TLA

EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATE INFO

NAME: Laura Tadena
POSITION: Representative-at-Large
(Academic Libraries)



Work Experience

Head Librarian & Associate Professor, Austin Community College, 2025 to present
Community Engagement Librarian, Austin Public Library, 2022-2025
Library Management & Equity Consultant, Texas State Library & Archives Commission, 2020-2022
Consuelo Artaza & Castañeda Resident Librarian, University of Texas Libraries, 2018-2020
School Librarian & Campus Textbook Coordinator, Dailey Middle School, Del Valle ISD, 2016-2018
Secondary Mathematics Teacher & Mathematics Dept. Chair, Del Valle Middle School, Del Valle ISD, 2010-2016

Current TLA Commitments and Positions

Library Instruction Round Table, Alternate Councilor, 2026-2027
Conference Planning Committee, Member, 2025–2026

Previous Board or Volunteer Leadership Experience

Public Library Association, 2026 Conference Planning Committee, Member, 2025–2026
REFORMA, Conference Planning Committee – Local Logistics, Member, 2025–2026
Government Information for Children, ALA Government Documents RT, Member, 2024-2026
PLA, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Committee, Member, 2025–2027 and 2021–2023
TLA, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, Co-Chair, 2023–2024; Member, 2022–2025
PLA, Annual Conference 2024 Program Subcommittee, Member, 2023–2024
TLA, Scholarships and Grants Committee, Chair, 2021–2022; Member, 2020–2023
TLA, District 3, Secretary, 2020–2022
REFORMA Education Committee, Member, 2020–2022
Young Adult Library Services Association, Taskforce on Promoting Success for Underrepresented Groups, Member, 2019–2021
ACRL Resident Interest Group Support Sub-Group, Chair, 2019–2021; Member, 2019–2022
ACRL Membership Committee, Member, 2019–2021

Statement of Concern

Libraries across Texas are navigating an increasingly complex political, economic, and technological landscape. From challenges to intellectual and academic freedom to funding pressures, workforce sustainability, and the rapid growth of AI, our profession faces issues that require thoughtful, collective action. I believe we should prioritize the people who make our libraries possible by supporting library workers, making sure members feel supported, and have opportunities for growth and connection. Through mentorship, shared resources, and collaboration across library types, we can help one another navigate policy changes and emerging challenges, and together can build a stronger, more connected library community where library workers feel valued, supported, and empowered to shape the future of our profession. :)