



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Announces 2026 Board of Trustees

**BUFFALO, N.Y. – [March 31, 2026]** – The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library is excited to announce its 2026 officers of the Board of Trustees. At the January 15 meeting of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees, the following officers were re-elected for their second, one-year terms:

- **Carima El-Beairy** was elected board chair. Ms. El-Beairy is currently Chief Development Officer of Buffalo Urban League. Ms. El-Beairy is also the former executive director of Buffalo Heritage Carousel, Inc., and was appointed to the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board in 2019, serving as vice chair in 2022, 2023 and 2024. Ms. El-Beairy also served as Vice Chair of the Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County from 2020 to 2024;
- **Christopher Sasiadek, Esq.** was elected vice chair. Sasiadek serves as Assistant County Attorney, representing Erie County;
- **Prof. Christine P. Bartholomew, Esq.** was elected secretary. Bartholomew is vice dean for academic affairs, law professor, University at Buffalo; and
- **John D. Craik, Esq.** was elected treasurer. Craik serves as program and grants officer, Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

Executive committee members:

- **Carima El-Beairy**, Chair;
- **Christopher Sasiadek, Esq.**, Vice Chair;
- **Kimberly L. Johnson**, senior billing account clerk, Erie County Probation Department;
- **Sharon M. Kelly, Esq.**, retired attorney, Hodgson Russ LLP; and
- **Elaine M. Panty**, retired City of Buffalo Water Authority employee and the namesake of the Elaine M. Panty Branch Library located in Buffalo's Riverside neighborhood; and

Other Trustees include:

Michael Amodeo, Esq.; Nathaniel W. Barnes; Alan J. Bedenko, Esq.; Adam Bojak, Esq.; Kathleen Berens Bucki, MLS; Theodore K. Johnson; and Joel C. Moore, Esq.

Trustee emeriti include:

W. Lawrence Buck; Jack Connors; Hon. Salvatore R. Martoche; and Rebecca L. Pordum.

*Photos available upon request.*

### **About Buffalo & Erie County Public Library**

Established in 1836, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library is Buffalo's oldest cultural institution. Profoundly Public in all we do, the Library serves more than 2.35 million visitors annually through 37 branches and mobile services. The Library also houses over 3.2 million resources, extensive digital collections, and innovative programming. With a collection of international and national note, the Library continues to significantly impact community education, equity, and cultural enrichment. In 2025, every dollar invested returned \$4.24 in community benefits, totaling over \$131 million in annual value. To explore resources and services, visit [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org).

### **Media Contact**

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