



October 2026



SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A Closing Note from the President

As my year as SCLA President comes to a close, I want to say thank you. Serving this association has been one of the highlights of my career, and I am grateful to every member who trusted me with the role.

SCLA has served Suffolk County's library workers since 1939, and this year reminded me why it has lasted. We stood firm on what matters. Our commitment to intellectual freedom and the freedom to read did not waver, and we continued to oppose the restriction, removal, or censorship of books, materials, and displays. Through our Legislation, Intellectual Freedom, and Civil Service committees, we kept the concerns of library staff in front of the people who make decisions.

Professional development remained at the center of our work. Mentor Mindset, presented with PLDA and CLASC, brought new and seasoned leaders together. CATS joined NCLA for the Long Island Library Technology Forum. YASD launched its first Teen Community Service Showcase, and SSD opened the summer with a program on brain health. We also made time to connect, from the CATS Spring Mixer to Broadway Day to the Bowling Mix and Mingle. Those connections are where much of the real learning happens.

None of this happens without the people who do the work. Thank you to our executive team: Thank you to our Members-at-Large, and to our Division Presidents. A special thank you to the Long Island Library Conference committee. The conference is one of the most valuable professional development days of the year. Thank you to our committee chairs and liaisons, who give their time on top of full workloads, and to the directors who support their staff in serving.

Most of all, thank you to our members. You show up, you share ideas, and you make Suffolk County libraries better for the communities we serve.

I am pleased to hand the gavel to Rebecca Goldstein of Sachem Public Library. SCLA will be in excellent hands under her leadership. I look forward to supporting her and the board in 2027.

I hope to see you at the Annual Dinner on October 21 at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore, where we can celebrate the year together.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President.

Bob Johnson
President, Suffolk County Library Association
Emma S. Clark Memorial Library

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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Robert Johnson, Emma S. Clark
Memorial Library

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Jacqueline Narkiewicz, Huntington
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SSD:

Alexis Camarda, Brookhaven Free
Library

YASD:

Amanda Hayman, Half Hollow Hills
Community Library

Newsletter Chair:

Carole Lingg, Hampton Bays Public
Library



SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S

ANNUAL DINNER

Wednesday ~ OCTOBER ~ 6 - 10 pm
21

CAPTAIN BILL'S

Bayview House

122 Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore

Annual meeting - Awards - Networking
Live Music - Raffles - Giveaways - And More!

\$65 SCLA members - \$85 non-members

Our thanks to CCP Solutions

Click to Register

Contact Melissa Sutter with any questions:
melissa@myrml.org 631-283-0774 x504



ANGELS OF LONG ISLAND, INC.
"Neighbors helping neighbors."





Computer and Technical Services Division

Nicole Malley-Romagnolo, CATS President

CATS — Fall Return & Year-End Updates

CATS is back after a wonderful summer, fully energized and ready to take on the end of the year! We have a lot of exciting things ahead, and we are thrilled to finish out the quarter strong.

Professional Development Recap: Canva Revisited

On September 29, our Professional Development Series kicked off with "Canva Revisited: What's New, What's Underused," presented by CATS Board Member Alison Mirabella. The session was very well attended with nearly 70 participants! A huge thank you to Alison for her hard work and leadership on this program.

Looking Ahead: Future Programming

We are currently working behind the scenes on details for upcoming programs, including:

- An AI Policy program
- A potential Winter Mixer

Keep a close eye on your inbox for updates as these details are finalized.

Save the Date: December Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! Our December Annual Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, to be held at the Suffolk County Library System, featuring guest speaker Joshua Varon. Further details and registration information will be shared soon.

Special Scholarship Opportunity: "Tell Your Story"

CATS will be offering a special scholarship opportunity titled "Tell Your Story."

- Submission Deadline: November 15
- Details: Specific entry terms and guidelines will be released soon, so stay tuned!
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Thank you for your continued support as we dive into a busy and exciting season. Be sure to keep an eye on your emails for more information coming soon!



Reference and Adult Services Division

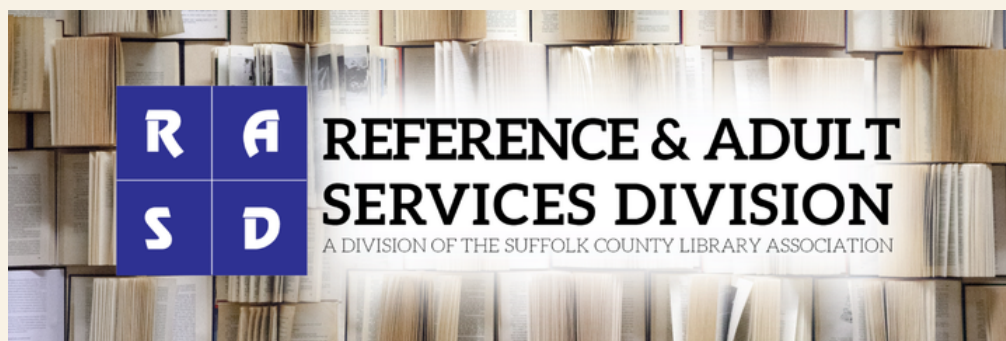
Jacqueline Narkiewicz, RASD President

The Local History Committee will be having a 2026 Programmers Showcase on Friday, October 16, 2026, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon at the Northport Public Library.

