



YART Candidate Information

Name: Lauren Scott

Candidate Position: Secretary, YART

- Degree, Master of Library Science
 - Institution, Texas Woman's University
 - Start Year: 2015 - End Year: 2017
- Degree, Bachelor of Science Interdisciplinary Studies
 - Institution, Midwestern State University
 - Start Year: 2004 - End Year: 2008

Work Experience

- Title, Library Media Specialist
 - Institution, McKinney ISD
 - Start Date: 07/31/2017 – Present
- Title, Classroom Teacher
 - Institution, McKinney ISD
 - Start Date: 08/01/2007 – 07/28/2017

TLA Activities

- TASL, Editorial Board
 - Dates: 2023 - 2025
- YART, Spirit of Texas Reading List Committee Past Chair
 - Dates: 2024 - 2025
- YART, Spirit of Texas Reading List Committee Chair
 - Dates: 2022 – 2024
- Spirit of Texas Reading List Committee Member
 - Dates: 2020 - 2022

Publications and Presentations

- "TxASL Talks" Blog

Honors (Awards, Prizes, Medals, etc.)

- Tall Texans, Class of 2024
- Texas Association of School Librarians, All-Star Librarian (2024 – 2025)
- Texas Association of School Librarians, All-Star Librarian (2023 – 2024)
- Texas Association of School Librarians, All-Star Librarian (2022 – 2023)

Statement of Concern:

The library community is currently grappling with several critical issues, including budget cuts, censorship, and the growing digital divide. Budget reductions hinder libraries' ability to provide essential services and resources, especially in underserved areas. Censorship, particularly of diverse or controversial materials, threatens intellectual freedom and the role of libraries as safe spaces for open inquiry. Additionally, the digital divide limits access to technology and online resources, further marginalizing vulnerable populations. To address these challenges, libraries must advocate for stable funding, prioritize equitable access to resources, and defend against censorship. Collaboration with community organizations, policymakers, and educators can help libraries navigate these obstacles and continue to serve as vital hubs of information, learning, and inclusion.