



Pennsylvania
Library
Association

Certificate of Merit Kimberley Hrivnak

The Pennsylvania Library Association is pleased to honor Kimberley Hrivnak, Assistant Director of the Allegheny County Library Association, with a Certificate of Merit for 2019.

Co-chair of the Pennsylvania Library Association Legislative Committee since 2018, Kimberley played an important role in keeping library funding needs front and center in the eyes and ears of legislators during negotiations over the state budget and allocations to libraries this past year.

Under her leadership, the Legislative Committee hosted its first legislative breakfast held in the State Library for newly elected legislators. This helped the Association to demonstrate a strong presence in the Capitol and build relationships for future library champions. She helped guide the Legislative Committee and library community through engagement with members, messaging, and calls to actions at appropriate times. With her assistance, a virtual Legislative Town Hall was held in March to help members understand and prepare for action. The result of all this work was the first substantial increase in the public library subsidy by the Commonwealth in more than 10 years. The \$5 million increase equates to an impressive 9.18%, and she is already preparing the committee for work to garner additional increases to restore operational funds.

On the federal advocacy level, when ALA asked for help getting US Congressional Representatives to sign the crucial "Dear Appropriator Letter" safeguarding LSTA funding, Kimberley deployed a network of mentees and concerned citizens to overwhelm the Allegheny County legislator's office with calls and emails, and thereby secured the signature.

Kimberley serves as a mentor to countless librarians in the Allegheny County and western regions of the state and has inspired a number of young advocates, ensuring a continuous and unbroken line of strong voices to champion the fundamental role of libraries well into the future.

With sincere appreciation and deep gratitude, the Pennsylvania Library Association awards a 2019 Certificate of Merit to Kimberley Hrivnak.