

**Rochester Area Literacy Council
Nominees for Executive Board
2018-2019**



Co-Presidents: Jan Marchetti and Lynne Keefer (elected 2017-18)
Past President: Lee Ann Townsend

Running Unopposed 2018-19

President Elect: Stephanie Smyka
Vice President: Christine Treasure
Secretary: *No candidate at this time*
Treasurer: Jennifer Sweeney
Membership Co-Chairpersons: Kristen Driskill & Maryanne Barrett

Biographical Information of Nominees



President-Elect

Stephanie Smyka is the Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES in Spencerport, NY where she also serves as the Site Coordinator for Reading Recovery. Previous to this position Stephanie worked in the Rochester City School District and the Greece Central School District in a variety of roles including classroom teacher, mentor teacher, Assistant Principal, and Coordinator of ELA and RTI Initiatives K-8. These roles have enabled Stephanie to engage deeply in professional development related to effective instructional practices, especially in the area of literacy. Stephanie believes that lifelong learning is an essential component of effective educational practice, and models this belief through her own attendance at Rochester Area Literacy Council events, and her active membership in the International Literacy Association (ILA), The New York State Reading Association (NYSRA), the Rochester Area Literacy Council (RALC), ASCD, and the Reading Recovery Council of North America (RRCNA). Stephanie has presented at conferences at both the state and national level. It is this commitment that compels Stephanie to serve as a member of the Executive Board of RALC and support RALC in its mission to promote literacy education in the greater Rochester area through professional development and community service.



Vice-President

Christine Treasure is currently the Interim Assistant Director for Humanities in the Brighton Central School District. With over 20 years in education, Christine Treasure has served in a variety of roles - sixth grade teacher, Gifted Education Teacher, Curriculum Coach, K-5 Social Studies and English Language Arts Coordinator, and Assistant Principal. Christine has also been an active RALC member. She has sat on the RALC Executive Board since 2011 including serving as President in the 2013-14 school year. Christine is proud to be a part of RALC and actively participates in the planning and implementation of many professional development events and student-related activities. Currently Christine is a Regional Representative for RALC and she co-facilitates the

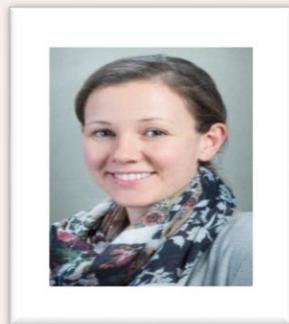
annual fall Student Writing Workshop. Christine looks forward to continuing to build relationships with area educators who share her belief in the importance of supporting lifelong learning habits through literacy development for students and professional opportunities for educators.



Treasurer

Jennifer Sweeney is currently working as a Reading Specialist at Mendon Center Elementary School in Pittsford. She received her B.A. in Elementary Education (K-6) from Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania in May 2011 and her Master's Degree in Reading & Literacies from the Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education at the University of Rochester in March 2013. Sweeney has been an active member of the Rochester Area Literacy Council (RALC) and New York State Reading Association (NYSRA) for a few years and enjoyed going to the NYSRA Conference in Rochester, NY last fall and the ILA Conference in July 2016.

Sweeney is currently the RALC treasurer for 2017-2018. When she began as treasurer several years ago, she established a computerized general ledger accounting system which replaced manual systems that were antiquated and cumbersome. In college, Sweeney was the Treasurer of the Kappa Delta Sorority for three terms. There, she also replaced manual systems with a computerized general ledger accounting system. In high school, she was the Treasurer of her cheerleading team for two years. Sweeney has computer proficiency in Quick Books, Excel and Word. She is detail oriented and maintains meticulous records. As a newly trained teacher, Sweeney brings with her the most recent pedagogy and innovative ideas. Her enthusiasm, both inside and outside of the classroom, and eagerness to continue to grow as a teacher and leader, continues to make her a perfect candidate for the position of Treasurer of RALC.



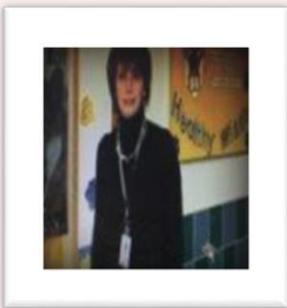
Membership Co-Chairperson

Maryanne Barrett is an educator with over a decade of experience with teaching reading and writing in and outside of the classroom. She has dedicated her career to supporting students of all ages become lifelong readers and writers. Her experiences include teaching 7th grade Language Arts, editing the school literary magazine, coaching students after school in all subject areas and the SAT, tutoring students in writing in a virtual setting and mentoring and supporting teachers in the classroom. She is currently part of the adjunct faculty at Monroe Community College and Roberts Wesleyan College. Maryanne also continues her commitment to promoting literacy in the community by being actively involved in the Rochester Area Literacy Council and is currently the Co-Membership Chair. Maryanne is a graduate of LeMoyne College with a Bachelor's Degree in English Education and received her Master's Degree from Syracuse University in Literacy being honored with Research Scholar distinction. She resides in Penfield, NY with her husband and two children.



