

January 2025



SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Hello SCLA Members,

Welcome to the 86th year of the Suffolk County Library Association! I'm Anthony Giansante, your 2025 SCLA President. Over the past handful of years, I have held multiple titles in The Association, including President of CATS and most recently, Vice President of SCLA. Within libraries, I've served in various positions but presently, I am Head of Emerging Technology at the John Jermain Memorial Library. It's an honor to address you as we kick off what promises to be an exciting and meaningful year for SCLA. Thanks to the dedication of past boards, we're in a strong position to keep moving forward, supporting your careers and helping you serve your communities.

During this year, we will aim to continue to engage with your curiosities, entertain your interests, assist in advancing your careers, and support you as you serve your communities. Your dedication to library service inspires us to create programs and opportunities that truly matter to you. Together, we'll ensure that SCLA continues to be a hub for professional development, innovation, and collaboration.

To kick off the year, we're excited to announce Meet SCLA 2025, an open house style program happening on February 28th. It's a great opportunity to connect, learn about our divisions, and explore all that SCLA has to offer. We're also continuing our support for the Mentorship Program, co-sponsored with PLDA and CLASC, and we're committed to hosting plenty of professional development and networking opportunities to help you grow and thrive.

As members of SCLA, you play a crucial role in shaping what we do. Your participation in workshops, programs, and events strengthens the association and ensures we continue to deliver real value. This year, we're prioritizing expanding continuing education opportunities, creating spaces for effective networking, and providing resources that help you excel in your work and careers.

We encourage you to get involved with the divisions, meet your division leaders and peers, join our events, and explore the full range of resources SCLA offers. Your contributions are vital to driving the organization forward. Together, we can grow, innovate, and tackle the challenges and opportunities shaping all library professions.

Thank you for being such an important part of SCLA.

Looking forward to a happy and healthy 2025!

Anthony Giansante
SCLA President

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President:

Anthony Giansante, John Jermain Memorial Library

Vice President:

Robert Johnson, Emma S. Clark Memorial Library

Secretary:

Rachel Cecchini, The Smithtown Library

Treasurer:

Wonda Miller, John Jermain Library

Past President:

Colleen Navins, The Smithtown Library

DIVISION PRESIDENTS:

CATS:

Steve Alcalde, Rogers Memorial Library

DASL:

Bruce Seger, Suffolk County Community College

RASD:

Jessica Brown, Patchogue-Medford Library

SSD:

Nicole Malley, Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library

YASD:

Rachel Lupinacci, Half Hollow Hills Community Library

Newsletter:

Carole Lingg, Hampton Bays Public Library

Reference and Adult Services Division

Jessica Brown, RASD President

Hello! My name is Jessica Brown and I am serving this upcoming year as RASD President. Joining me on the 2025 RASD Board are: Jackie Narkiewicz (Vice President/President Elect), Tova Harris (Treasurer), Emma Yohannan (Secretary). I look forward to working with them along with our appointed members and the chairpersons of each of our committees.

Health Concerns Committee

The annual workshop was held on November 13 at SCLS. The two presenters spoke about various aspects of obesity and its impact on health.

RASD Annual Luncheon

RASD held its annual meeting and luncheon at the Medford Branch of the Patchogue-Medford Library on December 3rd, 2024. Our guest speaker was Michael Kilano from Paws of War who spoke on the mission of the organization and purpose of service dogs.

Public Relations & Marketing Committee

The 2024 Suffolk Library Marketing Awards (SLMA) were announced at the Suffolk County Library Association Annual Dinner on October 24, 2024. This award recognizes the best public relations campaign done by a public or academic library in Suffolk County. This year's winners are:

- Mattituck-Laurel Library – First Place
- Longwood Public Library – Second Place
- Lindenhurst Memorial Library – Third Place
- West Islip Public Library – Honorable Mention

Learn more about the SLMA award here: <https://rasdpr.wordpress.com/>.

Congratulations to all of the winners!

Be sure to check out all RASD has to offer at www.scla.net/rasd

Sincerely,

Jessica Brown

Patchogue-Medford Library

Support Services Division

Nicole Malley, SSD President



I am honored to introduce myself as the current President of the SCLA Support Staff Division. My name is Nicole Malley, I am currently a Librarian in the Digital Services Department at Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library. My career in libraries started in Circulation, where I worked for a number of years, so I am very familiar with what support staff experience. I understand that support staff is vital to each and every library, and I am here to support and advocate for support staff during my term as President of SSD. We are revitalizing the Support Staff Division, and I hope to build a solid foundation for the future, building a division that fosters and encourages communication, collaboration, and success for all members.

