

NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

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NYSLAA Conference June 2023

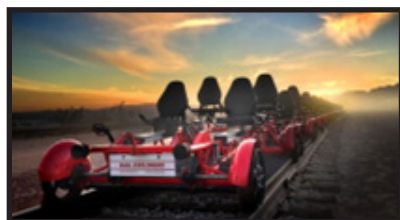
Cat Fallon

Watch your mailbox...conference brochures are being mailed this week for our June 7-9th, 2023 NYSLAA Conference:

Library Assistants: Create, Learn and Explore in the Catskills

Hosted by the Library Assistants of SUNY Oneonta

There are fun activities on the registration form to sign up for such as Rail Explorers



Fenimore Art Museum and The Farmer's Museum.



Or if you prefer, you can explore on your own. There are many other things in the area you can do on your own such as:

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

<https://baseballhall.org/>



The Cooperstown Beverage Trail

<https://www.cooperstownbeveragetrail.com/>



And Ommegang Brewery, to name a few

<https://www.ommegang.com/>



So much to do, so little time.

Our speaker line up is full of variety too. We have Book Repair, Leadership classes, Paint and de-stress, computer support for Excel and Powerpoint and much more.

I can't wait to see you all in June.

Please email me with any questions.

Cathy.fallon@oneonta.edu

INSIDE: Annual Reports... Membership... Certificate of Achievement... National Library Week... Craig Koste & Ray Murray Award nominations... Eileen Lemley Scholarship

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2023

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Standing Committees

Community Outreach Chair
(vacant)

Donations Chair
(vacant)

Public Relations Chair
(vacant)

**Certificate of Achievement
Review Board Coordinator
Kathy Rossello**
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“We would like to see a library community in New York State where library assistants have a voice in decisions that affect their future, are valued for their contributions, recognized and rewarded appropriately, and where there is equitable access to professional development opportunities.”

NYSLAA’S MISSION

“The mission of the New York State Library Assistants’ Association is:

1. To enhance the professional image and status of NY State’s library assistants.
2. To further their professional growth.
3. To provide a network for communication to our members and the profession on library and library assistant issues.
4. To network and cooperate with library organizations on local, state, national, and international levels.”

CHECK OUT NYSLAA’S WEBSITE: nyslaa.org

Join NYSLAA’s electronic listserv (NYSLAA-L) and follow us on Facebook.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the NYSLAA listserv, simply go to nyslaa.org, click on “Join Our Email List” and follow the instructions.



Search for: **New York State Library Assistants’ Association**

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Next publication date: *May 15, 2023*
Submission deadline: *April 30, 2023*

NYSLAA Annual Reports for 2022

President Cat Fallon

No report received

Vice President Kathy Rossello

I have attended most of Executive Council Meetings during 2022. I have maintained the archives by filing minutes and all other association documents. Posting updates for NYSLAA on our Facebook page as well. The Certificate of Achievement Review Board is another way in which I support library assistants. Contacted Chair of the New York State Assembly's Library Committee to begin arrangements for the annual New York State Library Assistants' Recognition Day to be celebrated on the Thursday of National Library Week, the day was celebrated on 4/07/2022.

I have found it very rewarding to work with the rest of the Executive Council. It has also been a pleasure working with all the Conference Committee members over the past years. Please considering running for an office or joining one of the many committees of our organization. Let's continue to make NYSLAA successful in the future.

I have enjoyed being the NYSLAA Vice President, 2022 was my last term. Please consider being on the Executive Board of NYSLAA, Vice President position is vacant. I am still going to be working on Certificate of Achievement as Review Board Coordinator. If you would like to be on the review board please contact me at rossek@eglibrary.org



Recording Secretary Tammy Southard

This was my final year as Recording Secretary for the NYSLAA Executive Council. As the Recording Secretary I have been recording and submitting all of the minutes from our Executive Council Meetings, even when they were virtual.

I was able to compile, edit and publish the NYSLAA Network Connections Newsletter four times this year with the assistance of **Ruth Oberg and Adrienne Birchler**. Thank you both for these many years of proofreading, editing and working your magic to produce such wonderful newsletters.

