

April 2026



SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

I want to take a moment to say a simple but sincere thank you.

The Suffolk County Library Association (SCLA) exists for one reason: **you**. While we all deal with the daily "grind", the tech hurdles, the busy reference desks, and the constant multitasking, you are the ones who turn those challenges into successes. Your membership is what keeps our divisions and committees running, ensuring that libraries across Suffolk County remain the strongest pillars of our communities.

Join the Community

If you know of a colleague that hasn't joined SCLA yet, I invite you to welcome them to become a part of our association. We do this work better when we do it together.

Membership offers:

Support: A network of colleagues who understand your job in public libraries.

Growth: Resources and workshops for your professional development and career advancement.

Advocacy: A collective voice for public libraries, representing your needs to lawmakers.

Thank you for your dedicated service and for making our association possible. You are the reason our libraries work, and we are honored to have you with us.

Kind regards,

Bob Johnson, SCLA President

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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Robert Johnson, Emma S. Clark
Memorial Library

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Library

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Moriches-Shirley Community Library

DASL:

Bruce Seger, Suffolk County Community
College

RASD:

Jacqueline Narkiewicz, Huntington
Public Library

SSD:

Alexis Camarda, Brookhaven Free
Library

YASD:

Amanda Hayman, Half Hollow Hills
Community Library

Newsletter Chair:

Carole Lingg, Hampton Bays Public
Library



Computer and Technical Services Division

Nicole Malley-Romagnolo, CATS President

The Computer and Technical Services (CATS) division kicked off the year with a successful Vega Discover Training and Staff Discussion, co-hosted with SSD. Snow couldn't stop us! Although our original scheduled date had to be postponed, the rescheduled event on March 4 was well attended, and Professional Development Hours were awarded to participants.

We invite all association members to join us for our upcoming Spring programs, including the Women in Tech Panel scheduled for April 30 and the CATS Mixer, which will be held late May.

Join Us at the Long Island Library Conference! CATS is proud to sponsor these sessions at this year's conference:

- Intro to AI: The Good, the Bad, and the Weird
- Sewing in the Stacks: Integrating Sewing into your Library Makerspace
- Retro Rewind: Video Games & Vintage Tech for Libraries
- Librarian with the Mic: Conversations that Build Community
-

Visit our table to enter our raffle! In addition to several gift baskets, we are excited to be raffling off a brand-new Cricut Joy Xtra Bundle—perfect for any Makerspace! We look forward to seeing you there!



Computer and Technical Services
A Division of SCLA



Reference and Adult Services Division

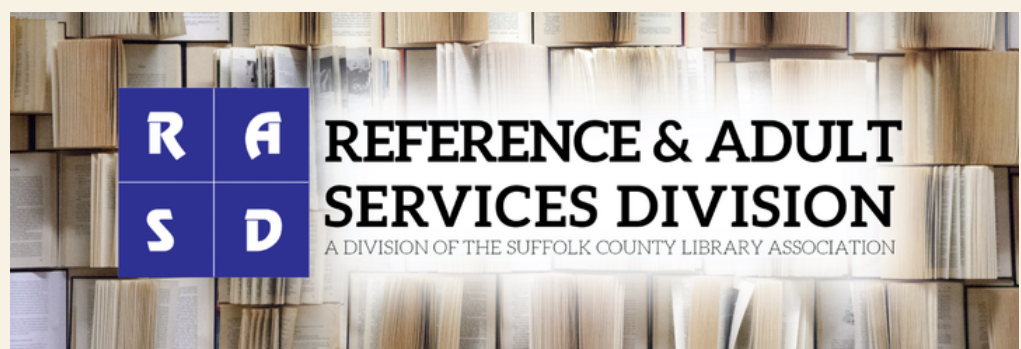
Jacqueline Narkiewicz, RASD President

The Library Marketing Committee will be having a Zoom program on April 15, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., featuring the The Suffolk Library Marketing Award Winners (SLMA) Roundtable. You can find the Zoom registration here: <https://scla.net/rasd/2025-slma-winners-virtual-roundtable-discussion/>.

The New Adults Committee is currently seeking a new chairperson. Please reach out to Kate Regina at katherine.regina@wyandanchlibrary.org if you are interested.

The Long Island Reads program with author Chris Pavone on April 26 at Half Hollow Hills Library has sold out.

RASD has sponsored several programs for the Long Island Library Conference.





ELSA

ELSA

The Excellence in Library Service Award Committee is now accepting nominations and would love to hear about the outstanding library workers across our county this year.

