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## MEDIA RELEASE LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD 2012 OFFICERS ELECTED

*The Board of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System released the following report after their monthly board meeting held recently at the downtown Central Library in Lafayette Square.*

### **Officer Elections:**

**Jack Connors** was elected chair for a one year term. He most recently served as vice chair. Mr. Connors is Publisher and President of Buffalo Business First and the Buffalo Law Journal.

**Sharon A. Thomas** was elected vice chair for a one year term. Ms. Thomas is chief clerk for Buffalo City Court for the New York State Office of Court Administration. She most recently served two terms as board chair.

**Frank Gist** was elected treasurer for a one year term. Mr. Gist, a retired Buffalo Firefighter, is a columnist for the *Buffalo Criterion* newspaper and the owner of Greater Buffalo Bail Bonds Agency.

**Elaine M. Panty** was elected secretary for a one year term. Ms. Panty is a retired Water Department worker with the City of Buffalo.

Elected members of the executive committee are:

**Anne M. Leary**, a development consultant; **John G. Schmidt, Jr.**, partner at Phillips Lytle LLP; and Elaine Panty. Other continuing trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Board are: **Amy Alvarez-Perez, M.D.**; **Phyllis A. Horton**; **Theodore K. Johnson**; **Sharon M. Kelly**; **Wayne D. Wisbaum**; and **Jennifer Zivis**.

### **In other board business:**

Library Trustees approved a resolution to enter into a contract with the local not-for-profit arts educational organization Young Audiences of Western New York, (YAWNY). Details are still being finalized. Verbal agreement has been reached that include plans for YAWNY to conduct youth and teen oriented workshops and presentations throughout the Library System. YAWNY will occupy 1,350 square feet of office space at the Central Library.

### **New York State Library Legislative Education Day**

Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski announced plans for "Legislative Education Day" in Albany. On Tuesday, March 6, representatives from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System will join their counterparts from across the state in Albany to meet with elected officials, thank them for their past support and encourage support of State funding for library operations.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Trustees were updated on the System's 5- year Plan of Service which will reflect key initiatives including, but not limited to collections, external partnerships, finance, fundraising, governance, marketing, public relations, and organizational structure. The current plan was extended through 2012 by the New York State Division of Library Development.

Ms. Jakubowski also reported that the 2011 Year-End Appeal has raised \$54,400 dollars to date from more than 1,150 donors.

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