I wish **Heather Gad** much success as the new Recording Secretary and Newsletter Editor for NYSLAA. Thank you Heather for volunteering!

I would like to thank the others that I have served on the Executive Council with these past seven years. It was a pleasure being a part of such a great organization.

Corresponding Secretary Dawn Foland

Because we did not have a conference in 2022, there were no winners for the Craig Koste or Ray Murray Awards. There were also no scholarships given for Degree Program, Continuing Education or Eileen Lemley Scholarships.

I presided over the NYSLAA Elections this year with **Heather Gad** being elected as our new Recording Secretary and **Donna Hanna** being re-elected for another two year term as Membership Secretary.

I became the liason for NYSLAA and SUNYLA.



Treasurer

Melanie Castine

Since the Network Connection Newsletter is only available online, we will not post our financial report on the web. The 2022 Treasurer's Annual Report is subject to our CPA's approval in May/June. Our books will be finalized in the next few months and taxes are filed in May/June. All NYSLAA members are entitled to see a full report. If you are interested in seeing it after our CPA has approved them, please contact me at melanie.castine@oneonta.edu.

Just a quick reminder that if there is a class or a workshop you would like to take and your institution will not pay for it, let us know why you want to go, and we would be happy to help. If you haven't applied before, it is FREE money that we offer for you just for writing a short paragraph. The Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship is also still available if you would like to come to the conference but receive no funding from your institution. The information can be found on our scholarship page, <http://nyslaa.org/scholarships.html>

I am looking forward to the conference this year in Oneonta, NY. See you all soon!



SUNY Oneonta

Conference Coordinator

Wendy Freier

Our last conference was held in 2019 at the Ramada in Geneva. The tours were fun and we had a wonderful time at the Meet & Greet at Ventosa Vineyards and the Thursday Night dinner at Belhurst Castle. There were many interesting workshops and Friday's keynote speaker was Eleanor Stearns. She taught us much about Elizabeth Cady Stanton's life.

Then just as we were gearing up for the homestretch for the 2020 conference in Cobleskill, COVID brought us all to a stop. I hope that we all learned to take the time to smell the roses and put our lives in perspective. I know that I learned some life lessons. As COVID continued, we felt hosting an in-person conference in 2021 was problematic and so for the second year in a row, we cancelled. Then again in 2022 we felt an in-person conference would not happen, and we cancelled for the third time.

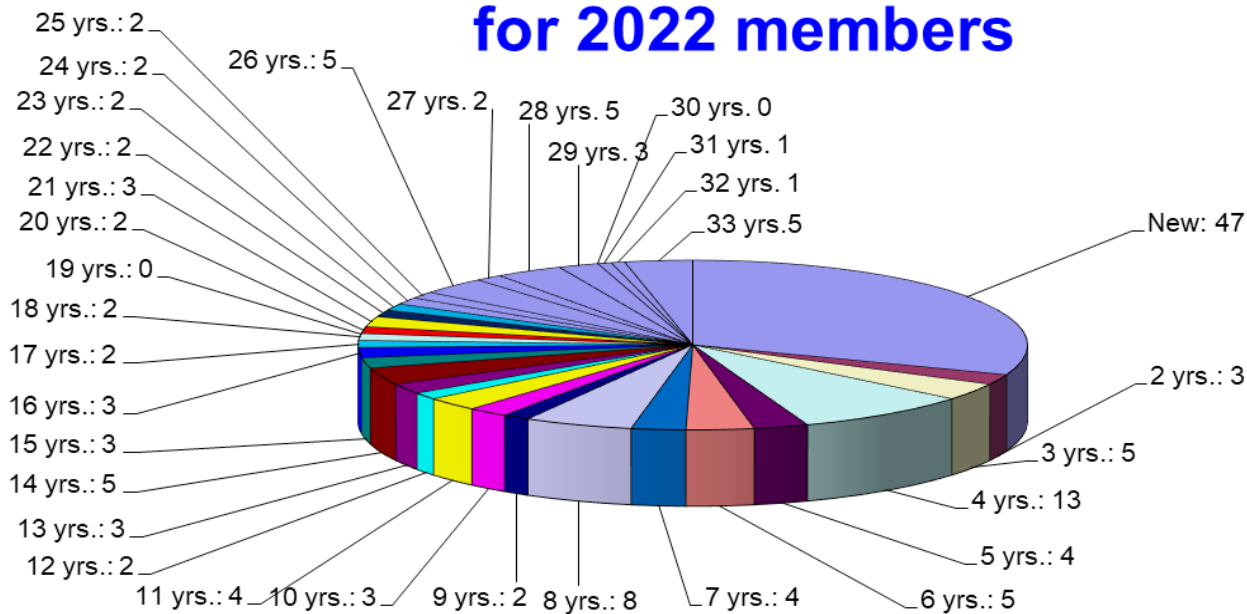
I am sure that as we move forward, the many people I met at prior conferences will be glad to return. I look forward to greeting you all. Together, let's make this one of the best conference ever!

