



Rebecca Hamilton is the Assistant Secretary of the Office of the State Library/State Librarian of Louisiana (<http://www.state.lib.la.us>), a position she was appointed to in 2005 making her the youngest State Librarian in the nation. A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Rebecca earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University. Hamilton began her career in 1989 as a library associate at the West Baton Rouge Parish Library. In 1996 she became Assistant Director of the St. Mary Parish Library System and later Assistant Director for the Audubon Regional Library System, the state's only tri-parish library system. In 2001, she accepted the position of CEO/Director of the St. Mary Parish Library system and in 2003 she was named Associate State Librarian at the State Library of Louisiana.

In July of 2005 Rebecca was appointed State Librarian by Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu. This appointment made her Louisiana's only fourth State Librarian in the agency's 84-year history. Under her direction the State Library of Louisiana underwent a total re-organization to streamline operations and efficiencies. She has doubled the amount of State Aid to Public Libraries, the largest increase in the history of the program and the first increase in 20 years. She also oversaw the rebuilding of the State Library's internal network and backup systems, a 3-year project, and as a result, during the storms of 2008, the State Library never lost Internet connectivity when all other offices in state government were down. She worked closely with SOLINET to obtain a \$12 Million grant to provide temporary library facilities after the storms in both Louisiana and Mississippi. Since the beginning of her administration, the State Library has implemented a new interlibrary loan system for public libraries, added content to the statewide databases, secured a line item in the annual budget for public library training and grown the annual Louisiana Book Festival to an attendance of 21,000.

In recent years, Hamilton has served on the Executive Board of the St. Mary Parish Literacy Council and the Executive Board of the Bayouland Library Consortium. She has served as a member and Secretary of the State Board of Library Examiners, the body that certifies Louisiana public library directors. She has also served the Louisiana Library Association on many committees. Most recently she was named one of the most outstanding graduates of the LSU School of Library and Information Science and has been elected to the Southeastern Library Network, Inc. (SOLINET) board of directors representing State Library Agencies. In November 2007 she was named one of the Top 40 Under 40 by the Baton Rouge Business Report.