

REFORMA Northeast Chapter 2022-2023 Elections

Position: Secretary

Angelina Anzalone



Angelina is a current student at CUNY Queens College who graduated this May with her MLS and Certificate in Children's and Young Adult Services in the Public Library. She's currently a Children's Librarian Trainee at NYPL Aguilar where she will continue to work as a Senior Children's Librarian specializing in early literacy after graduation. Aguilar library is especially meaningful to her because it's where her grandmother spent much of her time as a child after moving here from Puerto Rico. Angelina has a passion for making sure early literacy education is available to all, especially families in underserved communities, and strives to make this her goal in all of her work. She enjoys making school visits to preschool classes, holding story times, and highlighting diverse books in the library's collection so every child who walks into the library can see themselves reflected in the books on the shelves. When not in the library, you can usually find Angelina hiking in the Hudson Valley.

Statement of Purpose: As my time in Queens College wraps up, I am stepping down as Vice President of QCLISSA, a role I've held for two years and have vastly enjoyed. As Vice President I helped QCLISSA grow from a 6 member group to a group with over 100 members, co-organized a partnership with SUNYLA and a future mentorship program for current students with them, and held a successful internship and volunteering information event with speakers from 7 libraries, including BPL, NYPL, QPL, CUNY, and over 70 student participants. I've also made really wonderful connections and I will miss my work and fellow student leaders immensely. But as I graduate and leave QCLISSA, I'm excited about new opportunities and challenges, so when I was nominated for Secretary of REFORMA, I accepted happily. I'd previously been secretary of my sorority at college when I did my undergrad, so I know the role and feel that I could excel in it. I've been attending REFORMA NE meetings since last summer and I've really enjoyed being part of such a wonderful community, and if I can help this community more, then that's what I want to do. When my grandmother moved to NYC from Puerto Rico with her family as a child she didn't know any English and she and her brothers would spend many hours in NYPL Aguilar, the very branch that I'm a children's librarian in now. Libraries are important for all, but especially minority communities whose children need the programs and support we can offer. It is my goal to make everyone feel welcome in the library, especially people like my grandmother and great uncles, so being part of REFORMA is quite special. I know that as secretary I would be part of efforts to support the Latino and Spanish speaking community, and that is something I am passionate about. I recently helped to plan out a celebration for the Pura Belpré Street Renaming Ceremony we had here at NYPL Aguilar and it was a joy reaching out to Latino organizations and working with them to bring more attention to the library and the services and books we have for Latino and Spanish speaking children. As Secretary, I would look forward to making more connections with Latino organizations and helping REFORMA NE grow. Thank you for considering me as Secretary of REFORMA NE