



### **Want to Help California Libraries and Librarians Serve Our Communities Even Better?**

Then this program is for you. Returning for its second year, “The Leadership Challenge,” a partnership between the California State Library and the California Library Association, brings together librarians from all over the State to develop solutions to the issues important to their communities and help empower the residents of the most diverse state in the country.

**The opportunity:** Members of the California library community, like you, will work in teams to explore shared challenges, issues, and topics of interest. You and your team will take up a challenge that faces California’s libraries or California’s communities and create a game plan to improve the status quo.

Seven months after the groups form and the challenges to address are selected, work groups will report back and provide recommendations for action. (For examples of projects undertaken in Year One of the Leadership Challenge, go to: <https://claleadership.org/the-challenge/>)

The initial workshop will be led by Ray Patchett, the former city manager of the City of Carlsbad. These will take place November 13-15 in Ontario, California. All participants will need to stay over the evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. (The program will conclude no later than 4pm on the 15<sup>th</sup>.) The group will reconvene on March 19-20, 2020 in Santa Clara. A final one-day session will be scheduled in June 2020 (specific date TBD) to present ideas in Sacramento at the California State Library.

Between the initial session and follow-up meeting, we will provide opportunities for virtual and face-to-face follow-up meetings to give participants a full opportunity to engage with their work group, maintain work group momentum, solidify networks, and support newly developed skills.

**Minimum qualifications:** Applicants must be residents of California, be employed in a California library, and possess a strong willingness to work collaboratively with other library professionals. We welcome applications from people at different stages of their careers. Your supervisor or the head of your library must sign to indicate your ability to attend. Commitment to attend the initial meeting and follow up as well as participation in any group-related meetings is required.

To apply for this opportunity, submit the following information by email to Christine Bolivar, Project Coordinator, at [cbolivar@cla-net.org](mailto:cbolivar@cla-net.org).

**Applications are due Monday, October 7th, at 5 p.m. Acceptance notices will follow shortly thereafter.**

*The 2020 “Leadership Challenge” is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.*

Application for 2019/20 CLA "Leadership Challenge" Program

Name:

Email address:

Phone:

Employer name:

Employer location:

City and state of residence:

Answer the following questions, no more than 400 words each.

- 1) Why do you want to participate in the "Leadership Challenge?"
  
- 2) What is it that makes you a strong contributing member to this project?
  
- 3) What do you feel are two or three issues in California that libraries are uniquely positioned to address?
  
- 4) What do you feel are two or three pressing issues facing California's library professionals?

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Signature of applicant

Date

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Printed name

Your employer must indicate their permission for you to attend all program sessions.

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Signature of supervisor or head of library

Date

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Printed name

Title