These past few months we have been hard at work planning for the conference, which will be at SUNY Oneonta, located in Central New York about halfway between Albany and Binghamton. It is also approximately 23 miles from Cooperstown, NY. **Cat Fallon** (from SUNY Oneonta) is heading up the conference committee along with **Tammy Southard**, **Melanie Castine**, **Heather Gad** (all from SUNY Oneonta) and **Dawn Foland** (from SUNY Cobleskill). They have been busy setting up tours, speakers, and fundraisers. I know that you are anticipating all the learning, the activities, and the chance to see friends. See you soon!



The 2022 membership year ended at 153 members. We have 118 regular members and 35 associate.

Years of membership in NYSLAA for 2022 members



The regional distribution of members is:

- (1) Capital District Library Council—11 (13, 12, 19, 15, 23, 21)
 - (2) Central New York Library Resources Council—21 (10, 12, 22, 23, 28, 23)
 - (3) Long Island Library Resources Council—5 (2, 5, 5, 8, 4, 6)
 - (4) Metropolitan New York Library Council—6 (17, 20, 49, 53, 53, 58)
 - (5) Northern Country Library Council—8 (10, 11, 16, 12, 15, 15)
 - (6) Rochester Regional Library Council—31 (26, 34, 59, 36, 47, 57)
 - (7) South Central Research Library Council—32 (33, 39, 48, 47, 44, 50)
 - (8) Southeastern New York Library Resources Council—16 (16, 19, 26, 29, 29, 27)
 - (9) Western New York Library Resources Council—17 (13, 15, 19, 18, 24, 37)
- Out of state members—6 (7, 7, 8, 8, 9, 9)

Types of institutions represented by this year’s membership are:

- College and University—33 (36, 43, 69, 56, 78, 81)
- Junior College—5 (9, 9, 15, 11, 10, 10)
- Law—2 (2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Medical—2 (0, 3, 4, 2, 4, 6)
- Non-library—28 (26, 29, 32, 25, 25, 24)
- Public—72 (71, 82, 143, 147, 149, 169)
- School—8 (0, 1, 2, 1, 3, 5)
- Special—3 (3, 4, 4, 5, 3, 3)

** Numbers in parenthesis are 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2016 totals.*

As you can see by the regional and type of institution numbers above, they dropped off drastically after 2019. We did have a slight increase in membership this year, including 39 people who took advantage of the free membership offer during National Library Week in April. The 2022 Membership directory has been started and should be ready for online viewing shortly. Printed copies will only be available upon request.

Membership Update

Donna Hanna

We currently have 35 members for 2023. Eighteen of these members hold associate status. We have three new members. Membership cards/letters have been sent to all current members electronically so if you renewed and did not get one, please let me know.

Renewal reminders and card copies of membership/letters/cards will be included with the conference brochures and will be sent out along with the brochures after our February 24th meeting.

