

Philosophy and Goals of Librarianship

1. I believe libraries should be a warm third space that connects the physical and nonphysical worlds with the present, future and past at the same time and place.
2. I believe libraries should be leaders in community building, bridging citizens, cultivating relationships, fostering equity, and nurturing local ties with honest values.
3. I believe in a welcoming place that gives you space whether you're staying for a short while or the whole day.
4. I believe a library should offer classes that motivate graduation and mastering of life skills.
5. I believe information both historical and present should be free and easily accessible to everyone in a library.
6. I believe that libraries should be always adapting to changing technology and diversifying ways for their audience to devour intelligence.
7. I believe libraries are the guides that nurture your first books, inspire your juvenile thirst, age gracefully with you in adulthood and crosses over with you for a lifetime of learning.
8. I believe a library should be sustainable, the energy that flows into the roots of its foundation need to morph words into worlds that also promote public good.

9. I believe a library should be secure, a web that catches desired information, while allowing for forgiveness, growth and humility for its patrons and the library as well.
10. I believe a library should listen, an empath that feeds off the spirit's journey through learned truths.

MY VISION

The library exists for the community, serving as a safe space to enrich all individuals and families by providing services, collections, programs to produce life-long thirst for growth.

When my vision is achieved, a vibrant and diverse community, spanning various ages and backgrounds, will unite to engage in continuous learning. Empowered by the knowledge and inspiration they gain from being part of this closely-knit community, they will, in turn, channel their newfound energy back into their own neighborhoods and beyond. Providing a nurturing and enriching environment that supports their intellectual, emotional, and ethical growth will be a crucial role in shaping consumers into better, more informed, and more compassionate individuals who are equipped to contribute positively to our society.

MY EXPECTED ROLE

My vision for our city is to establish a central library at the heart of our community, intimately intertwined with our historical society and neighboring towns. To achieve this, I plan to convert one of our three predominately vacant brick-and-mortar banks in our one store city into a city library—a vibrant hub where individuals and families of all ages can congregate.

Collaborating with our 6 local schools to implement an inter-school lending library system that shares resources with the central library, thereby reinvigorating smaller school libraries and ensuring they have access to current and new materials. In parallel, I'll work closely with the dedicated senior walkers who conduct historical tours of our city, documenting their insights and experiences. Partnering with our recreation center and adult school programs, would give them a space for their classes while mutually promoting library activities making sure people of all ages can grow.

Establishing mini bookfairs at citywide events, complete with related materials, live animal presentations, interactive story times, and streamlining book pickups and returns will help enhance community engagement. On the technological front, I plan to develop a library website and app that integrates school libraries, making catalog searches, online learning, and checkouts seamless. Local high school students will be hired to play a role in material delivery and retrieval through the app while earning extra credit through their school. The website will also open access to our city's historical archives, until now hidden away, allowing unheard stories to be told and suppressed history to come to light, all without imposing the current research and membership fees.

I'll collaborate with the city and voters to secure funding, exploring parcel tax campaigns, state funds, and special revenues to cover setup and annual expenses. Finally, sustainability will also be a core focus, with solar panels, comfortable upcycled local furniture, and eco-friendly classes reflecting our commitment to a greener future.

MY REFLECTION

Building a thriving library relies on the librarian's ability to listen attentively to the community, comprehend its unique needs, and foster an environment where diverse patrons feel welcome to voice questions and ideas. In a world where both communities and technology continually evolve, the library and its staff must be adaptable and acknowledge the individuality of its members. Equipped with a flexibility that allows experimentation while recognizing one's own limitations, will allow the community to grow alongside the library.

As I embark on my journey as a librarian and information warrior, I recognize that my deeply held beliefs about the power of accessible knowledge and the transformative role of libraries in communities are at the core of my identity. Synchronicities in my life have consistently led me to important avenues of research, connecting people with the knowledge and resources they seek. Each time I find myself immersed in such significant and relevant research, it not only strengthens my sense of purpose in my informational pursuits but also continually opens doors to more vital and impactful areas of study. This pattern of discovery and interconnectedness fuels my commitment to facilitating meaningful connections through research. I firmly believe that libraries are

the custodians of our past and the bridge to an enlightened, united community, which is transcending for all backgrounds.

In this dynamic interplay of beliefs, vision, role, goals, and actions, I envision becoming a librarian who is not just defined by a job title but by a commitment to enriching lives between the past and the future by bringing them to the present by being a steward of knowledge, and a catalyst for community empowerment. Libraries are sanctuaries of information, knowledge, and unity, and I am wholeheartedly dedicated to embracing that role. By fostering these values within my own community, I hope to contribute to the larger goal of creating a better world, one library at a time.