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LIBRARY SYSTEM DIRECTOR RESIGNS FROM POST

The Board of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System released the following announcement earlier today:

Bridget Quinn-Carey, director of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System, has announced that she will be leaving her post at the expiration of her 3-year contract with the Library System, effective March 4, 2011. Ms. Quinn-Carey is credited with managing our region's 37-branch library system during a time of unprecedented increases in all areas of library usage and, most recently during the challenges associated with reductions in funding.

"Bridget has been an amazingly strong leader," said Sharon A. Thomas, chair of the Library System Board of Trustees. "Bridget's dedication, energy and expertise have all gone toward making this a better and stronger Library System for everyone."

"It has been an honor to lead this institution and to work with the staff, board and community," said Ms. Quinn-Carey in a resignation letter sent to the board earlier today. "I am confident that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System will emerge from its current challenges, as it has many times over its 175-year history, to not only meet the needs but exceed the expectations of this wonderful community."

Ms. Quinn-Carey came to Buffalo in 2008 from the Essex Library in Connecticut and is a member of the American Library Association (ALA) and the New York Library Association (NYLA). She serves on NYLA's Legislative Committee. In October 2008, she was appointed to the State Board of Regents Advisory Council on Libraries and now serves as Chairwoman. She also is a board member at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County and WNY Public Broadcasting's ThinkBright and Well Advisory Board. She and her husband, James W. Carey, and their two daughters live in East Aurora, NY.

Ms. Quinn-Carey will make an announcement next week regarding her new appointment.

Details regarding the search for a replacement will be released after the next board meeting scheduled for January 20.

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