Membership forms are available on our nyslaa.org website under the "Membership Application" on the right. You can fill out your renewal and mail it in with your check or you can renew via the "tools and resources" tab and following the directions. If you renew using this method, you do not need to send a membership form. I would just need to know if any of your information has changed. As a reminder, membership cards/letters are also mailed electronically to anyone who has an email.

If you move or your email has changed, please be sure to alert me of these changes. This will help avoid unnecessary delays in receiving your membership information.

As always, if you have a question regarding your membership or if you need a letter verifying your years of NYSLAA membership for the Certificate of Achievement Program please let me know via hanna@geneseo.edu.

Welcome New Members!

Regan Ashline

Crystall Lee Lytle

Joshua Weis

all from Feinberg Library, SUNY Plattsburgh.

Certificate of Achievement

Kathy Rossello

The current Committee Members are **Kathy Rossello** and **Melissa Tidd**.

One new member has joined our committee, **Sheryl Saxby**. Sheryl is from Geneva Public Library.

If you are interested in receiving your Certificate of Achievement, please reach out to the committee by contacting Kathy Rossello, COA Coordinator at rossek@eglibrary.org. There is still time to receive your certificate at the 2023 conference.

Want to learn more about being on Certificate of Achievement Review Board, contact Melissa or Kathy. We need two more members to join us. Meetings for COA are virtual and by email.

Volunteers we need you!

National Library Week

NYSLAA is again offering a free 2023 membership to anyone who has never been a NYSLAA member and joins during National Library week, April 23-29th. Email Donna Hanna at hanna@geneseo.edu for a form.



Award Nominations

Each year, NYSLAA seeks nominations from its members for each of these awards. The Executive Council reviews the nominations in April of each year and notifies the recipients. The awards are presented at the annual conference in June.

Craig Koste Award for Outstanding Service

In 1992 the Executive Council created “The NYSLAA Award for Outstanding Service” specifically for New York State library assistants who are members of NYSLAA. Its name was changed in 1995 to honor Craig Koste, a library assistant who passed away and bequeathed an endowment to NYSLAA. The award recognizes those library assistants who have distinguished themselves by their service to our organization and to the library assistants of New York on either a state or local level. A stipend of \$100 will be given to the library of the winner for collection development.

Ray Murray Award

The Ray Murray Award was established in 1989 to recognize a librarian, library director, trustee, board member or any individual who has demonstrated outstanding support to library assistants.

Ray Murray began his library career at the University of Minnesota in 1961. He started at circulation and later transferred to acquisitions. While at Minnesota, Ray attended library school. He came to SUNY Oswego in 1975. With Ray’s help, a planning committee from SUNY Oswego, SUNY Cortland, and the University of Rochester brought about the 1977 conference, laying the groundwork for NYSLAA.

Ray left New York in 1980 where he had been the library director at Upsala College in New Jersey and Cardinal Stretch College in Milwaukee. He became the director of the Essex-Hudson Regional Library Cooperative in Newark, New Jersey in 1986. The New Jersey Cooperative is very similar to New York’s Three R’s Organization. One of Ray’s first projects in New Jersey was to bring about a conference for library assistants at Seton Hall in 1987.

To nominate someone for either award, please compile a packet including: your nomination letter, supporting letters, and any other pertinent documentation. The deadline for the submission is March 31st. See nyslaa.org for more information.

Send nomination packets (or questions) for either award to the NYSLAA President. (See page 2.) For full information go to: nyslaa.org/awardsnominations.html.



Apply for the Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship

The Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship (ELCS), previously known as the NYSLAA Conference Contest, was renamed to honor the memory of **Eileen Lemley** who passed away while attending the 2014 conference. Eileen loved working in the library and attending NYSLAA conferences. The recipient will receive a full conference registration, up to two night’s lodging, the mixer, and one tour of your choice. Entries will be accepted from March 1st to March 31st. Applicants must complete a form and write an essay on “what NYSLAA means to me and why I want to attend the annual conference.” Only members who do not receive any funding from their library may apply.

The application form for the scholarship and more information on the web at: nyslaa.org/scholarships.html.