



The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking
Connecticut - Massachusetts - New Jersey - New York- Pennsylvania - Rhode Island

Third RNE Chapter Meeting 2021-2022
Friday, March 18, 2022
1-4:00 PM, Virtually via Zoom

Meeting Information/Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91012020000?pwd=Z0Z83TEHn4QYaY>

2021-2022 RNE Executive Board

Elisa Garcia- President
Linda Caycedo- Vice President
Asuncion Cora- Past President
Jessica Agudelo- Secretary
Manny Figueroa-Treasurer

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Executive Board
- RNE Membership

Attendees:

Haydee Hodis
Lorraine Ruiz
Loida Garcia-Febo
Angelina Anzalone
Elizabeth Garcia
Evelyn Muriel-Cooper
Louis Muñoz
Libbhy Romero
Adriana Blancarte-Hayward
Josselyn Atahualpa
Maria Cotto
Margo Franklin
Susan Paredes
Tara Phethean
Roxana Benavides
Mary Marques
Madellen Garcia
Lisa Melendez
Jetzarel Gonzalez



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2. Approval of Minutes: [RNE 2nd General Membership meeting 12/10/21 minutes](#)
Motion to approve minutes made by Louis Muñoz with corrections. Manny seconds motion. Motion passed.
3. [Treasurer's report:12/10/21-3/18/22](#)
Beginning balance (14,757.90) Chapter is doing well due to fewer expenses because of the pandemic. Money generated and publisher donations went to the scholarship fund. Expenses totaled (127.43). Ending balance is (14,820.47).
4. RNE Committees 2021-2022 [Committee information](#)
Committee chairs-update:
 - a. **Bylaws Committee:** Louis-no updates.
 - b. **Communications/Social Media Committee:** Linda/Asuncion- Margo joined the communications committee. Still looking for volunteers to help with updates, especially those interested in updating Instagram. Contact Linda and Asuncion at reformane@gmail.com. Manny suggests reviewing products for the website to advise whether to continue using Weebly or switch platforms.
 - c. **Election Committee:** Asuncion-will be reaching out to membership with a call for nominations. If you are interested, nominate yourself or someone else. Should be an active member by April 1st. Email will be sent out next week.
 - d. **Finance Committee:** Asuncion-nothing to report. Members are encouraged to join the committee. Manny: The finance committee is charged with oversight. Includes immediate past president and treasurer and ensures that finances are healthy. Interested members can train with Manny and develop skills as treasurer.
 - e. **Fundraising Committee:** Asuncion-nothing to report. Hoping for in-person activities to come.
 - f. Inter-Ethnic Affiliates Liaison Committee: no updates.
 - g. **Ismael Alicea Professional Development Committee:** Linda-award provides (\$600) to attend ALA Conference, and is awarded to an active member. [Deadline for the applications is March 25th](#).
 - h. **Judith Rivas Mini-Grant:** Lisa Melendez shared experience using grant funds which [supported a student exhibit](#) in Medellin, Colombia. Money was used towards printing the images, and included a virtual exhibit and gallery set up. Children and teens were brought in to hang up the art work and curate. Will travel to other libraries in the city, with a Zoom session held for the opening.
 - i. **Leadership Institute Committee:** Mary-applied for the first year \$500 grant from REFORMA National to develop an ebook that collects program descriptions of what librarians developed during covid era and how they were able to connect with their communities. Developing questionnaire to gather programming information. Will send out form out by the end of March and collect info during the month of April. Manny-if anyone has published an ebook, please reach out to Manny or Mary (marquesm@freelibrary.org) to share how the process works.



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- j. **Lillian Marrero Scholarship Committee:** Louis-scholarship was created 12 years ago. For masters level and doctorate students to encourage work with the Spanish speaking communities. \$1K award split into 2 disbursements, must be an active student member of the chapter. Pass along scholarship info. Manny, Tess, Janice, and Elizabeth are part of the committee. [Scholarship Application and Information](#).

Mary-suggests an open house event to invite students to attend and meet committee members and past award winners.

Angelina-hoping to set a date for a full ethnic caucus with REFORMA, BCALA, and AILA, to present to Queens College and Pratt students.

