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Little Free Library Announces New Chair of National Board of Directors

Nonprofit organization selects Anita Merina, formerly of National Education Association

Hudson, Wis. (January 7, 2020) – The Little Free Library nonprofit organization (LFL) is pleased to announce the election of Anita Merina as chair of its national board of directors. Merina, who has served on the board since 2015, succeeds retiring chair Monnie McMahon.

"It is a privilege to welcome Anita as our new Little Free Library board chair," said LFL executive director Greig Metzger. "Anita brings tremendous leadership experience to our organization as we continue to evolve our focus on book access and community engagement to support it. We are fortunate to have such a resource as part of our team."

Merina has more than 25 years of experience as a literacy advocate and journalist. She is the former director of the National Education Association's Read Across America program and helped create the organization's Books Across America school library grants program; the Youth Leaders for Literacy program; and Get a Kick Out of Reading program, a partnership with Major League Soccer.

An experienced fundraiser and community-outreach organizer, Merina is a former board member of The Reading Connection, helping at-risk children and families in Washington, D.C. She is also a contributing writer to *Books Kids Will Talk About* and co-editor of *Philippine American Short Stories*.

Merina's appointment comes as LFL concludes its 2019 celebration of 10 years of Little Free Libraries and looks forward to expanding its Impact Library Program (LittleFreeLibrary.org/Impact), which grants no-cost Little Free Library book exchanges to high-needs communities.

"As an avid reader and literacy advocate, I know what it means to share a love of books and reading with others," Merina said. "As we embark on the next decade for Little Free Library, I am excited and honored to be leading our expanding mission to provide greater book access for communities who need them and provide even better resources for our wonderful network of Little Free Library stewards."

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About Little Free Library®: *Little Free Library (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. LFL has received recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, the Women's National Book Association, and others for its dedication to expanding book access. There are more than 90,000 registered Little Free Library book-sharing boxes around the world, in all 50 states and in 108 countries. Since the first Little Free Library was created in 2009, more than 165 million books have been shared. To learn more, support our programs, or become a volunteer steward visit LittleFreeLibrary.org. Find LFL on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).*