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Audra Caplan, Library Director Elected Public Library Association (PLA) Vice-President/President-Elect

Audra Caplan, Director, Harford County Public Library, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of the Public Library Association (PLA). Caplan will become PLA president-elect in July 2009 and will assume the PLA presidency in July 2010 for a one-year term.

"I am extremely honored to represent this extraordinary organization in this position. I am looking forward to working with the membership and developing partnerships with colleagues across the association as we face the challenges ahead." said Audra Caplan.

Caplan has been a member of PLA and the American Library Association (ALA) for more than 24 years, serving on numerous PLA, Young Adult Library Service Association (YALSA) and ALA committees, including the PLA Board of Directors, the YALSA Board of Directors and as an ALA Councilor. In addition, Caplan served as president of YALSA from 2003-2004.

Prior to her current position as director, Caplan was the associate director of Harford County Public Library. She is an active leader in the community and serves on several boards, including the Healthy Harford Nutrition and Physical Activity Advisory Board, United Way Advisory Board, and Economic Development Advisory Board of Harford County. In 2008 she was awarded the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. She has also been a mentor for

the Maryland Library Leadership Institute, an initiative of the Maryland Library Association.

PLA is a division of the American Library Association and boasts a membership of 11,350. PLA's core purpose is to strengthen public libraries and their contribution to the communities they serve. Its mission is to enhance the development and effectiveness of public library staff and public library services.

Harford County Public Library operates eleven branches located throughout Harford County, Maryland. The library serves over 180,000 registered borrowers of all ages and has an annual circulation of over 4,000,000. The mission of Harford County Public Library is to provide access, service and information to the citizens of Harford County anytime, anywhere and to create an environment that encourages the acquisition of knowledge and the love of reading.

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Photo caption #1: Audra Caplan, Director, Harford County Public Library, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of the Public Library Association (PLA).