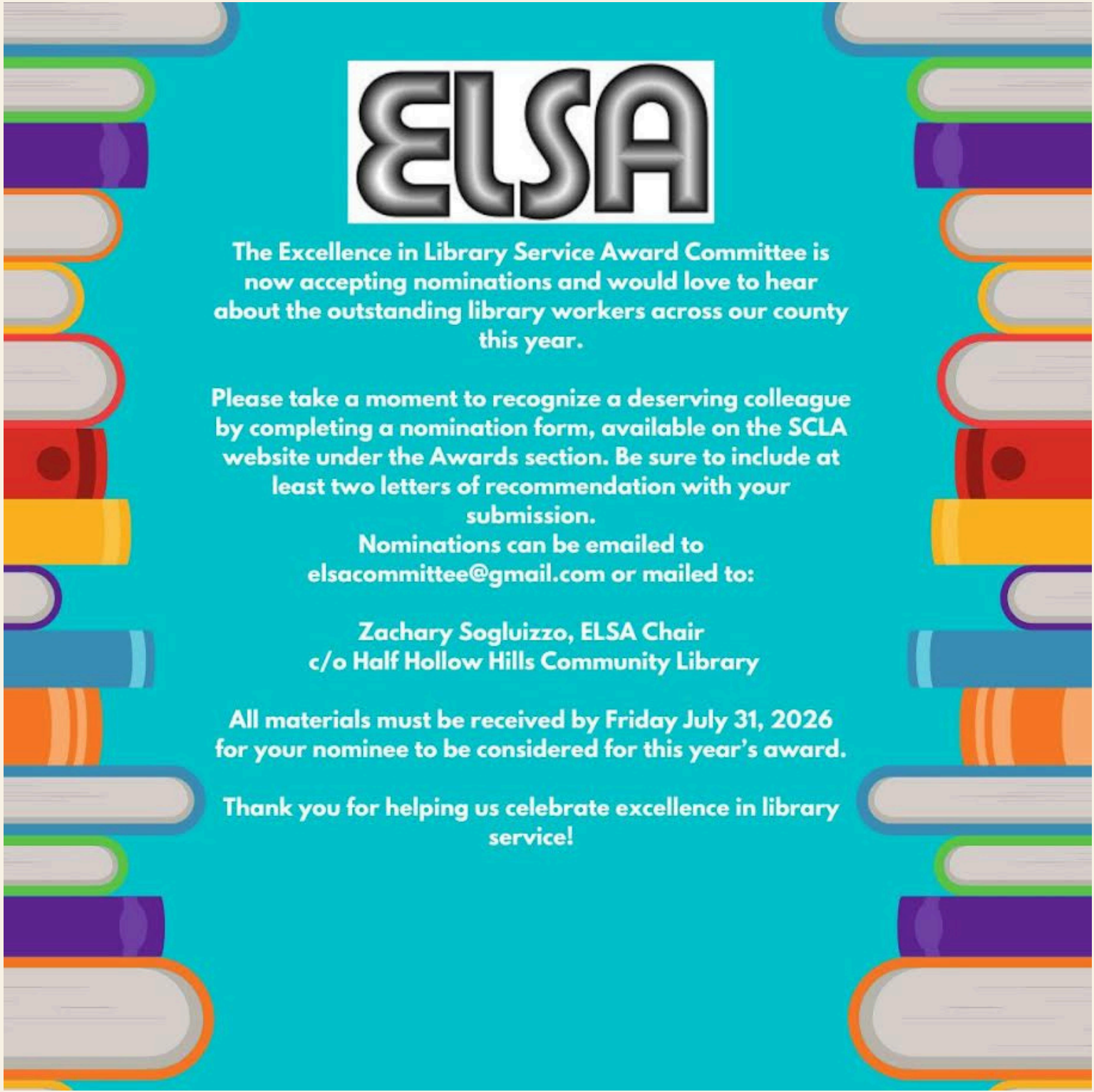
Please take a moment to recognize a deserving colleague by completing a nomination form, available on the SCLA website under the Awards section. Be sure to include at least two letters of recommendation with your submission.

Nominations can be emailed to elsacommittee@gmail.com or mailed to:

Zachary Sogluizzo, ELSA Chair
c/o Half Hollow Hills Community Library

All materials must be received by Friday July 31, 2026 for your nominee to be considered for this year's award.

Thank you for helping us celebrate excellence in library service!





LEOC

LEOC has had a great start to our first year as a committee!

Our first Library Employees of Color Roundtable was held in February. The roundtable was a great opportunity for BIPOC library staff to connect and discuss topics relevant to our experience. We had a great turnout and a lively discussion about many of our experiences and concerns, and we're looking forward to our next roundtable in April! Registration is open for our Thursday, April 16 roundtable, which will take place at SCLS.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Our webinar Microaggressions in the Library was held in March with an incredible turnout of nearly 150 people from across New York State. Charles Fox, the Director of Diversity & Development for the Legal Aid Society of Suffolk, spoke about what microaggressions are, how to recognize them, and strategies for library staff dealing with them. Thank you to LILPA for co-sponsoring this event with us!

