

April 2022

Dear PLG members and subscribers of *Progressive Librarian*,

We hope this letter finds everyone healthy and engaged.

Following the summer 2021 publication of *Progressive Librarian* #48, a special issue on Palestinian libraries and archives, the journal is now indefinitely on hiatus pending the formation of a new editorial team. Due to the suspension of *PL*'s publication, PLG has decided to reduce membership dues from \$25.00/year to \$5.00.

For the past 30 years the publication of the journal has been one of the primary activities of the Progressive Librarians Guild. Your membership dues and subscription fees have paid for the printing and mailing of the journal, along with the prize money awarded annually to winners of the Miriam Braverman essay contest, and incidental organizational costs related to the website and membership database.

The critical eye PLG has kept on librarianship, our analyses of the many ways in which mainstream librarianship helps reproduce systems of oppression, and the contributions PLG members and fellow travelers have made in bringing social justice, anti-capitalist perspectives into the profession have been impactful and continue to resonate among practitioners in libraries and archives everywhere.

However, suspension of the journal, sporadic organizational activity in recent years, and high turnover on the Coordinating Committee (CC) necessitate new energy and leadership to sustain PLG.

To that end CC members, after considerable reflection and deliberation, have decided to take the following steps in order to hold together the threads of PLG's organizational life until it can be passed on to the next leadership group:

- reduce membership dues (given the suspension of costs related to the journal);
- maintain the website (to ensure continued access to the archive of *PL*);
- maintain PLG's bank account;
- continue subscription services with Sonic and MemberPlanet (hosts of website and member database);
- maintain PLG's listserv, email address and Facebook group;
- maintain the Union Library Worker blog;
- maintain the Braverman award for two years (2022 and 2023) at which time new leadership will take over decisions regarding the contest;
- revise guidelines for PLG chapters; and
- update PLG website to reflect all these changes.

While each one of us is firmly committed to the spirit PLG brings to our profession and activism, we personally can no longer keep the organization going. Over the past half-dozen years, we've sought to bring the next generation aboard, but have come to the conclusion that, while strong interest in PLG's *raison d'être* exists, the level of organizational commitment needed is missing.

You are encouraged to retain membership in PLG during this transition period, and current CC members stand ready to assist a new leadership group at whatever point such a group self-organizes and seeks our help. Contact: PLG@progressivelibrariansguild.org

In solidarity,

Elaine Harger, Nathaniel Moore, gary colmenar, Mark Hudson