
SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A REGIONAL CHAPTER OF THE
NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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Ally Mercado, Sachem Public Library

VICE PRESIDENT:

Carisse Mitchell, West Babylon Public Library

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DIVISION PRESIDENTS:

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DASL:

Bruce Seger, Suffolk County Community College

RASD:

Rachel Cecchini, The Smithtown Library, Smithtown Building

SSD:

Ronnie Rauch, West Islip Public Library

YASD:

Charlotte Buckleman, Lindenhurst Memorial Library



**Suffolk County
Library Association**

A Division of NYLA

ALLY MERCADO, SCLA PRESIDENT

Greetings, members!

I am Ally Mercado and I am happy to introduce myself as the 2021 SCLA President. I'm the Library Programs and Newsletter Coordinator at Sachem Public Library. I am entering my fourth consecutive year of service on the SCLA Board.

2020 proved to be a challenging year for us all, personally and professionally. I wish you all health and safety as we continue to serve our communities. I am proud to be part of a profession that constantly reinvents itself to suit an ever-changing world.

As we settle into 2021, I'm sure we will continue to find ourselves meeting virtually. Please remember that SCLA and our Divisions are here for you all. We value your dedication to Suffolk County and our Organization. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, suggestions or just to say hello-alexandra.mercado@sachemlibrary.org.

Keep an eye on our Listserv and [Facebook Page](#) for upcoming professional development opportunities and updates.

With gratitude,

Ally Mercado,
SCLA President

COMPUTER & TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

ALISON MIRABELLA, CATS PRESIDENT

It has been a roller coaster of a year! As outgoing CATS President, I'd like to thank everyone who attended the 2020 CATS/TIF Annual Meeting. It was held via Zoom and featured guest speaker Rob Thompson, NSW State Manager of the Australian Library and Information Association. He gave a wonderful presentation about Australian libraries, the importance of public service and how libraries should be more like craft breweries (which was a surprising, yet effective analogy)!

I would also like to thank the current CATS Board for all of their hard work this year. A big thank you to Chris DeCristofaro, James Hartmann as well as James Hutter from NCLA, who collaborated on a wonderful series of virtual Nassau and Suffolk County discussions that were extremely helpful in guiding librarians on how to use technology to reach our patrons during the shutdown.

Finally, I'd like to welcome our incoming officers! We're so grateful to Mary O'Grady and James Hansen, who have kindly agreed to return as secretary and treasurer respectively. Michael Bartolomeo will be serving as our new President and Anthony Giansante will be our new Vice President. I know they are going to bring us a lot of great programs this year!

We missed seeing you all in person, but we're proud of how Long Island librarians rose to the challenge to find new ways to engage with patrons despite the obstacles. Thank you all for your dedication! It was an honor serving as the President of CATS and working with such a wonderful group of people.

For anyone interested in joining CATS or staying up to date with future programs, please visit our website.

Thanks,
Alison



LONG ISLAND LIBRARY PRIDE ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS/NCLA: VALERIE ACKLIN & JODY RUGGIERO
CO-CHAIRS/SCLA: DEREK IVIE & NOLA THACKER

2020 is the year that LILPA was created! The Long Island Library Pride Alliance is a bi-county committee that is dedicated to sharing resources and offering workshops and training pertaining to LGBTQIA+ topics across Long Island.

On October 8th we held our *Coming Out Meetup* which invited those interested in the Committee to meet the Board, hear about upcoming programs and participate in a fun round of trivia. In November, LILPA paired up with both the Nassau and Suffolk YASDs for two different workshops. On November 4th, LILPA and Nassau's YASD presented *Serving LGBTQ Youth in Libraries*. At this workshop Maria Demauro from Pride for Youth (PFY) presented an overview of the LGBTQ community, various identities and how to best work with them in an inclusive way. The focus was on working with youth, but the information that was shared is applicable to all ages. On November 19th, LILPA and Suffolk's YASD presented *Rainbow Resources: LGBTQIA+ Book and Information Sources for Teens*. LILPA co-chair Derek Ivie presented resources including dates to note, local/national LGBTQ organizations, nonfiction and fiction books, important links and examples of how libraries on Long Island are serving LGBTQIA+ youth in their buildings and virtually through displays, resources and more. LILPA co-chair Jody Ruggiero presented during this meeting about the success of the GSA she created at her library.

Looking at 2021, the LILPA Board has a membership meeting taking place on January 7th. They will be introducing a number of workshops planned for the coming months. The LGBT Network will also be joining the meeting to present their *Top 25 LGBTQ-Affirming Children's Books*. The Long Island Library Pride Alliance will also be hosting a virtual asynchronous Mock Stonewall Award program throughout January 2021- more details to come!

A FAREWELL FROM OUR CURRENT SECRETARY JOYCE THOMPSON-HAAS

I would just like to thank the SCLA Board for allowing me to be secretary for the past 3 years! I will miss working with all of you.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

PETER WARD, BRENTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

LAST EDITION'S QUESTION:

In the world of medieval Europe, these people were the librarians of the day:

1. **Monks - WINNER!**
2. Knights
3. Peasants
4. Royalty

Congrats to our winners!

