A message from the Lower Merion Library System Board of Directors

The Lower Merion Library System condemns racism and violence in all its forms and strives to equip our libraries to serve as safe and welcoming spaces (both real and virtual) in which to examine how we as individuals and as a community can work towards a more equitable world. Today, black Americans and other Americans of color are struggling to be heard on racism and injustice, joined by others throughout the country and the world. We stand with them.

In 2019, the Lower Merion Library System embarked on a process to identify our core values and purpose. Our values serve as guideposts, pointing the way towards how our libraries will respond in challenging times. Among the values identified by library staff and Trustees is that “we ensure fair and equal access to library resources as champions of inclusivity and diversity” and that “we provide service guided by respect, compassion, and the highest standards of professionalism.” Those values will guide us as Lower Merion libraries address the welcome changes happening in our society today.

- We commit to continue to encourage members of the community to learn and understand the complexity and ubiquity of racism and discrimination in our society.
- We will redouble our efforts to provide a diverse collection of resources that reflects all members of our community.
- We will increase our efforts to engage all members of the community through programming and activities that reflect their needs and interests.
- We will further develop a staff and Board that is aware, welcoming and diverse.

Through these efforts, Lower Merion libraries will work with renewed determination toward supporting our purpose of being “always ready to inspire and empower our community. We bring you the world.”

Sincerely,

Betty-Anne Izenman
President of the Board,
on behalf of the Trustees of the Lower Merion Library System