


W M L A

A Voice
for Libraries
in Western
Massachusetts




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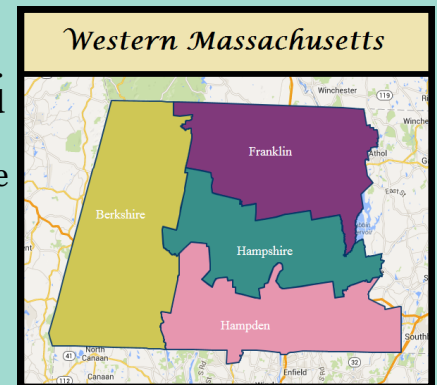
Dear Library Advocates,

Advocacy is not only an annual breakfast event; it is a year-round effort to inform and engage our library and legislative leaders on the need for adequate funding and services to the libraries in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden counties. Within the state budget there needs to be greater recognition that **library funding is local aid**. All cuts to the MBLC budget lines are passed on the local libraries who need to absorb more of the costs associated with technology, delivery, and training.

Your membership in WMLA supports collaborative efforts and advocacy for increased state funding to libraries and strengthens our voice in statewide conversations about library needs.

WMLA was very active in the past year, connecting with legislators and bringing libraries together to take action. WMLA projects included:

- Working with the Massachusetts Library System to find a suitable location for their Western MA office.
- Sponsoring Legislative breakfasts throughout Western Massachusetts. Over 200 people discussed library issues with their State Senators and Representatives.
- Chartering a bus to Boston for 52 people to attend the MLA Legislative Day.
- Distributing free Big E tickets and coupons from Friendly's, Yankee Candle, and the USS Constitution for summer reading club prizes.
- Awarding scholarships to conferences, hosted author discussions, professional networking meetings, and much more.



Sincerely,
Betty Johnson, President, Western Massachusetts Library Advocates

YES, I want to be a Western Massachusetts Library Advocate!

Enclosed is \$_____ payable to the WM Library Advocates for my annual membership.

\$150=Library Champion

\$100=Business/Institution

\$50=Friends/Library Group

\$50=Family/Household

\$25=Individual

\$10=Student/Retiree

Any amount=Open

Name _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ Please contact me to help with Advocates activities.

**WMLA is
501(c)3 tax-exempt
organization!**

Send to: WMLA, P.O. Box 113, South Deerfield MA 01373