Arthur Friedman, Nassau Community College

Casey Fehn, Rogers Memorial Library

Cher Armstrong, Riverhead Free Library

Jamie Papandrea, Brookhaven Free Library

Jessica Brown, Patchogue-Medford Library

Sean McDonald, South Country Library

Serena Brooks, Smithtown Library, Nesconset Building

Teri Hatred, Suffolk Cooperative Library System

THIS EDITION'S QUESTION:

Which historical figure donated his personal library to form the basis of a new Library of Congress, after it was burned in the war of 1812?

- a. George Washington
- b. Thomas Jefferson
- c. James Madison
- d. Benjamin Franklin

**Please submit your answers to Jennifer Rocco
jrocco@brookhavenfreelibrary.org.**

**Winners will receive a gift and be announced in our next
newsletter!**

Good luck!

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE TERI HATRED

The Continuing Education Committee keeps a database of attendance at SCLA programs for members based on attendance sheets the Committee receives from sponsor groups. To be listed in the database, make sure you sign the attendance sheet for the program you are attending or email sclshr@suffolknet.org to be added to the database.

When you need your personal listing of attended programs, just send an email to the address above. A report will be sent back to you via email. Please be aware that the database may be incomplete, as it only has data from submitted attendance sheets.

You may also use the email for questions, concerns, and/or programming ideas.

REFERENCE & ADULT SERVICES DIVISION

EMILY GUERRERO, RASD PRESIDENT

LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENTS DOCUMENT THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

RASD Local History Committee Chair, Caren Zatyk

Local history departments at several Suffolk County libraries, including Brentwood, Cutchogue-New Suffolk, John Jermain, Northport-East Northport, Patchogue-Medford, Sayville and Smithtown, have taken steps in recent months to begin documenting the dramatic impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on the region. Newspaper articles, photographs, videos, journal entries, social media posts, unique items related to a particular area's response and other similar materials are being collected to illustrate how communities are coping with and adapting to this historic public health crisis. These collections will be of invaluable use to future generations of researchers and historians studying this rare event and its local effects.

It has been quite a year for all librarians and libraries. This year YASD had to learn to adapt to the changing times, both as librarians and for our teens. Thankfully together we were able to do it, and we had quite a year with programs!

- January: We held our annual *Meet the Board* meeting where we introduced the new Board and talked about what our librarians wanted or would like to see from YASD. We had a great turnout and lots of ideas. It was a great way to start the year.
- February: Nassau YASD held our *Annual Joint Meeting* and presented on *Serving Teens with Special Needs*. They had a panel of different librarians and staff who discussed how schools and libraries could engage their students, support student's behavior plans and build and support sensory-friendly environments.
- March: The pandemic hit and we had to cancel our *Annual Fran Romer*. This was devastating as we had an amazing author lined up – Claire LeGrand who we're hoping to get back once everything settles down. But our teen librarians were not to be deterred.
- May: After settling into our work from home schedules we hosted *Marketing and Creating Virtual Programs for Teens*. Here we discussed how to reach teens, the best ways to market to them and tried to find out what our patrons wanted from us during this crazy time. We had Michelle Vamos and Theresa Maritato present what they were offering as far as programs go, and our own Michele Cayea presented how to market programs using her extensive background and knowledge.
- June: Some of us went back to work and YASD rolled with the flow and presented *Welcoming Back Teens and Tweens – Virtually and in Person*. We discussed ways to reach teens again – such as virtual program rooms, Socrates Café and other ways to get teens to talk.
- October: We hosted an amazing *Take and Make Programming* panel. We had several presenters and librarians from all over the U.S. attend. Reason2smile spoke about their bracelets and how they help children in Africa, Kathy Reccardi shared her art kits, Theresa Maritato sent over her new programming ideas and we had a Nicole Sype from the Westland Public Library all the way in Michigan demonstrate how she was reaching her teens.
- November: Derek Ivie presented *Rainbow Resources for Teens* as part of the Long Island Library Pride Alliance. Here we learned about the new Bi-County Committee that is dedicated to servicing all of Long Island libraries and librarians who share an interest in LGBTQ information and services. Derek informed us of all the ways we could reach our patrons and I believe that everyone took home information on how to improve their libraries.

We as librarians always strive to reach our teens and patrons, and this pandemic has really shaken up how we provide services for our community. However, none of us backed down from this challenge. Our Zoom meetings had more attendees than any of our past programs- and I believe this is because we learned to lean on each other, supported each other and listened to what we all had to say. Ideas were shared, improvements were made and we are ending 2020 as stronger librarians because of it.

We welcome our 2021 Board. Please keep an eye out for programs and meetings they create, and the different ideas they come up with!

2021 Board:

Past President: Carisse Mitchell
President: Charlotte Buckleman
Vice President: Angela Breslin
Treasurer: Kyle Fichtner
Secretary: Shelby Rose
Webmaster: Katie Brand
Fran Romer: Andrea Roberts



SCREENSHOT FROM NOVEMBER'S MEETING

STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

COLLEEN NAVINS

During this uncertain time, my duties have shifted as I was not able to visit students in our neighboring library schools.