Our SCLA Annual Dinner raffle basket will have a homegrown/made on Long Island theme to it.

The New Adults Committee needs a new person to chair it because Kate Regina is not able to do it anymore. If you are interested, please let me know.

The 2026 Suffolk Library Marketing Award has received four submissions and the winner will be announced at the SCLA Annual Dinner.





Support Services Division

Alexis Camarda, Brookhaven Free Library

"SSD had a quiet summer as our committee members focused on supporting our libraries through our always busy summer months! We did have the opportunity to work with the Library Employee of Color committee on September 18th to present the professional development program, "So You Want to be a Librarian", which focused on helping support staff transition to a librarian role. We had a great turnout, with many excellent questions and conversations geared toward helping curious staff learn more about their options as they move forward in their careers.

SSD is working on some potential programming as we approach the end of the year. Stay tuned for more info as we transition into the cooler autumn months!"

Networking

On September 22nd, SCLA held it's first (but not last) Bowling Mix & Mingle! Held at the Lucky Strike in Sayville, we had a great night of bowling, snacking and networking. Congrats to Jason Forshee for the night's high score of 290! Keep an eye out for our next Mix & Mingle event in the spring. And if you have a suggestion for a type of event you'd like to see in the future, please let me know!





Young Adult Services Division

Amanda Hayman, YASD President

Happy Fall!

YASD had a quiet summer gearing up for fall with many exciting upcoming events!

On November 18 we will be having our first-ever Teen Community Service Showcase at SCLS featuring local programmers, librarian presentations and resources to take back to your library. We are currently looking for presenters. If you are interested, please contact me at ahayman@hhhlibrary.org.

We are also excited to announce that we will be having YA author of *Revelle* and *Gilded in Vengeance* Lyssa Mia Smith speak at our YASD Luncheon on December 16 at The Tap Room in Ronkonkoma. Brunch will be served with gluten, dairy-free and vegan options for \$45 per person. Registration is now open on the SCLA website!

I also want to congratulate Melissa Somoza, Elizabeth Lopez, Michele Nevola and Michelle La Pinta who have been elected as the incoming 2027 YASD Board with Liz Hughes as president. I know you all will do a fantastic job!

Amanda Hayman, YASD President



LEOC

LEOC has had a busy first year as a committee!

We have continued to hold our Library Employees of Color Roundtables bimonthly. These roundtables are a great opportunity for BIPOC library staff to connect and discuss topics relevant to our experiences. We're looking forward to our next roundtable in October, which will be held on Thursday, October 29 at SCLS.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

As part of the Professional Development series, LEOC partnered with SSD on September 18 to present the program So You Want to Be a Librarian: Moving from a Support Role to Librarian. The program covered the basics of becoming a librarian from the perspective of someone that already works as support staff, including library schools, scholarship opportunities, civil service, and other information that would benefit someone considering a career as a librarian. BIPOC library staff are particularly underrepresented in librarian roles and we'd love to see more support staff make the jump to librarian. Thank you to SSD for helping us put this program together!

Coming up this fall, be on the lookout for a webinar on Navigating Systemic Burnout, presented by Dr. Jalana Harris, from the Stony Brook School of Social Welfare, and her staff. While the webinar will focus on the experiences of BIPOC staff, the strategies discussed can be beneficial to all library staff and we encourage non-BIPOC staff to attend! Date to be announced - keep an eye on the SCLA listserv for registration information.



Long Island Library Conference

SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE

2027

LONG ISLAND LIBRARY CONFERENCE



Thursday, May 13, 2027



**Melville Marriott
Melville, NY**

**NCLA/SCLA MEMBERS
ENJOY DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION PRICING!**

For more information and updates,
please go to:

<https://libconference.org>





Long Island Library Resources Council

Join LILRC on December 2, to meet Emmy winning director Lynn Novick! LILRC is excited to announce that we were recently awarded a programming grant from PBS/WETA for programming related to the upcoming PBS documentary, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN AMERICA. We were even more thrilled when our request to have someone from the production team speak about the documentary to librarians was granted and we were told it would be none other than Director Lynn Novick, winner of Emmy and Peabody awards!!

Don't miss this opportunity to join us for a virtual highlights screening followed by a moderated conversation with Ms. Novick on December 2, 2026.

PBS Screening: Crime and Punishment in America with Director Lynn Novick
Wednesday, December 2
1:00pm - 2:00pm (Zoom)

REGISTER

“LYNN NOVICK is one of the most renowned and respected documentary filmmakers and story tellers in America. For more than 30 years she has been directing and producing landmark documentary films for PBS about American life and culture, history, politics, sports, art, architecture, literature, and music. In collaboration with Ken Burns, she has created more than 80 hours of acclaimed programming including The VietnamWar, Baseball, Jazz, Frank Lloyd Wright, The War, and Prohibition. Novick has received Emmy, Peabody and Alfred I. duPont Columbia Awards.”

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0637089/bio/?ref=nm_ov_bio_sm

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN AMERICA is a new four-part, eight-hour documentary series that explores the history of criminal justice in America — from the pre-colonial period to 21st century mass incarceration. The series, directed by Lynn Novick is the first documentary offering a comprehensive examination of how the intertwined forces of law, power, race, and class have both shaped and reflected the American experience over four centuries.

