

Reviewer Rubrics and Guiding Questions for *Murmurations: A Trans and Gender Diverse Library Journal*

Guiding Questions: Community Reviewer Rubric

Accessibility and Communication

- Does the piece effectively guide readers through the author's ideas and conclusions?
- Do you have clarity on what the piece is about and what it is saying or doing?
- Is the writing clear and engaging?
- Is it clear who the author's intended audience is, and do the writing style and content suit that audience?
- Is the organization of the piece effective? Are there places where reorganization might strengthen the argument or narrative?

Recognition of & Familiarity with Trans Identities and Experiences

- Does the piece demonstrate genuine understanding that trans and gender diverse people exist as full, complex human beings?
- Does the piece center or include trans voices and experiences?
- Are trans people discussed as active agents rather than problems to be solved?
- Does the piece approach the topic of trans and gender diverse inclusion from the position that trans and gender diverse people are real instead of abstract and hypothetical? Like actually for real?
- Does the piece offer criticism, practical advice, analysis, synthesis, theoretical framework, theory application, or other way of understanding library and archives services and work through a trans or gender expansive lens?

Understanding of Diversity and Complexity

- Does the piece demonstrate an understanding that trans and gender diverse are not a monolith?
- Does the piece demonstrate that trans and gender diverse people have different needs and experiences?
- Does the author's approach feature intersectional awareness and/or perspectives (race, class, disability, age, etc.)?
- If the piece intentionally focuses on a particular group (e.g. interviews with Black trans men in Canada), or if it ends up doing so (e.g. a survey with mostly white nonbinary people as respondents), are the scope and limitations clearly stated?

Language and Representation

- When discussing trans and gender diverse people in general, is the language used respectful, current, and accurate?
- Is the language used appropriate to the specific individuals, groups, and time period in the piece (e.g. respecting self-identification or period-appropriate terminology over current umbrella language for a group)?
- Does the piece handle potentially sensitive topics with care and respect?
- Does the piece avoid pathologizing or sensationalizing trans and gender diverse experiences?

Methodology and Reasoning (Note: Put “N/A” if the piece is not conducting empirical research or applying specific theoretical frameworks)

- Does the author use appropriate methods or frameworks to address their research question? Are there alternative approaches that would strengthen the work?
- Is the paper’s argument built on an appropriate base of concepts or theory?
- If the piece communicates the results of empirical research, is that research well-designed? Are community-centered or participatory methods used when appropriate?
- Are the author's conclusions well-supported by their evidence or arguments? Are there places where the reasoning or conclusions could be strengthened or made more explicit?
- Are there logical gaps or leaps that need additional support?

Practical Contribution and Community Relevance

- Does this piece offer concrete insights, strategies, or recommendations?
- Is this piece directly relevant to trans and gender diverse people in library settings?
- Does the work bridge community needs with professional frameworks, or can it make stronger connections?
- Are there important voices or perspectives that should be included? Would additional sources strengthen the argument or provide useful context?
- Do the sources say what the author claims they say? When you spot check the citations, are you able to find what the author is pointing to in them?

Community Reviewer Rubric

	N/A	I don't know :(	1 (No)	2 (Maybe No)	3 (Maybe Yes)	4 (Yes)
Accessibility & Communication						
Recognition of & Familiarity with Trans Identities and Experiences						
Understanding of Diversity and Complexity						
Language and Representation						
Methodology and Reasoning						
Practical Contribution and Community Relevance						

Guiding questions: LIS Research and Practice Reviewer Rubric

Accessibility and Communication

- Does the piece effectively guide readers through the author's ideas and conclusions?
- Do you have clarity on what the piece is about and what it is saying or doing?
- Is the writing clear and engaging?
- Is it clear who the author's intended audience is, and do the writing style and content suit that audience?
- Is the organization of the piece effective? Are there places where reorganization might strengthen the argument or narrative?

Relevant Subject Expertise

- Is the information about the library work or LIS scholarship in the piece accurate?
- Are statements clearly based on existing research, personal experience, and/or other sources appropriate to the topic?
- Does the piece effectively engage with relevant professional standards and practices?
- Do the piece's main points and analysis make sense in the context of the field/type of library work it is talking about?
- Are there important voices or perspectives that should be included? Would additional sources strengthen the argument or provide useful context?
- Do the sources say what the author claims they say? When you spot check the citations, are you able to find what the author is pointing to in them?

Contribution to the Field

- Does the piece contribute something original to the field?
- Does the piece confirm, expand, revise, or challenge conventional knowledge or professional consensus?
- Does the piece engage with existing scholarly literature and/or community knowledge? Does it connect well with established best practices?
- Does the author suggest directions for future work?

Underlying Values and Frameworks

- Do the theoretical frameworks employed support liberation and inclusion?
- Do the values expressed in this work align with the needs of our (trans and gender expansive) community?
- Does the piece contribute to collective liberation rather than individual advancement? Essentially, is the underlying purpose of the piece to bring a new idea, narrative, or practice to trans and gender diverse library literature, or is it to aggrandize the author or their institution and establish them as "good" or "moral?"

Methodology and Reasoning (Note: Put "N/A" if the piece is not conducting empirical research or applying specific theoretical frameworks)

- Does the author use appropriate methods or frameworks to address their research question? Are there alternative approaches that would strengthen the work?
- Is the paper's argument built on an appropriate base of concepts or theory?
- If the piece communicates the results of empirical research, is that research well-designed? Are community-centered or participatory methods used when appropriate?
- Are the author's conclusions well-supported by their evidence or arguments? Are there places where the reasoning or conclusions could be strengthened or made more explicit?
- Are there logical gaps or leaps that need additional support?

LIS Research and Practice Reviewer Rubric

	N/A	I don't know :(	1 (No)	2 (Maybe No)	3 (Maybe Yes)	4 (Yes)
Accessibility and Communication						
Relevant Subject Expertise						
Contribution to the Field						
Underlying Values and Frameworks						
Methodology and Reasoning						