

NETWORK CONNECTION

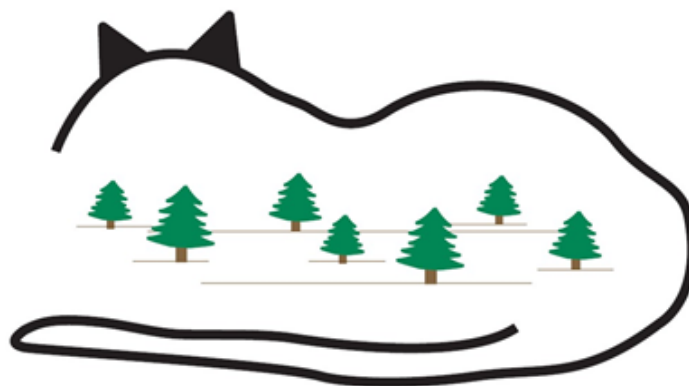


Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

Jan.- Mar. 2021 Vol.33, No.1

Library Assistants: Create, Learn and Explore in the Catskills

Wendy Freier, Conference Coordinator



The Executive Council met in January and it has been decided to postpone the 2021 conference. We felt that even if the Covid-19 numbers drop, meeting in large groups will probably still be discouraged. We also felt that libraries and individuals will still be having financial hardships and paying for a conference this year would be an additional strain on budgets. We hope that we will be in a better position to meet in person in 2022.

We are looking into the possibility that SUNY Cobleskill will host the conference in 2022. The conference speakers that were lined up for the 2020 conference will be contacted to see if they will be available to present their workshops in 2022. If they are unable to participate, we will be searching for other speakers.

We will also be working with the tours and the other venues to see if they will be amenable to our prior plans. Everything is tentative until we get confirmations.

As we firm up the details, they will be posted to the listserv, Facebook, the NYSLAA website, and distributed via the newsletter. Keep your eyes open for more details as they become available.

We missed seeing you all in June and look forward to seeing you all again in 2022. Until we meet again, stay positive, stay healthy, and stay safe!



INSIDE: Annual Reports...Membership...Certificate of Achievement...Treasurer

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Donations Chair

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Public Relations Chair

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**Certificate of Achievement
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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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NYSLAA Annual Reports for 2020

President

Michele A. Matthews

Wow, how we will look back on the year 2020? NYSLAA had no conference but we did still award the Degree Program Scholarship to **Kiesha Ivey** from Brighton Memorial Library in Rochester, and the Continuing Education Scholarship was awarded to **Patricia Barber** from Alfred State. We were unable to donate to charities as we have in the past and like the rest of the country we were on lockdown. Hopefully, 2021 is going to be a better year with the vaccine. I was proud to be your President for the sixth year. I presided over all of our meetings in person and on Zoom. I would like to thank **Carrie Goetz** for all of her hard work as our Treasurer and put out a request for one of our members to help out the Executive Council by becoming our Treasurer.

Vice President

Kathy Rossello

My report for this past year will be much different than in years previous, as I am sure all members of NYSLAA have covid-19 pandemic stories to share.

The Executive Council was able to hold two in person executive meetings, January and February 2020. Due to the New York State pause, we were unable to have our March meeting. Executive Council had to make a difficult decision to postpone our 2020 NYSLAA Conference at SUNY Cobleskill.

I was able to attend our virtual meetings, which I am sure many of you have attended your own meetings using this technology. While working from home, I was able to maintain the archives by filing minutes and all other association documents. The Certificate of Achievement Review Board is another way in which I support library assistants.

I have found it very rewarding to work with the Executive Council and Conference Committee members over the past years. Please consider running for an office or joining one of the many committees of our organization. Many of the Executive Council Officers will be retiring in the next few years. Let's continue to make NYSLAA successful in the future.

Recording Secretary

Tammy Southard

Having just completed my fifth year as Recording Secretary for the NYSLAA Executive Council, and being re-elected to this position for another two-year term, I will also be looking to retire after this next term in 2022. As the Recording Secretary I have been recording and submitting all of the minutes from our Executive Council Meetings, even when they were virtual this year.

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 your patience and expertise with putting it all together and getting it up on our website.

Corresponding Secretary

Dawn Foland

One of my duties is to inform the winners of awards or scholarships. This year **Kiesha Ivey** from Brighton Memorial Library in Rochester was awarded the Degree Program Scholarship. **Patricia Barber** from Alfred State was awarded the Continuing Education Scholarship.

Because we did not have a conference this year, there was no Craig Koste Award winner or Ray Murray award winner.

I presided over the NYSLAA Elections this year with **Kathy Rossello**, **Tammy Southard**, **Donna Hanna** and **Wendy Freier** being re-elected for another two year term to the Executive Council.

