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A Note from the President

After a lovely summer, we are happy to finish out the year and share some updates of what's upcoming. First, let's reflect on the highlights from July, August, and September.

Professional Development Spotlight: Canva Revisited

We kicked off our latest Professional Development Series on September 29 with "Canva Revisited: What's New, What's Underused," presented expertly by CATS Board Member Alison Mirabella.



With a fantastic turnout of nearly 70 participants, the session was a hit. A huge shout-out and thank you to Alison for her incredible hard work and guidance!

Long Island Library Technology Forum

Nearly 40 people joined us at Rogers Memorial Library for the Long Island Library Technology Forum, with some traveling from as far as Westchester. It was wonderful to see so many people sharing ideas, talking through challenges, and making connections across libraries.

The turnout made one thing clear: there is an appetite for more opportunities like this. We plan to hold the forum quarterly, rotating among libraries throughout Long Island.

The event was sponsored by the East End Tech Coalition (EETC) and the Technology Information Forum (TIF), both committees of CATS, along with the Nassau County Library Association (NCLA) Technology Committee. Thank you to Rogers Memorial Library for hosting and to everyone who made the trip.

AI: The Good, The Bad, and The Weird

Three CATS board members, Anthony Giansante, Steve Alcalde, and Bob Johnson, recently had the opportunity to present “AI: The Good, The Bad, and The Weird” at Sachem Public Library’s Professional Development Day.

Their session focused on the pros and cons of artificial intelligence as it exists today, looking at the ways AI can be useful while also addressing some of the concerns that come along with it. The conversation touched on topics such as accuracy, privacy, bias, misinformation, and the growing role AI is beginning to play in both our professional and everyday lives.

As AI becomes more common in libraries and in the lives of the people we serve, opportunities like this are becoming increasingly important. Giving library staff the space to ask questions, share concerns, and better understand both the promise and the limitations of AI helps everyone approach the technology with a little more confidence and a lot more context.



Call for Proposals: 2027 Long Island Library Conference

Got a great idea to share with your peers? LILC is now accepting program proposals for their 2027 conference through December 11.

- Theme: Infinite Possibilities (Though topics don't strictly have to match!)
- Need a Sponsor? All programs require sponsorship from an NCLA or SCLA division. If you'd like CATS to sponsor yours, reach out to 2026 Division President Nicole Malley-Romagnolo at nmalley@communitylibrary.org and include 2027 Incoming President Dave Jones at dave@westhamptonlibrary.org. Submit your proposals [here](#).



Sneak Peak: 2026 "Tell Us Your Story" CATS Scholarship
CATS would like to announce a special scholarship opportunity.
The only criteria is that you must be a member of CATS.
Keep an eye out for an email in October with details on how to
apply once the submission period opens.

Upcoming CATS Dates

10/27 Technical Services Roundtable @ Longwood Public Library, 10:00 am [Register](#)

11/12 Tech Talk: Do You need an A.I. Policy? @ Sayville Public Library 2:30 pm [Register](#)

12/2 CATS Annual Meeting @ SCLS, 10:00 am

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CATS Computer and Technical Services

