



Patti Reilly

Senior Vice President – Communications

Since 2008, Patti Reilly has served as senior vice president – communications with the Association of American Railroads (AAR). In this role, she is responsible for crafting a compelling and credible narrative that uses multiple channels and platforms to demonstrate the value of freight rail and garner support for issues important to the freight rail industry.

With more than 20 years of communications experience, Reilly has overseen the creation of numerous award-winning communications campaigns, including AAR’s “Freight Rail Works” and “Designed to Move a Nation” paid advertising campaigns.

Reilly began her career in the newsrooms of Sports Illustrated, PEOPLE and The Maryland Independent. She subsequently joined the communications team at Bell Atlantic (now Verizon), where she signed actor James Earl Jones as the voice of the Yellow Pages product line.

In 1999, Reilly was appointed by the Clinton Administration to a public affairs position at NASA. Following her service in federal government, Reilly led communications efforts at the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, the AFL-CIO and America’s Promise Foundation. Working alongside General Colin Powell, Reilly launched the foundation’s “Dropout Prevention Campaign” – the first nationwide campaign to raise public awareness of America’s high school dropout crisis and help improve high school graduation rates.

Education

- Bachelor of Arts from Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y.

Affiliations/Community Involvement

- Alexandria Public School System – kindergarten tutor
- Center for Families & Children – The Fund for Alexandria’s Child
- Alexandria Scholarship Fund – Gala Committee; fundraising
- Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. – former Board member
- Operation Lifesaver, Inc. – former Board member

Personal

Ms. Reilly lives with her husband Kris in Alexandria, Va., and has two grown daughters.

Association of American Railroads

America's freight railroads operate the safest, most efficient, cost-effective and environmentally sound freight transportation system in the world — and the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is committed to keeping it that way. AAR is the world's leading railroad policy, research and technology organization focusing on the safety and productivity of rail carriers. AAR members include the major freight railroads of the U.S., Canada and Mexico, as well as Amtrak.