

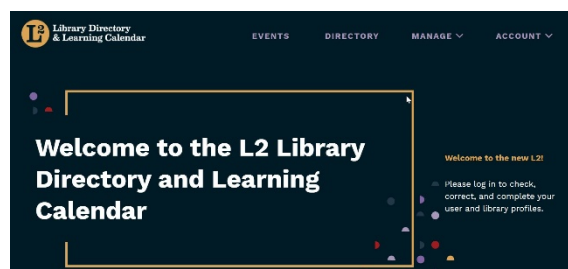
Message to New Public Library Directors

The Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) is a regional library system that provides services to libraries in the northern and west-central areas of the state of Illinois. We serve approximately 1300 private, public, school, and university library members, which have a total of more than 4200 library facilities in a 27,000 square mile area.

As a new public library director, there are many ways to take full advantage of everything the system has to offer.

Create/sign in to your Library Learning (L2) account

[Library Learning \(L2\)](#) serves as both the RAILS membership directory and a statewide continuing education/events calendar. Having an account allows you to register for events and to find detailed information about other Illinois libraries. It also helps other libraries find you for networking and collaboration purposes.



If you already have an L2 account:

- RAILS will set you as the primary administrator for your institution
- This will allow you to add staff members and control affiliations

If you do not have an L2 account:

- We will create an account and set you as the primary administrator for your institution
- You will receive a separate message from our L2 team that will include instructions on how to reset your password; please do this as soon as possible

Please note that your L2 username and password are used to login to the RAILS website. This is how you will access many RAILS benefits such as archived webinars, email lists, grants, deals & discounts, and more.

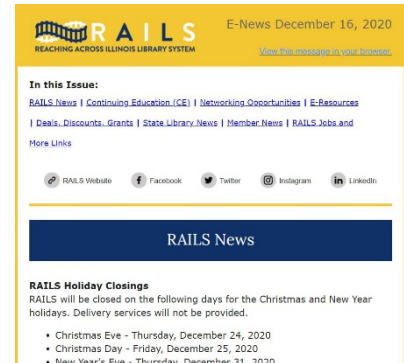
Subscribe to the Directors-Only RAILS Email List

Anyone identified as a library director in L2 can subscribe to the [Directors Only Email List](#). You can ask for advice from other library directors via this forum and share best practices and other information unique to your position.

Subscribe to the Weekly *RAILS E-News* and the Illinois State Library E-News

The [RAILS E-News](#) includes important information about the system, including current news, upcoming continuing education events, discounts available to RAILS members, news about other RAILS members, and much more. Please encourage your entire staff to subscribe as well.

We highly recommend that you also subscribe to the [Illinois State Library's E-News](#) to stay informed about grant offerings and other important statewide news.



Schedule your RAILS New Director Welcome meeting

To welcome you, you're invited to participate in a [New Director Welcome meeting](#). This is a 60-minute discussion about RAILS programs and services and how you can make the most of your RAILS membership. Typically, these calls take place two-to-four weeks following your start date. If you need to schedule a time outside of one of the dates provided, please contact Dan Bostrom, RAILS Member Engagement Manager, dan.bostrom@railslibraries.info or 630.734.5151.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the RAILS Communications team at, communications@railslibraries.info. Thank you for your service to the community and to the larger network of libraries in Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deirdre Brennan".

Deirdre Brennan
Executive Director
Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)
dee.brennan@railslibraries.info
630.734.5050

