

# NETWORK CONNECTION



*Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association*

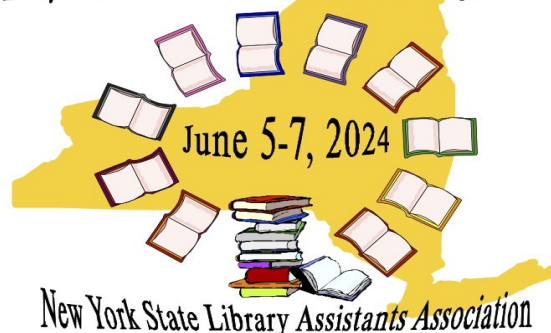
*July-Dec. 2023 Vol. 35, No. 3*

---

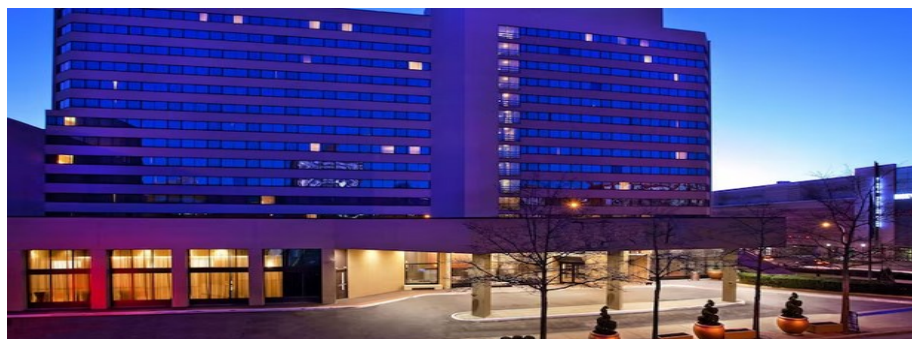
## **2024 Annual NYSLAA Conference Sonesta White Plains Downtown Hotel Library Workers Making Connections and Making a Difference**

Wendy Freier, Conference Coordinator

*Library Workers Making Connections and Making A Difference*



The NYSLAA Conference Committee is in the process of getting all of the details for the 2024 Conference at the Sonesta White Plains Downtown Hotel.



---

**INSIDE:** NYSLAA Election Results....CAP...Membership...Scholarships...Conference photos...etc.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2023

Cat Fallon  
President  
SUNY Oneonta  
(607) 436-2725  
cathy.wise@oneonta.edu

Cheryl Marriott  
Vice-President  
SUNY Downstate Medical Research Library  
(718) 270-7409  
cheryl.marriott@downstate.edu

Melanie Castine  
Treasurer  
SUNY Oneonta  
(607) 436-2790  
Melanie.Castine@oneonta.edu

Heather Gad  
Recording Secretary  
SUNY Oneonta  
(607) 436-2726  
Heather.Gad@oneonta.edu

Dawn Foland  
Corresponding Secretary  
SUNY Cobleskill  
(518)231-4562  
folandde@cobleskill.edu

Donna Hanna  
Membership Secretary  
SUNY Geneseo  
(585) 245-5508  
hanna@geneseo.edu

Wendy Freier  
Conference Coordinator  
Geneva Public Library  
(315) 781-2935  
wfreier@pls-net.org

\*\*\*\*\*

### Standing Committees

Community Outreach Chair  
(vacant)

Donations Chair  
(vacant)

Public Relations Chair  
(vacant)

Certificate of Achievement  
Review Board Coordinator  
Kathy Rossello  
East Greenbush Community Library  
(518) 477-7476 ext. 108  
rossek@eglibrary.org

“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](http://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](http://nyslaa.org), click on “Join Our Email List” and follow the instructions.



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

The *NYSLAA Network Connection* is published four times a year by the New York State Library Assistants’ Association. Articles may be reprinted with the permission of the editor.

## Editor: Heather Gad

*SUNY Oneonta, Milne Library*  
**Email: [Heather.Gad@oneonta.edu](mailto:Heather.Gad@oneonta.edu)**

Newsletter Committee: **Chair, Heather Gad, SUNY Oneonta**  
**Adrienne Birchler, William K. Sanford Public Library volunteer**  
**Ruth V. Oberg, Unaffiliated**

*Next publication date: February 15, 2024*  
*Submission deadline: January 31, 2024*

## Executive Council Elections

Heather Gad, 2023 Election Chair

We have just completed the 2023 Executive Council elections for the offices of President , Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary.

A call for nominations was announced on nyslaa-l and our Facebook page . There were nominations for the office of President, Cheryl Marriott, Treasurer, Heather Gad and the office of Corresponding Secretary Cheryl Paine.

As stated in the NYSLAA Bylaws, Article II: Elections Section B: Election Procedures:

B.1 In the event of a totally unopposed slate of nominees, the Chair of the Election Committee shall inform the membership before the end of the year, and shall declare those nominees to be the new officers in January.

Please join us in congratulating , Cheryl Marriott, Heather Gad and Cheryl Paine

## Membership Update

Donna Hanna

We have 142 members for 2023. Thirty-Eight of our members hold associate status. Nineteen of our members are new this year. Membership cards/letters have been sent to all members who have renewed or joined, so if you did not receive yours, please let me know.

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

We have revitalized the NYSLAA Membership Year Buy-Back program. For this program you would be able to buy back years of NYSLAA membership where you have had a gap and missed renewing for a particular year. The only stipulation is that you cannot buy membership for years prior to the first year you were a NYSLAA member. Please contact me, hanna@geneseo.edu, to find out what years you are missing and how to go about buying them back.

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 e-mail at hanna@geneseo.edu.

## Welcome New Member!

Hilary Schrauf : Ravena Community Library  
Ronise Springer: Bronx Community College,  
Library Resources Center/North Hall Library

## Certificate of Achievement

**Kathy Rossello**

Please join the Certificate of Achievement Review Board in congratulating Dannielle Swart, from the Four County Library System, for achieving a Level IV in Public Services. Congratulations Dannielle!



## **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](http://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](http://nyslaa.org/awardsnominations.html).

Metropolitan New York Library Council  
Special Interest Group  
Library Assistants Support Staff & Associates

LASSA had a great 23rd Library Assistant's Day Celebration, held at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library, Midtown Manhattan. Our theme was Theme: "The New Normal for Libraries and Library Support Staff". It is always wonderful to see Library Assistants and Support Staff get together and celebrate their hard work. The Executive Council was glad that we were able to hold our first in-person event after the pandemic, and that it was such a success.

A 'BIG SHOUT' to Anthony Wyche who was our "Key" contact and the rest of the SNFL team (Arlene Quammie, Nancy Rettagliata and Daniel Veloz) who hosted the event. We are sorry to announce that Anthony Wyche is stepping back from LASSA. He has been a valuable member of the group and will be missed. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Our goal is that LASSA continues to thrive and support library assistants and support staff in the Metropolitan New York area. It is important to have a group like LASSA that can advocate for the professional contributions of these important workers.

We are looking for different ways in developing Library workers assisting them in supporting their libraries and communities.

A few additional Thank You; the New York Public Library, Local 1930, NY Public Library Guild and their President, Deborah Allman, for their continued Support and Davis Erin Anderson, former Director of Programs and Partnership, METRO.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, LASSA is excited to announce that we will be hosting the 2024 NYSLAA Conference! Plan to join us in White Plains, New York June 5-7, 2024.

We are currently working on the conference program and will be announcing more details soon.

Here are some photos from the 2023 Conference held at SUNY Oneonta.