Looking ahead to the Long Island Library Conference, we hope you'll join us for Challenge Accepted: How Library Staff Thrive in Times of Change, with speaker Tiffany Alston from the DC Public Library, who will discuss navigating change and celebrating the diversity of libraries. Thank you to the MOSAIC committee of RASD for organizing this event and inviting us to co-sponsor!

Networking

In March we kicked off this year's first networking event with our Winter Mix and Mingle at James Joyce Pub. Despite the cold, we had a great night of networking and fun with 38 attendees! We had six amazing basket raffles brought to you by our awesome SCLA committees. Keep an eye out for the next networking event, it's sure to be another great time.



Support Services Division

Alexis Camarda, Brookhaven Free Library

Spring is in the air, and the SSD crew have been busy bees! We had the opportunity to co-sponsor a Vega Discover training with CATS at the Mastic-Moriches-Shirley-Community Library on March 4th. This program was well received, with nearly 50 people in attendance. A representative from SCLS was there to help inform participants about the new catalog, as well as answer questions they had. As we approach the end of an era with the sunseting of the classic catalog, helping our colleagues navigate this new discovery layer is essential in supporting patrons with this transition.

On March 16th, SSD sponsored the second annual Virtual Library Gallery Meetup. Hosted by Kathryn Heaviside, Librarian & Gallery Coordinator with the Northport-East Northport Public Library, the event was filled with helpful tricks and tips for running a library gallery. Over 30 of our colleagues attended and participated in the lively discussion.

Mark your calendars! SSD will be presenting at the LI Library Conference on May 14th. Please join us for our program, “Improving Customer Service Skills for Library Staff”, which will focus on the everyday challenges library workers experience and on some practical ways to make their work feel smoother and more supported. We encourage you to attend and share some of your own tips on how you navigate your daily interactions with patrons!





Young Adult Services Division

Amanda Hayman, YASD President

Hello! YASD had a busy start to the year with our first two Teen Librarian Meetups. On January 21st we held a Vision Board Workshop at SCLS where teen librarians were able to meet the new YASD Board, create vision boards for the upcoming year, and chat with fellow teen librarians. On March 18th, we held our second meetup at the Brentwood Public Library where we toured the teen space and made Perler bead art.

We also held our Annual YASD Nassau/Suffolk Joint Meeting on March 24th. The meeting was organized by Nassau this year and featured speaker Kelly Jenson from the website Book Riot. Jenson spoke about the history of book censorship leading to where we are today and current trends in the book world.

I'm very excited about our upcoming events and want to highlight the fantastic work Jennifer Conlon and Michaela Schlosser have done with planning this year's 2026 Annual Fran Romer Memorial Booktalk Workshop taking place on April 16th at the South Huntington Public Library. This year's theme is Graphic Novels: Teen Tales in Panels with guest speaker Mike Cavallaro, author of the Nico Bravo and Eowulf series.

YASD is also looking forward to having a table at 2026 Long Island Library Conference and is excited to be sponsoring the program "6-7 Ways to Stay on Trend with Teens" with speakers Melissa Somoza from the Half Hollow Hills Community Library, Liz Hughes from the Elwood Public Library, Michaela Schlosser from the West Islip Public Library and myself.

Keep an eye on the SCLA website and our socials for upcoming YASD programs and news!

Amanda Hayman, YASD President



Long Island Library Conference

48th Annual Long Island Library Conference Empower, Engage, and Evolve

Registration is now open for the 2026 Long Island Library Conference! Join colleagues and vendors on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the Melville Marriott for a full day of learning, networking, and inspiration. This year, we are pleased to welcome Jamar Rahming as our keynote speaker. Rahming is the Chief Executive Officer of the Cuyahoga County Public Library and president-elect of the Public Library Association. With more than 20 years of library leadership experience, he is nationally recognized for innovative, community-centered initiatives and award-winning service, and is a past recipient of Library Journal's Movers & Shakers and the ALA's I Love My Library Award.



Registration will once again be processed through Eventbrite via the Conference website. Discounted rates are available for NCLA/SCLA members and students. Individual membership is required for the member rate. Visit libconference.org/registration/attendee/ for full registration details, rates, and deadlines, or contact lilcregister@gmail.com with conference questions.





Long Island Library Resources Council

Highlight Your Library on LILRC's Social Media!

Through October 2026, LILRC will be honoring its 60th Anniversary by highlighting 60 acts of community service and engagement by the council and its members.

We invite you to submit your own institution's act of service or engagement to be included in this social media campaign.

Kindly complete this form to submit your institution's contribution to our celebration!

For questions, please email Sally Stieglitz, Communications & Outreach Coordinator, at sstieglitz@lilrc.org