Maria-suggests advertising to undergrad programs to bring awareness early to the profession, and focus on recruiting students of color who may not be familiar with librarianship.

Roxana-Brooklyn Public Library has an internship for Young Adults- [Librarian of Tomorrow](#). Can also apply for a grant to offer a stipend for the students to participate.

- k. **Membership Committee:** Elisa-We have about 10 new members, and 4 who have renewed. Hoping to see the membership grow.
- l. Spanish Book Buzz Committee: no updates
- m. **Teresa Mlawer Lifetime Achievement Award Committee:** Libbhy-Teresa was a great supporter of the chapter and Reforma. Award was renamed in her honor a few years ago. Please nominate a colleague in good standing, candidate's career will span over a continuous streak of 20 years. Will send out information next week and the website will be updated. Contact: libbhyromero@bookops.org
- n. Pura Belpre Award: Susan-looking for nominations for the [Pura Belpré award](#). Closing date: Friday, May 13th, 2022. Nominations can be sent electronically to: reformane@gmail.com, Attention: Susan Paredes, Committee Chair

[Sign up for committees](#)

5. **Donations:**

[Paypal](#)
<https://www.reformanortheast.org/>

6. **New Business**

Manny-conference committee invited the Northeast chapter to submit a proposal to host the next national conference. RNC will take place next year. A lot of work is involved in



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creating a proposal. Providence, RI was proposed as the location the last round, and ideally someone from the proposed location will help work on the proposal. Manny (mannyfigueroaqs@gmail.com) will reach out to Tess to discuss and hold an interest meeting for those who would like to work on the bid. Deadline tbd.

REFORMA National election nominations are open, including chapter representative for the east region. Reach out to Manny if interested.

Louis-would love for NE to put in a bid. Suggests adding an ad hoc committee to work on proposal.

ALA Council news-reorganization of ALA governance, and considering how to restructure how decisions are made. A constitutional convention will be held and there will be a voting stage for membership. Big concern: how to make ALA a more inclusive organization, and how do we involve more diverse voices?

7. Novedades

Adriana-Children in Crisis books were sent to the organization Catholic Guardian Services, which cares for over 1K children from infancy to age 21.

Vote for Adriana for [ALA Council!](#)

Loida-celebrating women in librarianship during the month of march. [Videos of librarians.](#) Others will be added throughout the month

REFORMA National has partnered with the REFORMA, ACURIL, and SLA to present a [Libraries Serving Communities: Post Covid-19 Recovery webinar](#). Elisa will be speaking as part of the panel!

Maria Cotto-[Rhode Island Latino Books Month](#) award. Ninth year of celebration featuring Latinx authors and illustrators. Book talks scheduled for April and May with nominated authors and promoted with the local schools.

Offering bilingual story time at two public libraries in RI for the first time, partnered with volunteers from the community. Working with a 9th grade student from Guatemala who is an aspiring librarian.

Working on developing sensory friendly programming with a sensory support group to collaborate on providing support to better serve differently abled communities. April is Autism Awareness month.



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Libby will be [presenting at PLA](#). Will share information.

The Joint Mini-Conference committee will meet next week and will share additional details. Plan is to hold the meeting in person.

Evelyn/Linda-shared exhibit at BLC. Current exhibit is dedicated to Linda's mom and the Hijas de borinquen. Extended through April 29. Poetry open mic on April 15th. Contact evelynmurielcooper@nypl.org for information.

Roxana- opportunity for staff to bring out any ideas, this year the last round was posed to outside orgs, and were selected for program called cultural codex for kids, 4th-6th gr. Designed to promote equity and inclusivity in STEM. Sunset Park, 3 main groups, Latinx pop, Chinese, Arabic speaking, will focus the program, starts in July.

Save the Date:

- **April 14, 2022, Pura Belpre Street Naming Ceremony will be taking place at 3pm.**
- **4th General membership meeting May 13, 2022 (possibly in-person stay tuned for more details) from 11-4pm**
- **Joint mini-conference June 17, 2022- more details to follow will be held at the [Langston Hughes Community Library](#).**