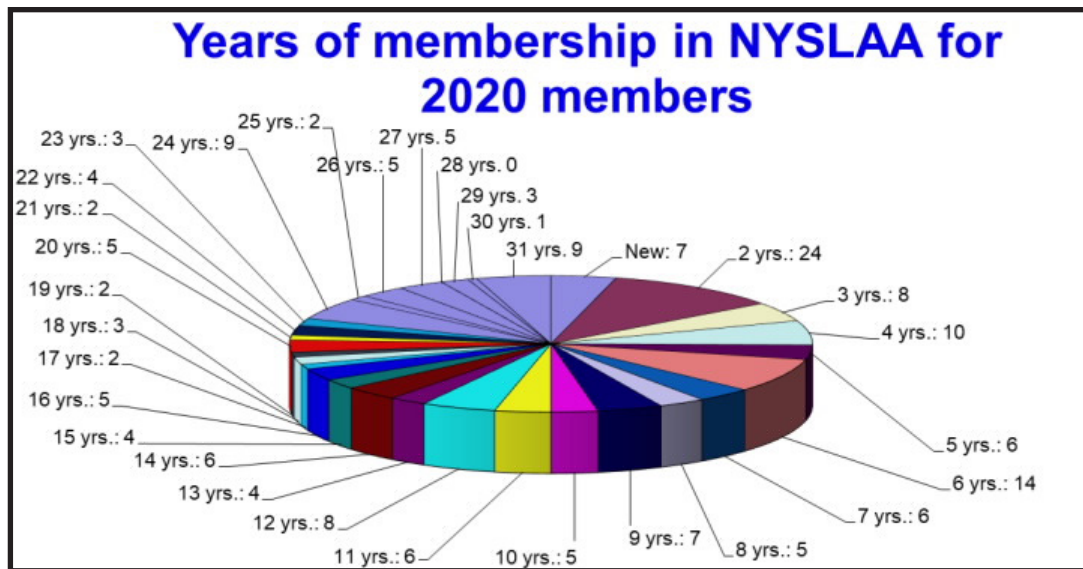
Treasurer

Since the Network Connection Newsletter is online, we will not post our financial report on the web. The 2020 Treasurer's Annual Report is subject to our CPA's approval. Our books will be finalized shortly and the taxes filed. All NYSLAA members are entitled to see a full report. If you are interested in seeing it after our CPA has approved them, contact us at nyslaa.org@gmail.com.

Membership Secretary

Donna Hanna

The 2020 membership year ended at 174 members.



The regional distribution of members is:

- (1) Capital District Library Council—12 (19, 15, 23, 21, 40, 29)
 - (2) Central New York Library Resources Council—12 (22, 23, 28, 23, 32, 26)
 - (3) Long Island Library Resources Council—5 (5, 8, 4, 6, 13, 9)
 - (4) Metropolitan New York Library Council—20 (49, 53, 53, 58, 57, 63)
 - (5) Northern Country Library Council—11 (16, 12, 15, 15, 17, 20)
 - (6) Rochester Regional Library Council—34 (59, 36, 47, 57, 78, 53)
 - (7) South Central Research Library Council—39 (48, 47, 44, 50, 54, 50)
 - (8) Southeastern New York Library Resources Council—19 (26, 29, 29, 27, 34, 23)
 - (9) Western New York Library Resources Council—15 (19, 18, 24, 37, 25, 21)
- Out of state members—7 (8, 8, 9, 9, 8, 7)

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

- College and University—43 (69, 56, 78, 81, 112, 90)
- Junior College—9 (15, 11, 10, 10, 15, 16)
- Law—2 (2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 6)
- Medical—3 (4, 2, 4, 6, 5, 4)
- Non-library—29 (32, 25, 25, 24, 23, 25)
- Public—82 (143, 147, 149, 169, 184, 153)
- School—1 (2, 1, 3, 5, 9, 5)
- Special—4 (4, 4, 5, 3, 3, 2)

* Numbers in parenthesis are 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, and 2014 totals.

This year was an understandably odd year and we are down about 100 members.

The 2020 Membership directory has been started and should be ready for online viewing shortly. Printed copies will only be available upon request.

End of Annual Reports

Membership Update

Donna Hanna

We've had fifteen 2020 members renew for 2021 so far. Five of these members hold associate status. All 2021 members have been sent their cards/letters for the current year, so if you have not received one please take a moment to renew now. Reminders for others will go out shortly.

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.



Certificate of Achievement

Michele A. Matthews

Only one person received a certificate in 2020

Deanna Meadowcroft – SUNY Oneonta Level III Public Services.

If you are interested in receiving your Certificate of Achievement please reach out to **Kathy Rossello** the new COA Coordinator at rossek@eglibrary.org



Treasurer



We need your help to fill the position of Treasurer. If you are interested in joining the NYSLAA Executive Council, here is your opportunity.

According the NYSLAA Bylaws:

The Treasurer shall: 1) receive, record, hold, and disburse all monies of the Association at the direction of the Executive Council;

2) prepare a written annual statement of accounts for the Association;

3) meet annually with a Certified Public Account for tax preparation;

4) perform such other duties as may be required.

