

Becoming a strong advocate in the eight years she has been in Ohio, helping to stave off materials restrictions and the worst of the funding cuts after testifying before the Ohio Senate.

Honors and Awards (library and non-library)

- Athena Award Nominee, 2022, Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber (Ohio)
- 2012 City Manager's Award of Excellence: Plan and Innovate for the Future, City of Scottsdale (Arizona)
- 2012 Citation for Outstanding work by the ALA Office for Information Technology and Policy's Program on America's Libraries for the 21st Century, with Anne Porter for creation of the Gimme Engine book recommendation mobile website
- 2006 Arizona Library Association's Outstanding Service Award

Candidate's Websites

- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aimeefifarek/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aimee.fifarek/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/afifarek>
- Library Website: <https://www.libraryvisit.org/>
- Library Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/plymc/>
- Library Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ThePLYMC/>

Personal Statement

"I am seeking the position of PLA President-elect because public libraries are facing unprecedented challenges, and I believe our profession must speak with clarity and courage in defense of intellectual freedom and open access to information. I am committed to ensuring PLA remains a safe, supportive space for library workers while we work together to confront censorship, funding pressures, and intimidation. Building on my record of local and statewide leadership, I will bring a steady, collaborative voice to national advocacy on behalf of all public libraries."

About the Election

In the 2026 PLA election, eight nominees will stand for four positions – PLA President, ALA Division Councilor and two Directors-at-Large. These are crucial leadership roles that will guide PLA into the next several years, ensuring that PLA delivers on its core purpose to strengthen public libraries and their contribution to the communities they serve.