

NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

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Library Workers: Making Connections and Making a Difference

Wendy Freier, Conference Coordinator

Our 43rd conference will be taking place on June 7- 9, 2024 at Sonesta Downtown White Plains, NY. Plan on coming in early on Wednesday and participating in an afternoon tour. We have two great options! There will be a tour of Kykuit, the historical Rockefeller Estate. The second tour will be of The Percy Grainger Home and Studio.

Finish off Wednesday night by attending the Meet and Greet located in the hotel in the Larchmont Room. We will be exchanging white elephant gifts. Bring a gift to take a gift home. Please keep the price of your gift under \$15.

We have worked hard at finding a mix of workshops and presenters and are pleased with the variety. There will be some familiar faces as well as new ones!

Just a few of Thursday's workshops include: "Building Resilience and Managing Stress" and "Ethics and Advocacy for Library Assistants".

Take time to shop at the stores downtown and enjoy lunch on your own at a restaurant within blocks of the hotel.

Our Thursday night dinner will be at Mix Restaurant in the Sonesta Hotel It's a LUAU! Bring your leis, flowered shirts, sunglasses, and more!



Some of Friday's workshops include: "Student Success and Mentorship across Generations" and "Libraries Serving Community Hubs: Meeting the Needs of Diverse Communities".

Following Friday's workshops, we will enjoy lunch and our keynote speaker, Anthony Harmon, AFT Vice-President.

We will then move on to one of the highlights of the day, the presenting of the awards and the basket raffle.

"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities."

- R. David Lankes

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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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End of Year Reports for 2023

Conference Coordinator
Wendy Freier

Our last conference was held in 2023 at SUNY Oneonta.

The tours were fun. I especially enjoyed the Rail explorer tour.
We had a wonderful meal at the Meet & Greet held at the College Camp.
The meal was provided by Brook's BBQ.

The Thursday Night dinner at the Oneonta Country Club was entertaining, with live music, and the meal was fantastic.

There were many interesting workshops with very knowledgeable presenters.

Friday's keynote speaker was Darren Chase, director of the SUNY Oneonta library. He had an interactive presentation which made us all think.

We wrapped up the conference with the recognition of the years of membership awards and the basket raffle, always a highlight!

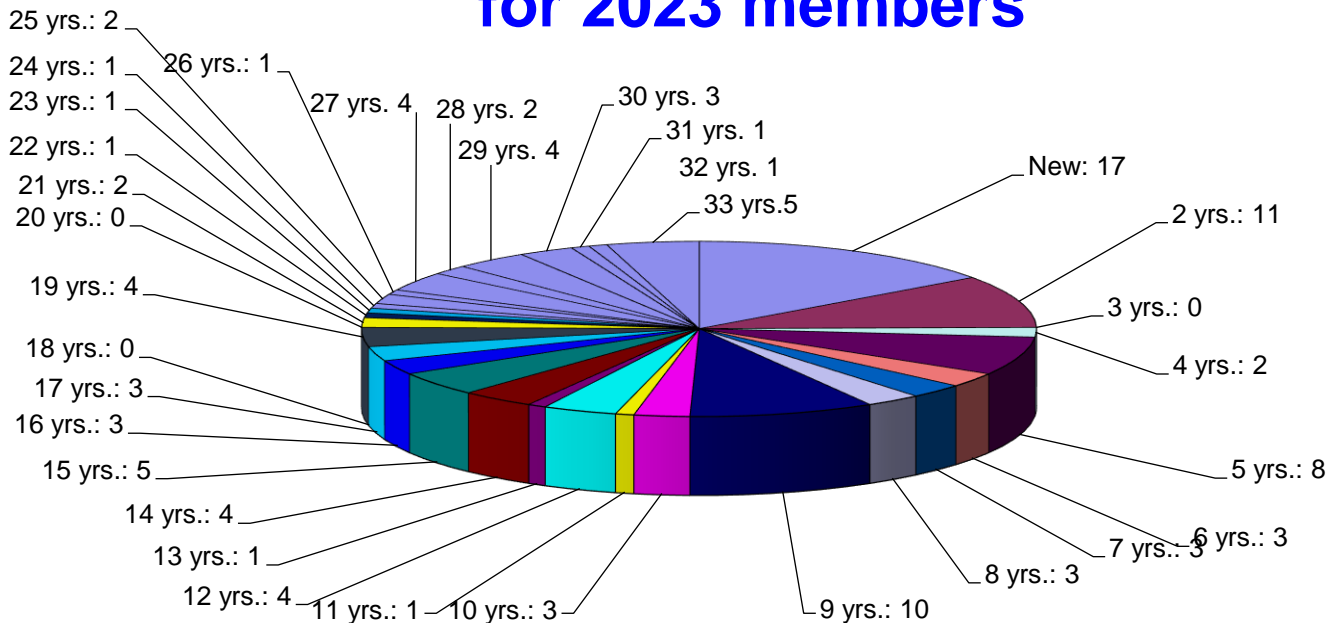
Start thinking about donating a basket to the 2024 conference.