I continuously share job postings with my contacts at Queens College and LIU Post and forward any pertinent information to our future librarians from both SCLA and Suffolk libraries.

My yearly visit to LIU Post and St. John's was postponed, but I was able to share my presentation with students using a prerecorded Google Meet. I am looking forward to being able to get back into the graduate schools and advocate for SCLA and our future librarians on Long Island. I will continue as the Student Outreach Committee chair into 2021.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARANS ASSOCIATION OF SUFFOLK COUNTY

ERIN KANELOS, CLASC PRESIDENT

It's been a great year for CLASC! In October we held our Fall Literature Conference featuring speakers Thanhhá Lai and Kyle Lukoff. We owe a very special thanks to all of the librarians who prepared and oversaw the excellent book discussions that day. In November we had our Fall Membership Meeting, where we discussed innovative program ideas throughout the pandemic - including interactive movies, take and make literature kits, story walks and digital presentations.

We are continually impressed by our members' creativity and willingness to share and support each other as we all get through this together. Finally, we are excited to announce that next April, we will be featuring summer reading program artist Salina Yoon at our Spring Membership Meeting. More details and a flyer to follow.

We wish everyone a happy holiday season, and we are looking forward to a wonderful 2021!



**Suffolk County
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A Division of NYLA

*The Benefits of Joining
Professional Organizations*



SUPPORT STAFF DIVISION

CELIA VOLLMER, SSD PRESIDENT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members for participating in our Zoom Safety Conference and computer classes. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with and for, you.

We are always looking for new ideas, members and officers! We know there will be many challenges ahead. We are working together to build new opportunities for our members and collaborating with other Divisions to provide exciting new programs. Stay tuned for more details in the New Year. If you are interested in joining the Executive Board, or have a new idea for a workshop, please contact Roni Rauch, 2021 President of SSD-rrauch@westisliplibrary.org.

Best wishes and happiness to you and your families over the festive season. We look forward to a successful 2021 working together!

LIBRARY ADVOCACY DAY

SAMANTHA ALBERTS

Library Advocacy Day (virtual) will be held on FRIDAY, February 26, 2021. There will be a pre-advocacy day briefing held February 22, 2021; details and registration forthcoming.

NYLA and the Western New York Library Resources Council have partnered in a six-part webinar series about the fundamentals of being a library advocate. For more information or to register please visit the [NYLA website](#).

LONG ISLAND LIBRARY RESOURCES COUNCIL WINTER PROGRAMS

At LILRC, we wish you all a happy and healthy New Year! We are still offering our full slate of continuing education programs virtually through June 2021. Some upcoming winter program highlights:

- Monday, January 11 / 10:00 AM

Workplace Productivity Skills: Spreadsheets

- Tuesday, January 12 / 10:00 AM

What is Homelessness on Long Island: The Work of Long Island Coalition for the Homeless

- Thursday, January 14 / 3:00 PM

Coffee + Conversation: Social Media Librarians Virtual Meetup

- Tuesday, January 26 / 11:00 AM

The Doctors Blackwell: With Author Janice P. Nimura

- Wednesday, January 27 / 10:00 AM

Recent Developments in Labor & Employment Law

- Tuesday, February 2 / 2:00 PM

Wing It Project (Children's Programming)

- Friday, February 5 / 10:00 AM

The Development of Race and Racism (Open only to LILRC Members)

- Tuesday, February 9 / 1:00 PM

Creating a Professional and Effective PowerPoint Presentation

- Wednesday, February 10 / 2:00 PM

Developing the Next Generation of Library Leaders

We are also very excited to share that LILRC, as part of the Empire State Library Network (ESLN), will be co-presenting the following new symposium in July 2021!

The PILLARS Symposium (Preparation, Information Literacy, Libraries, Academic Resources, and 21st Century Skills for Transitioning from Secondary School to College) is a brand new three-day symposium that will bring NY State educators and librarians together to share knowledge on the topic of student readiness for college and beyond. To participate as a presenter, please check out this [Call for Proposals](#). To attend or for more information on the conference, bookmark the [Symposium website](#). All types of librarians and educators are welcome!

LIBRARY DIRECTORY ASSOCIATES AWARD

PAULA BORNSTEIN, LDA AWARD CHAIR

Even though 2020 has changed the norm for many of our traditions, the LDA Library Award presentation continues... albeit virtually. The LDA Award Committees of SCLA and NCLA have selected the winners for both 2020 and 2021. In January 2021, these individuals will receive their awards online from Dr. Art Friedman of Nassau County Community College Library. More information on how to view the presentation will be sent out in the near future.

LET'S GET TOGETHER, VIRTUALLY!

JANUARY 13, 2021

6:30 PM

Are you looking for ways to connect with library friends? Are you looking for a night of gut-busting fun? Well look no further.

Join SCLA members on Wednesday, January 13th at 6:30 PM for some good, wholesome fun.

More details will be sent through the SCLA listserv as the date draws closer.

