

## PRESS RELEASE – May 27, 2020

### Humboldt Library Foundation Welcomes New Board Members Ciara Emery, Mary Gelinas and Rob Amerman

The Humboldt Library Foundation recently brought on three new members to its Board of Directors, each of whom brings a wealth of community involvement and passion for the public library to their new role.



**Ciara Emery** is a graduate of Humboldt State University, Summa Cum Laude, where she obtained a Master of Social Science in Environment and Community and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Ciara received several awards during her college career and recently was one of 12 students selected to represent HSU in the CSU Student Research Competition for her graduate thesis work. In the community Ciara works in the Office of Congressman Jared Huffman, volunteers for the Humboldt County Democrats and is President of the Humboldt Young Democrats. She is originally from the Central Valley. She adds: “I have been an avid reader since childhood when my grandmother would take me to her local library to read Junie B. Jones. I am thrilled to be joining the Board of the Humboldt Library Foundation and believe deeply in ensuring the continued success of the local library system.”

**Mary Gelinas** is a Managing Director of Gelinas James, Inc., a consulting firm dedicated to process design, facilitator, and leadership excellence. She has more than 40 years experience as an organization development consultant as an organization development consultant, process designer, facilitator, educator and author. Mary helps leaders, organizations, boards and communities create their desired futures. She is co-director of the Cascadia Center for Leadership, a program of the Humboldt Area Foundation. Mary notes: “Two aspects of the Humboldt Library Foundation are appealing. First, I am an inveterate reader and love books. I want to help sustain equitable access to books and knowledge available to everyone in our community. Second, I believe libraries can function not only as a community resource but as a place where community members can experience a sense of belonging and connection.”



**Rob Amerman** attended Denver University and graduated last year from Portland University with a Masters degree in Social Work. He currently works as a Supervising Case Manager for Arcata House. Rob is not a stranger to volunteering and has volunteered with Bernie 2020 Humboldt, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the City of Arcata and KHSU Public Radio. When asked what’s appealing about the Humboldt Library Foundation he answered: “I would like to join the Humboldt Library Foundation board of directors because our library system is important to me both personally and professionally. I use the library to borrow books, DVDs and CDs for personal enjoyment. As a Social Worker I understand the vital role the library plays in so many lives and want to support our local libraries.”

For more information, contact HLF at 269-1991, ‘friend’ us on Facebook or visit our website at [www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org).