Membership Secretary
Donna Hanna

The 2023 membership year ended at 113 members. We have 78 regular members and 35 associate.

Years of membership in NYSLAA for 2023 members



The regional distribution of members is:

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

** Numbers in parenthesis are 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, and totals.*

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

- College and University—25 (33, 36, 43, 69, 56)
- Junior College—2 (5, 9, 9, 15, 11)
- Law- 2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 3)
- Medical-2 (2, 0, 3, 4, 2)
- Non-library- 29 (28, 26, 29, 32, 25)
- Public- 51 (72, 71, 82, 143, 147)
- School- 1 (8, 0, 1, 2, 1, 3)
- Special- 1 (3, 3, 4, 4, 5)

** Numbers in parenthesis are 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, and totals.*

As you can see by the regional and type of institution numbers above, our numbers dropped off drastically after 2019. We did have a slight increase in membership last year, but we dropped off considerably in our numbers for this year. We had 10 people who took advantage of the free membership offer during National Library Week in April.

The 2023 Membership directory has been started and should be ready for online viewing shortly. Printed copies will only be available upon request.

Coming Soon to White Plains, NY - The 43rd NYSLAA Conference

Reserve your room at the hotel as soon as you are able. We want to see you in White Plains for a wonderful time of learning, networking, and activities.

You can book your room one of two ways:

1. Call to book your reservation - 1-800- SONESTA (766-3782) and mention group code: G060524NYSL
2. Use the Booking Website: <https://book.passkey.com/go/NYSLAAac3a940d> [book.passkey.com]

Our conference starts on Wednesday, June 7 with a choice of tours and our Meet & Greet Dinner. This year the Meet & Greet dinner cost is included in the registration fee.

Please consider joining us for a tour of either Kykuit, the historic Rockefeller Estate or the Percy Grainger Home and Studio.

At Kykuit you will see a Classical Revival-style villa that was completed in 1913 for John D. Rockefeller, founder of the Standard Oil Company. Four generations of Rockefellers lived in this house. Including Nelson A. Rockefeller, four-time governor of New York and vice president under Gerald Ford. There is an art gallery which includes works by Andy Warhol and Alexander Calder. The grounds feature formal gardens in a variety of styles and contains fountains, pavilions, and Nelson Rockefeller's collection of large-scale sculptures, including works by Louise Nevelson, David Smith, Pablo Picasso, and Henry Moore.



The Percy Grainger Home and Studio you will see is an American four-square wood shingled house. It is the resource most significantly associated with Grainger in America. Percy Grainger, born in Australia in 1882, was a renowned composer and pianist, a writer and watercolorist, a clothing designer and pioneering collector of folk songs. For forty years, from 1921 until his death in 1961, Grainger occupied the house at 7 Cromwell Place, White Plains, using it for his residence, practice studio, and laboratory for his avant-garde musical compositions and experimental music machines. The Grainger Home and Studio remains today furnished as it was during Grainger's lifetime, a dramatic living testimony to the life and times of a multi-faceted genius.



Coming Soon to White Plains, NY - The 43rd NYSLAA Conference cont. . .

Some workshop highlights.

Let's welcome back two of our favorite presenters!

Liz King is back in an encore performance; she will be talking about leadership. Those of you who enjoyed her workshops last year, might want to sign up again. If you missed her workshops last year, this is a great opportunity to sign up.

Alexander Eustice-Corwin is back again, this time, educating us on "Student Success and How to Mentor Across Generations". You will not want to miss this workshop.

If you want something new, we have you covered!

Our very own president, Cheryl Marriott, will be teaching us "How to Develop a Strong Personal Brand". She will educate us on how to promote ourselves. In the ever evolving work environment we live in now this is a valuable tool that we all need.

Do you want to gain confidence in how to respond in those first crucial seconds of an emergency? We have the workshop for you too. You will learn how to respond in an emergency situation. AVERT goes beyond the active shooter training. Sign up today.



We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Luau. We will meet at 'The Mix' in the Sonesta Hotel for our Thursday Night dinner. Be sure to bring the appropriate attire and join us for a night of fun.

Following our Friday morning workshops will be lunch with our keynote speaker, Anthony Harmon, AFT Vice-president. I know he will give us all something to think about and bring back to our libraries.

We will finish off the conference on Friday with an awards ceremony, celebrating anyone who earned their CoA, recognizing our members who reached key levels of membership, and, last but not least, the basket raffle.



Award Nominations:

Deadline for submission this year is April 8, 2024

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. In 1995, its name was changed 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

In 1989 the Ray Murray Award was created to honor Ray Murray, a librarian who opened the door for the creating of the annual library assistants conference, thereby laying the groundwork for NYSLAA. The Ray Murray Award is given to librarians, library directors, trustees, board members or others who have contributed to the recognition and/or professional growth of library assistants.

Craig Koste & Ray Murray Award Nomination Process

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.

To nominate, please compile a packet including: your nomination letter, supporting letters, and any other pertinent documentation. Please include the name of the nominee's supervisor for notification

Send nomination packets (or questions) for either award to the NYSLAA President:

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