



Morgan Lehr Miller
Maryland State Librarian

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Maryland State Library Agency Welcomes New State Librarian Morgan Lehr Miller

For Immediate Release
June, 26, 2024

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BALTIMORE – The Maryland State Library Agency (MSLA) is pleased to announce that former Cecil County Public Library Executive Director Morgan Lehr Miller today assumed the role of Maryland State Librarian. Miller follows in the footsteps of longtime Maryland State Librarian Irene M. Padilla, who retires this week after 22 years of State service.

“For decades now, Maryland libraries have led the way - not just in our communities, but throughout the entire nation,” Miller said. “The State Library Agency has empowered them to do so. I’m honored to take up the leadership mantle of this work as now, more than ever, libraries stand at the forefront of creating access to opportunity, ideas, innovation, and information for all Marylanders.”

Miller began her professional career in the publishing sector before joining the Cecil County Public Library as Adult Services Library Associate in 2005. She spent the following years working her way up through the library system, eventually becoming Executive Director in 2016. Miller’s vast experience gives her firsthand knowledge of the inner workings of public libraries, best practices and the challenges librarians face today.

Among her accomplishments, Miller led a \$22 million capital project to design and construct a new 43,000-square-foot library branch and administrative headquarters for the Cecil County Public Library in North East. She oversaw the development and implementation of the library system’s Strategic Plan, which focuses on advancing 21st-century library services, spaces, staff and support. She incorporated new technology and automation strategies including RFID, automated materials handlers, a redesigned website, enhanced self-check and user apps that allow the organization to devote staffing to high-value tasks and direct service to customers. And she chartered the Friends Foundation of CCPL, a 501(c)(3), to enhance library funding and advocacy support. That’s on top of concerted efforts to develop partnerships within the community, increase staff diversity and grow outreach efforts.

Miller has worked tirelessly on behalf of public libraries at the State level. She served as President of the Maryland Library Association in 2020-2021 and is well known in Annapolis thanks to her continued support of legislation that supports public libraries and librarians. Miller is a strong proponent of intellectual freedom and proud supporter of the Freedom to Read Act, an important

protection for libraries and librarians passed this spring by the Maryland General Assembly. Governor Wes Moore signed the bill into law on April 25, 2024.

“As we bid farewell to Irene and honor her legacy, we warmly welcome Morgan as the next steward of library access and service,” said Maryland State Library Board Chair Kristen Pironis.

About the Maryland State Library Agency

The Maryland State Library Agency (MSLA) is an independent agency providing strategic leadership and guidance to Maryland’s public libraries. MSLA promotes the planning and implementation of library programs, supports staff and career development through education and training, and facilitates resource sharing among libraries. MSLA oversees the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, Maryland’s Public Libraries, the State Library Network, the Public Library Capital Grants Program, and the Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library.

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