

Technically Speaking

Spring 2025

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NEW CATS VICE-PRESIDENT!

CATS is pleased to welcome Nicole Malley as our newly appointed Vice President/President-Elect. Nicole will serve as Vice President through the remainder of 2025 and assume the role of President in January 2026.



Long Island Library Conference

The Long Island Library Conference was a great success, with CATS proudly hosting two well-attended programs. Women and Technology drew over 50 participants, while Teaching Emerging Technology—presented by Steve Alcalde, Anthony Giansante, and Sara Fade—welcomed 43 attendees.

The CATS raffle baskets were also a highlight of the conference, with the wine basket receiving 236 tickets and the Circuit-themed basket drawing an impressive 849 entries.

CATS Programming

Recent programming included a Technical Services Roundtable meeting at SCLS on June 12, which drew 22 attendees, and a TIF meeting on June 17 at the Half Hollow Hills Library, followed by a tour of the facility.

Looking ahead, CATS will host a second session of Teaching Emerging Technology at SCLS in late July. We are also excited to announce an upcoming collaborative program with SSD regarding support staff in makerspaces, scheduled for August 22 at 10:00 AM at Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library. Additional details for both programs will be shared soon. This fall, Teaching Emerging Technology will be featured at NYLA, along with Creative Tech Solutions on a Budget, presented by Steve Alcalde, Anthony Giansante, and Dave Jones.

Lastly, planning is underway for the CATS Annual Meeting, which will be held at 10:00 AM on December 3. Further information will be announced in the coming months. Also, please keep a lookout for information regarding our upcoming CATS mixer. looking to take place sometime around late July.



East End Technology Coalition

The East End Tech Coalition (EETC), a committee of CATS (Computer and Technical Services), works to enhance the role of technology in libraries across Long Island's East End. EETC supports library staff in adopting digital tools, designing tech-forward programming, and improving access to emerging technologies for the public. The goal is to ensure libraries remain essential community hubs for learning, innovation, and equitable access.

Recent programming has included "So You Want to Have A Makerspace?", a session which offered practical guidance for libraries interested in launching or expanding makerspace services. Participants explored planning, equipment selection, and program development aligned with local needs.

The upcoming session, "Navigating the Future: Teaching Emerging Tech in Libraries," will provide strategies for integrating topics such as artificial intelligence, virtual and augmented reality, and coding into library programming. This session emphasizes hands-on approaches and adaptable teaching models for staff and patrons. These efforts reflect a broader commitment to supporting the evolving role of libraries as access points for technology education, digital inclusion, and lifelong learning.



Technical Services Roundtable

The Technical Services Roundtable (TSR) provides opportunities for any and all Technical Services library staff to come together and share techniques, strategies, and procedures related to ordering, processing, cataloging, and maintaining library materials. The Roundtable is presented as a quarterly open forum, and all are encouraged to come and ask questions, share unique tips and tricks, and network with your fellow Tech Services workers.

We hosted a Roundtable at SCLS on June 12th where we discussed the trails and tribulations of our Library of Things collections, vendor woes, and possible future Tech Services programming in CATS.

Join us at our next TSR!



Upcoming CATS Dates

TBD - TIF Navigating the Future: Teaching Emerging Tech in Libraries @ SCLS

8/22 - CATS/SSD joint program @ MMSCL

9/11 - TIF/NCLA joint meeting - details TBD

9/14 - Maker Faire @ Stony Brook University - Get tickets here

10/9 - EETC/TSR joint meeting @ Rogers Memorial Library

11/5-11/8 - NYLA @ Saratoga Springs, NY - 2 CATS programs

12/3 - CATS Annual Meeting @ SCLS