SSD has offered several successful and important programs recently, such as the Circulation Roundtable and Library Gallery Meet up. We will continue offering programs like this, and we will be organizing new programs that are catered to support staff. The goal is to offer more programs that promote the needs of support staff, along with providing more professional development and networking opportunities. We will maintain what has been successful for SSD, while improving and refining the rest!

SSD and SCLA at large are here to support you, Support Staff, just as much as you assist us in every-day library operations. I am looking forward to representing SSD for the 2025 term, and am so grateful for the opportunity to serve the SSD Division.

Young Adult Services Division

Rachel Lupinacci, YASD President

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the incoming YASD President for 2025! It is a privilege to serve this incredible community and I am especially grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with such a talented and enthusiastic board. Together, we're gearing up for an exciting year ahead! Before we look forward to 2025, I'd like to highlight some of the successful programs completed under Past President Ashley Sabatino's leadership. Over the past few months, Ashley and the team brought to life several outstanding programs and events, setting a strong foundation for the year to come.

On November 19th, YASD and SCLS-YS jointly sponsored the program "Outside of the Box Community Service." Presenters Alex Giresi (Hampton Bays Public Library), Rhiannon Fiust (Brentwood Public Library), Rebecca Goldstein (Sachem Public Library), and Carisse Mitchell (West Babylon Public Library) shared several unique community service ideas for library staff members seeking new ways to engage their teen volunteers. The program was not only a complete success but also a truly collaborative experience for everyone involved.

On Tuesday, December 10th, YASD hosted its annual luncheon at the Half Hollow Hills Community Library. Attendees enjoyed a presentation by graphic novelist Kristen Gudsnuk, author of *Making Friends* and *Henchgirl*. Kristen was a delight, sharing examples of her earliest childhood art, insights into how she got started in the industry, and her plans for the future. Following Kristen's speech, the

2025 YASD board was introduced and the 2024 Teen Librarian Award winners were announced:

- Eric Barresi of Hampton Bays Public Library for Best Community Service Program
- Marianne Ramirez of Sayville Public Library for Most Creative Program
- Rachel Lupinacci of Half Hollow Hills Community Library for Best Display

Congratulations to all our award recipients and a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made the event such a success.

Looking ahead, YASD is kicking off January with a Vision Boarding Workshop where attendees will meet the 2025 board and discuss their hopes for the future of YASD, all while working on creative vision boards. Be sure to keep an eye on the listserv for details about our upcoming Joint Meeting with Nassau, scheduled for early March, as well as information about our annual Fran Romer Memorial Booktalk, scheduled for early April!



(Author Kristen Gudsnuk with members of the 2024 YASD Board)

2025 Long Island Library Conference

Featuring Keynote Speaker
Tracie D. Hall

Tracie D. Hall is the Distinguished Practitioner in Residence/Professor of Practice at the University of Washington Information School in Seattle and former American Library Association executive director.

In 2023, Hall was named to TIME Magazine's list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Melville Marriott

**Please Note:
Registration Opens December 2**

To register, please visit
<https://libconference.org/registration>

Conference Registration Rates

NCLA/SCLA Members \$85

Non-Members \$110

Current Students \$50

Same Day Registration \$175



<https://libconference.org>



Long Island Library Resource Council

LILRC is kicking off 2025 with some exciting programs!

On Wednesday, January 22, 10:00 AM at the Farmingdale Public Library, join LILRC and your fellow Long Island library community members for NYLA Meet the President. NYLA President Tim Spindler will welcome AnnaLee Dragon and Max Prime. Join us to talk about anything related to NYLA and to ask questions about advocacy!

Additional Upcoming Programs

Talking Book Library Service Information Session for Library Workers: Children's Services

Thursday, February 6, 3:00pm

Rock Star Online Platforms for Librarians: How to Create and Manage an Expert Online Presence

Monday, February 10, 11:00am

Diversity in Children's Literature: A Panel Discussion

Wednesday, February 12, 2:00pm

Telling Your Story: Advocacy Strategies for Library Success

Thursday, February 13, 10:00am

My Friend LeVar: Author Ezra Edmond

Wednesday, February 26, 2:00pm

Talking Book Library Service Information Session for Library Workers: Adult Services

Thursday, February 27, 10:00am

Traveling Exhibits

Looking for a new exhibit for your library? LILRC recently added *Becoming the United States: Colonial America to Reconstruction* to its collection of Traveling Exhibits, which LILRC member institutions can borrow for a one month period. For more information, contact Mona Boyd at mboyd@lilrc.org or 631-675-1570.



**Long Island
Library** Resources
Council