Membership Co-Chairperson

Dr. Kristen Driskill is an Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Roberts Wesleyan College. She is also the Director of the Pathway to Teaching Program. Dr. Kristen Driskill has spent many years working in various school districts, both local and abroad, in the areas of literacy, special education, school improvement, and curriculum and instruction. Prior to moving to higher education, she spent time as a special educator of grades Pre-K through 6, reading specialist for grades K-8, literacy coach for grades K-12, and professional development specialist for both teachers and administrators in a range of school districts. In addition, Dr. Driskill led many area teachers, administrators, and districts to revise curricula when implementing the Common Core Standards, including helping to lead the effort to create a Regional ELA Curriculum. Since arriving at Roberts Wesleyan College, Dr. Driskill has taught across various teacher education programs, focusing on literacy, planning, adolescent literacy, and curriculum and instruction. Dr. Driskill has also worked with other faculty members to update various programs to best reflect current practices in the field. Since becoming the Director of the Pathway to Teaching Program in 2016, Dr. Driskill has engaged in continuous improvement to revise and grow the program. These revisions have increased passing rates on certification exams as well as more than doubled the size of the program, including a Greece Central School District-specific cohort of students. Dr. Driskill's experience in the field is diverse and current; therefore she works to ensure students in all teacher preparation programs are well prepared for the demands of the teaching profession today through both coursework and field experiences.



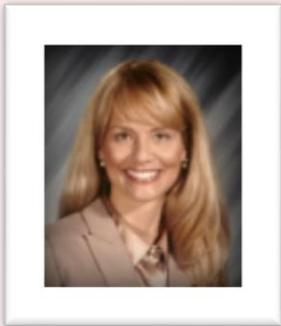
Co-President (elected 2017-18)

Jan Marchetti is a literacy specialist and teacher leader in the Greece Central School District in Rochester New York. She provides staff development in literacy practices at the district level, and collaborates with teachers in her building to plan and implement the writer's workshop model across the building. Her teaching experience also includes fifteen years as a classroom teacher at grades 3-6. In addition to her Master's Degree in Literacy from Nazareth College of Rochester, New York, she also holds a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from St. John Fisher College, also located in Rochester. Jan is an active member of the International Literacy Association (ILA), the New York State Reading Association (NYSRA), and is a board member of the Rochester Area Literacy Council (RALC). Her passion is teaching writing, and she has presented at literacy conferences at both the state and national levels.



Co-President (elected 2017-18)

Lynne Keefer was an educator for thirty-one years serving as a classroom teacher, a reading specialist, a mentor teacher, a teacher on special assignment coordinating elementary English Language Arts and a Literacy Coach in the Greece Central School District. In addition Lynne was an adjunct professor at the College at Brockport and St. John Fisher College. Lynne served as co-president of the Rochester Area Literacy Council in 2012-13 and 2015-16 and as secretary from 2005-2007 and from 2008-09. She has been a life-long member of the International Literacy Association and the New York State Reading Association. Literacy is her passion and so she is committed to the Rochester Area Literacy Council in its mission of supporting strong literacy instruction for all children in the Rochester area. It is her firm belief that this organization should continue to provide a network for educators to learn and grow as professionals, to offer professional development opportunities and to support literacy development at the community level through service and programming. Lynne is married with two adult children and six grandchildren who of course love to read!



Immediate Past President

Lee Ann Townsend is currently a K-5 Literacy Specialist and ELA RtI Coordinator with the Penfield Central School District. Additionally, she teaches as an Adjunct Professor, Department of Education and Human Development at SUNY Brockport. Spanning 30+ years of service, Lee Ann's career path includes serving as an elementary principal, classroom teacher, district ELA Coordinator, staff development trainer, lead teacher, enrichment specialist, and differentiation coach. She worked in Spencerport and Holley, NY; Greensboro, NC; and Plano, TX. As the Past President of RALC, Lee Ann will continue her active role on the Executive Board and her work as the Publicity Chairperson and Webmaster. Lee Ann enjoys participating in RALC events and being a part of an organization that brings inspiring educational professional development opportunities to area educators and fosters literacy education in our community. Lee Ann holds a Master of Science in Literacy Education and a Master of Science in Elementary Education from Nazareth College, a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from SUNY Brockport, and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Texas. In addition to RALC, Lee Ann is an active member of the International Literacy Association (ILA) and the New York State Reading Association (NYSRA). She is the recipient of NYSRA's Council Service Award, 2016 and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching for New York State, 2004. In her spare time, she loves to race her sailboats, landscape/garden, and of course, READ!

NB: At this time, there is no candidate for Secretary. Members of the Executive Board will take minutes at all executive board meetings until that time at which a secretary is appointed.