

Kate Eidem Receives MLA Above & Beyond Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kate Eidem Recognized for Leadership, Inclusion, and Advocacy in Minnesota Libraries

The Minnesota Library Association is pleased to recognize **Kate Eidem of Dakota County Library** with a **2026 Above & Beyond Award**.

Since joining Dakota County Library less than a year ago, Eidem has made significant contributions through cataloging excellence, acquisitions management, special projects, and leadership in inclusion, diversity, equity, and access initiatives.

Beyond her local contributions, Eidem has become a highly respected leader within Minnesota's library community. She currently serves as Chair of the MLA Technical Services Section and helped launch the North Star Cataloging Network, creating new opportunities for collaboration among catalogers statewide.

She has also played key roles in library advocacy efforts, Legislative Day mentorship programs, Minnesota Libraries Read Together, and professional development initiatives.

Eidem is especially recognized for her work promoting neurodiversity awareness in libraries. Her presentations and training sessions have helped library staff better understand and support neurodivergent colleagues and patrons.

Through her commitment to service, advocacy, and professional growth, Eidem truly exemplifies the spirit of going above and beyond.

About the Minnesota Library Association

The Minnesota Library Association advances excellence in library services, supports library workers across the state, and promotes equitable access to information for all Minnesotans.

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