Popular Entertainment*.

The caucus news editor worked with the Caucus Representatives to gather updates for the Spring 2026 issue and is pleased to report that caucus representation continues to be robust, highlighting member accomplishments across the geographic area represented by MARAC. During meetings, we discussed adjusting the call for Caucus News moving forward to emphasize that contributors should submit time-sensitive announcements earlier, so that fall announcements are made in the summer issue, winter announcements in the fall, etc. We also discussed clarifying what is appropriate Caucus News content to Representatives. We plan to make these adjustments with the new Caucus Representatives beginning their 2026-2028 terms.

The Advertising Editor distributed updated design specifications to advertisers and looks forward to meeting prospective advertising partners while engaging with vendors at next week's conference in Richmond.

The MAA continues to wait on a timeline for ingest of back issues of the MAA dating from 2014 to present to be made available on the Internet Archive, and if additional steps will be required on our end to assist in this process. The Editorial Team is also waiting to hear if past issues will be documented within MARAC's Archives.

The Summer 2026 issue is currently being planned with an estimated publish date in early July. The editorial team would like to thank Lara Szypszak for her many years of service as she rotates off the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist* and Communications Committee. The new associate editor will shadow the process for the upcoming issue before stepping into the role in July.

## ***The Practical Archivist: MARAC Technical Leaflet Series***

Completed Work (January-April 2026)

- Meetings: The Editorial Board continued to meet via Google Meet on the first Thursday of every month, provided new material merited the board's attention. Three meetings were held during this period: January 8, February 5, and April 2.
- Manuscript No. 18 Oral History in Archives: first-round edits were completed by the board and comments sent back to the authors for revision. A second draft was submitted to the board in March. Two peer reviewers were selected.

#### Current Work (January-April 2026)

- Manuscript No. 18 Oral History in Archives: second-round edits are being compiled now for return to the authors. The manuscript will also go out for peer review at this point.
- After discussion with MARAC stakeholders, the Co-Editors-in-Chief have settled on a once-per-year publication model for the TPA as being the best fit for the current budget and editorial bandwidth. An annual fall publication date will be the new target.

#### Future/Ongoing Work

- Solicitation of new authors for Manuscript No. 19 will commence in the coming months. Board members have been reaching out to potential authors through their personal networks and encourage other MARAC members to do the same. More outreach ideas may be needed.
  - Recurring call for proposal slot in MAA?
  - TPA flyers on registration table at Richmond, SAA
  - Social media posts
  - Creating a list of potential authors/topics/reviewers to have on hand
  - Other venues for outreach?
- Securing copies of the long-lost issues of No. 1 and No. 7 at the University of Maryland has stalled for the time being.

## Social Media

### *Blog*

In the last quarter there have been 8 posts to the MARAC blog, which were then also shared to Facebook and LinkedIn.

### *Facebook*

The MARAC Facebook page was viewed 2,348 times and 50 people either posted or commented. There were 33 posts, the most popular of which focused on the Richmond meeting, the MAA, and professional development opportunities. In the past, there has been some issue with bots posting on the page; however, this has greatly improved in recent months. We shall continue to monitor bot posts in the next quarter.

### *LinkedIn*

MARAC LinkedIn posts had a little under 2,000 impressions, getting 58 reactions and 1 repost. The page itself had 37 views and 22 unique visitors, and we gained 19 followers.

### *YouTube*

MARAC videos had 5,771 views. As noted in the Winter Steering report, most of these came from viewing one particular video and the viewers on that were mostly from Southeast Asia. The stats indicate that the views for this video are starting to taper off, so we will continue to monitor this into the next quarter. The MARAC channel overall had about 68 hours of watch time, and we gained 29 subscribers. Our thumbnails had about 5,500 impressions and a click-through-rate of 3.8%, which is better than the previous quarter.

## Additional News

The committee met virtually on April 14, 2026.

The committee discussed the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Records Retention Committee, on which Missy Nerino and Carolyn Friedrich serve. In particular, the committee discussed Title II, and its effect on MARAC publications will be preserved by UMD, a public institution. Missy and Carolyn relayed these concerns back to the Ad Hoc Records Retention Committee.

Due largely to recent changes in the content and distribution of MAA, the committee is also planning to craft a survey for MARAC members about how they consume news related to the organization. This will help us finetune the Communication Committee's efforts for our publications and social media. A small group of committee members, including Megan Craynon, Carolyn Friedrich, and Missy Nerino, will meet in late spring/early summer to draft a survey. At the summer committee meeting, this survey will be discussed and future steps will be decided.

As per tradition, the Committee also is monitoring SAA's messaging regarding organizational tables. Anna Juliar and Missy Nerino will be working together to secure a MARAC table at SAA's Annual Meeting in New Orleans, La., and create content for it. Furthermore, they will create a sign-up sheet and distribute it to the Steering Committee for representation at the table during the conference of MARAC leadership.

