

Call for Nominations

First Ladies Association for Research and Education



The 2026 FLARE Nominating Committee, consisting of members Christopher Leahy (Ex Officio), Mary Brennan, Jill Hummer, and Tracy Davis-Butros, chaired by Nancy Kegan Smith, solicits from any member of the Association names of possible nominees for FLARE Vice President and two At-Large Board Members. Self-nominations are encouraged. The Nominating Committee will review and narrow the slate of nominees who will be listed on the general election ballot. All nominees must be members of FLARE at the time of nomination and agree to maintain membership during the term of office. After Board approval, the slate of nominees for the general ballot will be announced in late October. The general election will be conducted in early November. Election results will be announced the first week of December, and new officers will begin their terms on January 1, 2027. For more on FLARE and the election process, see the bylaws on our website at:

<https://associationdatabase.com/aws/FLARE/pt/sp/bylaws>

Nominations are due **Monday, September 08**. Send nomination information and/or any questions electronically to Committee Chair, Nancy Kegan Smith at nksnancy@aol.com.

Vice President

The elected nominee will assume office as Vice President on January 1, 2027. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President during such time as the President is unable or unwilling to perform the same; shall serve as Chair of the Program and Events Committee and ex officio member of the Nominating Committee and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or by the Executive Council. The Vice President shall, after a two-year term, succeed to the office of President. [In this case, the person standing for Vice President in this election will serve for 2027 – before assuming the Presidency, as the current Vice President is stepping down.] The Vice President is a member of the Executive Council and is expected to attend Council and general Board meetings. The Vice President is central to FLARE's leadership team and is expected to participate in guiding the Association with creativity, integrity, and competence.

Qualifications of potential nominees include:

- A member in good standing of the Association at the time of nomination.
- A record of ongoing involvement with FLARE.
- A record of successful career and/or leadership experience.
- An understanding of and expertise in the field of first ladies studies from one of the broad range of backgrounds that compose FLARE membership.
- An understanding of and commitment to work toward meeting FLARE's mission.

- Commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.

Nomination materials must include:

- A cover letter explaining one's interest and reasons for seeking nomination.
- Current curriculum vitae.
- Two names and contact information of professional references.
- If appropriate, letter of institutional support for the specific duties of the position.

Self-nominations are encouraged.

Two At-Large Members of the Board

Two At-Large Members of the Board are open. These positions are elected to three-year terms beginning January 1, 2027. The Board is composed of at-large members who represent the scope of first lady studies and practice. Board members may serve for a maximum of six consecutive years. A Board Member is expected to promote the Association as appropriate, lend credibility and visibility to the mission, fulfill fiduciary responsibilities, help attract new members, and participate in fundraising opportunities. Board members often serve on committees and assist with FLARE educational and outreach activities in addition to attending Board meetings and participating in the governance of the Association.

Qualifications of potential nominees include:

- A member in good standing of the Association at the time of nomination.
- A record of successful career and/or leadership experience.
- An ability to understand, or experience with, fundraising and non-profit opportunities.
- An understanding of and commitment to work toward meeting FLARE's mission.

Nomination materials must include:

- A cover letter explaining one's interest and reasons for seeking nomination.
- Current curriculum vitae.
- Two names and contact information of professional references.
- If appropriate, a letter of institutional support for the specific duties of the position.

Self-nominations are encouraged.