

2026 Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

East Greenbush Community Library Board of Trustees

TRUSTEE CANDIDATE: AMANDA MILLER

Why are you interested in serving on the Library Board of Trustees?

I have been a devoted user of libraries since I was 4 years old. I love the mission of the library and how much it is an important part of life in this (and every) town. I appreciate the hard work the staff put in on a day-to-day basis and would like to continue to support them in their work.

What are some specific talents and abilities you can offer the board?

I work as a paralegal for a municipal law firm, one that represents libraries as well as school districts and towns throughout New York state. I have learned a lot of library-specific laws, as well as have a general understanding of municipal law as it applies to libraries.

I also am really good at making connections with people and helping to develop resources. I am very familiar with the Open Meetings Law and believe in making sure that the public is well informed. I also make sure to keep abreast of what the library offers, so that if someone needs a resource they might not know exists at the library, I can introduce them to that.

What is your educational and/or employment background?

I have a bachelor's degree in history from St. Lawrence University, with a focus on New York state history. I have a certificate in paralegal studies from Hudson Valley, and I currently work for a local law firm that represents municipalities, libraries, and school districts throughout New York State.

Do you have any specialized training and/or experience on a non-profit or government board?

I have been a member of the E.G. Library board since 2021 and have done the specific trainings required annually for board members. I have attended webinars on open meeting

law and Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) in New York state. I have also served as a member of the Genet PTO and hope to continue doing so with the Goff PTO.

I have assisted attorneys in my work with property and construction law as it relates to libraries. I have also done a lot of different types of law relating to school districts, a lot of which is similar to the needs of a library.

Which part of the library's strategic plan (You Belong Here) resonates most with you, and why?

I think it's the motto specifically. It ensures inclusivity to everyone, regardless of their race, gender, gender identity, national origin, and even political views. The library is for everyone – even people who don't realize or use it.

Candidate Bio:

My name is Amanda Miller and I'm seeking a second term on the Board of Trustees. I am a paralegal at a local law firm that specializes in representing municipalities, including libraries, throughout New York State. I am also a parent of a sixth-grade student at Goff Middle School and was previously a member of the Genet Elementary PTO. I love the East Greenbush Community Library and anyone who spends more than five minutes with me will end up learning about some aspect of the library of which they might not have been previously aware. I am proud of the work that the East Greenbush Community Library has done in embracing its mission, and hope to be able to continue that in the future.

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East Greenbush Community Library Board of Trustees

TRUSTEE CANDIDATE: ALBERT YASUS, JR.

Why are you interested in serving on the Library Board of Trustees?

I am interested in finding ways for the library to raise more of its funds through private sources and grants rather than the current situation, as well as improving the quality of its information technology systems.

What are some specific talents and abilities you can offer the board?

I have a wealth of experience organizing different fundraisers as well as securing grant funding; with most of the awards that I've won coming through private foundations rather than government sources.

What is your educational and/or employment background?

I hold a degree in computer science from SUNY Albany. Before that I graduated from HVCC. I have worked mostly in roles installing and upgrading information technology. From 2021-2024 I served as the president of a small nonprofit organization in Albany. As well as this, I have served as the music director/organist at several nearby churches.

Do you have any specialized training and/or experience on a non-profit or government board?

In addition to the experience mentioned in the previous answer, I have worked to help various local nonprofit or tax-exempt organizations establish grant committees, and served on several of these. To date the total raised through my personal efforts and my co-authors exceeds \$22,000 and will likely be higher by the time of the trustee election.

Which part of the library's strategic plan (You Belong Here) resonates most with you, and why?

The facets of the library that I care about most are not thoroughly discussed in the plan.