The committee plans to meet again in June ahead of the summer Steering Committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted by  
Missy Nerino  
MARAC Communications Committee Chair

# MARAC

## Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report

April 2026

Please note that the names of D&I Committee members, with the exception of the chair, have been excluded from the D&I Steering report since the Winter 2025 meeting because of concerns with the current climate. The names of members volunteering to serve on committees can be shared during the Zoom Steering Meeting.

### **Diversity Session Scholarship, Spring Meeting**

The D&I Committee reviewed all accepted sessions for the Spring Richmond Meeting for the Diversity Session Scholarship. Session 4: Sharing Records of Mobile and Migrant Communities in Hostile Times was chosen as the recipient of the scholarship. This session is at 10:15 am, Friday, May 1, 2026.

### **D&I Liaisons For Upcoming Meetings**

A committee member has been identified for to serve as liaison for the Fall 2026 Virtual Meeting. The planning committee chairs have been notified and they will be added to the planning listserv.

### **D&I Chair Updates**

The D&I Committee Chair, Tara Wink responded to two officer requests.

Tara responded to an email from Deb Schiff, Chair Elect, regarding committee membership and met with Mary Mannix, meeting's coordinator to discuss the next MARAC Symposium. Mary suggested that instead of an accessibility symposium, an accessibility workshop might be a more appropriate option for MARAC members. Mary contacted the workshops coordinator and Tara has offered to help in any way needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Wink

MARAC D&I Committee Chair

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## Membership Committee Report 4/27/2026

1. Membership Committee met to discuss Meet & Greet
  - a. Came up with ice breaker activity
  - b. Budget of \$200 for door prizes, Liza will purchase & submit reimbursement form
2. For next fiscal year, committee membership will be similar. Liza stepping down as Senior Co-Chair. Jen Pulsney will stay on to be Senior Co-Chair. New Junior Co-Chair is Megan Scarborough
3. All meeting matches have been arranged for meeting match program. 45 participants for the Richmond conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liza Zakharova and Jen Pulsney, Co-chairs Membership Committee

## **MARAC Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC) Report**

### **Steering Committee Meeting**

**April 30, 2026**

The Nominations and Elections Committee consists of: Dustin Frohlich (Chair), Colleen Bradley-Sanders, Meagan Cairns, Dyani Feige, Nathan Fralick.

1. The MARAC 2026 election ballot closed January 30. NEC members sent emails to winners and non-winners between February 1 and February 12. MARAC membership was emailed the election results on February 13.
2. MARAC members elected the Chair-Elect, Treasurer, Caucus Representatives, Arline Custer Memorial Award Committee (2 positions), Distinguished Service Award Committee (1 position), Finding Aids Award Committee (2 positions), Nominations and Elections Committee (3 positions), Scholarship Committee (2 positions), and Caucus Representatives (8 Caucuses). The names of the successful candidates will be announced at the Spring Business Meeting and are included in these meeting notes (below).
3. Outgoing committee chairs and steering committee officers should reach out to newly elected members to discuss transition plans by June 1. New terms of service begin on July 1.
4. NEC transition planning will begin after the Spring Membership Meeting with tasks centered around onboarding the incoming NEC chair and committee.

### **2026 MARAC Election Results**

On behalf of the Nominations and Elections Committee, we are pleased to share with you the results of this year's MARAC election. We would first like to extend our gratitude to the members who volunteered to stand for election. Our thanks also go to all of the members who voted.

Congratulations to the following individuals whose terms of office begin on July 1:

The \*\* beside a name denotes those who will serve as Chair or Junior Co-Chair (in second year) and then Senior Co-Chair (in third year) during their term of service, depending on the committee.

### **Chair Elect**

Vin Novara, Library of Congress

### **Treasurer**

Amy Fitch, Rockefeller Archive Center

### **Arline Custer Memorial Award Committee**

Jodi Boyle, University at Albany\*\*

Zachary Vickery, SUNY Oswego

### **Distinguished Service Award Committee**

Lorna M. Loring, Handley Regional Library

### **Finding Aids Award Committee**

Lexy deGraffenreid, Princeton University Library

Matthew Snyder, New York Public Library\*\*

### **Nominations and Elections Committee**

Kay Hahn, Connie Henke Yarbro Oncology Nursing History Center

Dana Niemeyer, Delaware Public Archives\*\*

Lindsay Sheldon, Washington College

### **Scholarship Committee**

Darby Nisbett Schini, Maryland State Archives\*\*

Annie Tummino, Queens College

**Delaware Caucus Representative**

Kery Lawson, Nemours Estate

**District of Columbia Caucus**

Christopher Hartten, Library of Congress

**Maryland Caucus**

Jenny Kinniff, Loyola Notre Dame Library

**New Jersey Caucus Representative**

Beth Zak-Cohen, Newark Public Library

**New York Caucus Representative**

Amanda Murray, Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts

**Pennsylvania Caucus Representative**

Ali Zawoyski, Penn State University Libraries

**Virginia Caucus Representative**

Mattie Clear, Washington and Lee University

**West Virginia Caucus Representative**

Grace Musgrave, West Virginia and Regional History Center, West Virginia University