

W A Voice
M for Libraries
L in Western
A Massachusetts




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our website
WMLAdvocates.org
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updates!

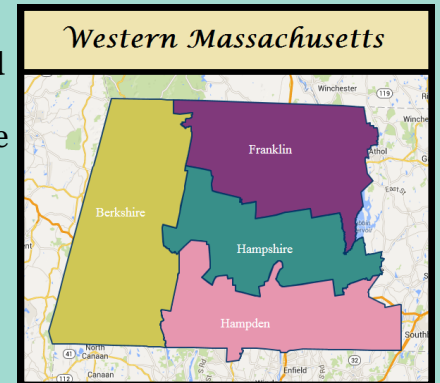


Dear Library Advocates,

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:

- 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,
Joe Rodio, 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 _____

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

Please contact me to help with Advocates activities.

Send to: WMLA c/o MLS-Whately Office, P.O. Box 609, South Deerfield MA 01373-0609.