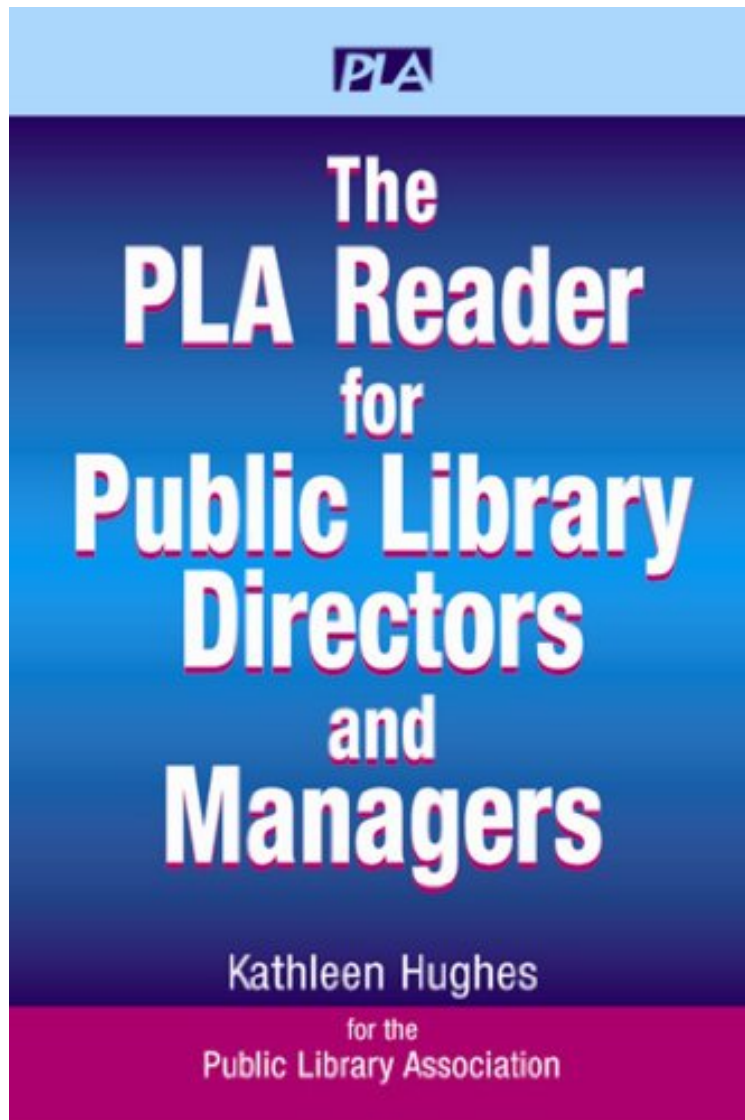


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The PLA Reader for Public Library Directors and Managers

Kathleen Hughes (Editor)

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Kathleen Hughes (Editor) : The PLA Reader for Public Library Directors and Managers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The PLA Reader for Public Library Directors and Managers:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. For the sake of argumentBy (((Marco Buendia)))The average public library director is a pompous idiot who burns up the staff, pandering to the local backstabbers, grins and intones before increasingly irritated patrons who finally go elsewhere, and baffles the Board until they finally kick him/her out on his/her ---. With or without public uproar. All of us who have used libraries have noticed this.This book tells people

who have done the library/information/whatever-it's-called "science" thing how to get into position to be fired out of a cannon by the local chapter of the Three Stooges as quickly as possible. It's blarney and bull, but that's what you're going to be speaking, if you are so ambitioned. Get used to it. Go ahead and buy the thing. Don't go to the library to check it out. It was never cataloged and put on the shelf. If they bought it, it's sitting in the Director's office unread, and worse, you may run into a stuffed shirt who turns out to be the Director him/herself. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A read that many librarians should embrace By Midwest Book Review The skills to run a public library change with the times, and the times have been changing fast. "The PLA Reader for Public Library Directors and Managers" is an updated collection of essays for librarians with all of the latest updates and knowledge that has come along as libraries have advanced over recent years. Many librarians chime in on such issues as better leadership, keeping communications strong, and the rise of Wikipedia like services. "The PLA Reader for Public Library Directors and Managers" is a read that many librarians should embrace to stay on the ball.

Specifically designed to accommodate the frantic pace of the busy public library professional, the first title in this anticipated new series from the Public Library Association provides clear and accessible insight into the most relevant topics and complex challenges in the library world today. From working with a board of directors to making library policy recommendations, overseeing strategic plans, preparing budgets, supervising personnel, evaluating services, administering facility maintenance, overseeing materials selection, and more, directors and managers will find relief in the book's practical guidance and solutions all of which are organized into brief, information-packed sections. With invaluable contributions from PLA Executive Director Greta Southard along with a host of accomplished experts, the book's collected writings span the gamut of hot topics and challenges facing today's library directors and managers. Chapter coverage includes: Advocacy basics Tips for retaining and motivating high-performing employees Improving directorship Library communication A discussion of intellectual freedom matters The latest topics in reference The latest tools in technology Each treatment of these important library subjects provides both the crucial knowledge and practical answers that will help public library managers and directors more effectively and successfully lead their libraries.

From Booklist This compilation of articles from Public Libraries (the bimonthly magazine of ALA's Public Library Association) and chapters from the organization's recent books will be useful at all levels and sizes of libraries. The editor is publications manager for the organization and editor of the magazine. Material is arranged under categories reflecting the general landscape today: advocacy, ideas for better leadership, communication, open access, better reference service, and technology. With 32 essays, the anthology is an excellent starting point for the topics. Notes at the end of each lead the user further, and the index is accurate. The work is current, with an article from the July/August 2009 magazine on six libraries in these difficult times. Although the magazine articles through 2008 are available online, it is helpful to have both the articles and chapters in one compilation. Aimed at professionals, the book will also be useful to trustees. --Arthur Meyers "...a read that many librarians should embrace to stay on the ball." --Library Bookwatch, The Midwest Book ; November 2009 "It's good to be able to benefit from the experience and expert advice of so many public library heavy hitters." --American Libraries, January/February 2010 "offers public library directors and managers a practical, easy-to-read resource that will assist them to manage more effectively and successfully lead their libraries. This resource would also prove useful for library students and educators" --The Australian Library Journal, February/May 2010