Can Your Library Count on YOU to be a Library Advocate in Albany on Wednesday, February 28?

RCLS member library staff, trustees, Friends and Library Champions of all ages are encouraged to attend the Library Advocacy Day in Albany sponsored by the New York Library Association (NYLA). The goal is to help legislators understand how much people care about libraries by packing their offices at every scheduled appointment. With 11 legislators to meet with, lots of people are needed to come and show their support. RCLS makes all the appointments and arranges transportation – you just bring your passion for libraries!

Your attendance can make a BIG impact. Join us for meetings with your NYS representatives in Albany to make the case that Libraries ARE Education! and should receive funding increases and infrastructure investments that respect our role in the community. Libraries should be receiving the level of State Aid as defined in Education Law.

Governor Cuomo will soon release his Executive Budget and as in previous years, it may include cuts to both State Library Aid and State Aid for Public Library Construction.

In preparing for the library community’s response to the Governor’s Executive Budget, NYLA has provided these bullet points as background information:

- State Library Aid in the FY2017-2018 enacted budget was $95.9M, placing library aid at 2006 funding levels.
- More than $118M in contemplated statutory State Library Aid has been withheld since FY2007-2008.

More...
RCLS Makes Getting to Albany Easier!

- **Coordinated transportation along the NYS Thruway.**
  Take a motorcoach from one of the five convenient pick-up point locations—West Nyack, Newburgh, New Paltz, Kingston or Catskill. Register today using the RCLS online calendar. Send your check for $5 per person to Ruth Daubenspeck at RCLS. For the details, [view the flyer](#).

- **All appointments with legislators are made through RCLS.**
  The schedule will be available on the motorcoach and posted on the RCLS website. Meetings are between 9:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

- **To keep library advocates up to speed, information is available on the RCLS website.**
  Those registered for the motorcoaches or who register that they are driving themselves, will receive an information packet.

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**RCLS Professional Collection for YOU**

*Martha Sullivan, RCLS Software Support Technician*

RCLS has a great collection of professional resource books on various subjects including Collection Development, Library Construction, Program Planning and much more for member library staff to borrow. The Professional Collection is now found in two LibGuides where some of our best and most relevant volumes are highlighted. Each guide has a link to our complete catalog where you can place a request for books to be sent directly to you. Plus, we appreciate suggestions for additions to our collection. Just fill out the form on the home pages of the guides.

View the LibGuides now: [RCLS Professional Collection](#)

and the [Youth Services Professional Collection](#).

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A link to both LibGuides and many more are available under the **Resources tab** on the [RCLS website](#).
Know Your Legislator

According to the American Library Association (ALA) Library Advocate’s handbook, the more you know about a legislator or official, the more effective you can be in communicating the library message and ensuring a successful outcome from your advocacy efforts.

In preparation for New York Library Association Library Advocacy Day, Wednesday, February 28, 2018, the RCLS Weekly Memo will be taking a closer look each week at one of the eleven legislators that represent the RCLS area.

97th Assembly District
Assemblymember Ellen C. Jaffee

Political Party: Democrat
Assumed Office: January 1, 2006
Previous Positions:
• County Legislator, District 12 - New York Rockland County, 1997-2006
• Candidate, New York State Assembly, District 95, 2002
• Trustee, Village of Suffern, 1995-1997
• Educational Consultant/Teacher, Ponoma Middle School, 1981-2002
Education:
• B.A. in Education from Brooklyn College
• M.S. in Special Education from Fordham University
Family:
Widow of Steven; two Children;
Primary supporters: Vote Smart Facts Matter
Committees:
• Children and Families, Chair
• Education
• Environmental Conservation
• Health
• Mental Health
Priorities:
Full equality for women, equal pay for equal work, reproductive rights, high-quality, affordable child care for everyone who needs it and a quality education from early childhood through college.
Position on libraries: Pro-libraries. Grade of A on 2012 Library Voting Guide
Libraries in District: Blauvelt, Nyack, Orangeburg, Palisades, Pearl River, Piermont, Spring Valley, Suffern, Tappan
Local Office: 1 Blue Hill Plaza, Ste. 1116, P.O. Box 1549, Pearl River, NY 10965
Local Phone: 845-624-4601
Albany office: LOB 626, Albany, NY 12248
Albany Phone: 518-455-5118
E-mail: JaffeeE@nyassembly.gov
Website: http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Ellen-Jaffee/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JaffeeNY
Twitter: https://twitter.com/EllenCJaffee
Photo of the Week

Marybeth Darnobid, Blauvelt Free Library Children’s Services Librarian looks over one of the 1,000+ books on display at the RCLS Juvenile Book Preview Session at System headquarters.

The session ends Friday, January 19.

To schedule a visit, contact Eileen Acosta at RCLS (ext. 221 or eacosta@rcls.org)

Share a library related photo, include a brief caption, your name, position and the library’s name. A photo release is required from recognizable individuals in the photo. Click here for the RCLS photo release. Submit the picture to rclsmemo@rcls.org with ‘Photo of the Week’ in the subject line.

Share your library news with the RCLS Weekly Memo

Send your press ready article to rclsmemo@rcls.org

2018 Page-A-Day Book Lover’s Calendar

Don’t miss this opportunity—order your copy today!

The order form can be found on the RCLS website.
The Case Against Library Fines  

Quartz, Dec. 18

NYPL President Anthony W. Marx writes: “Public libraries are on the front lines every day, ensuring that no one—regardless of beliefs or background—faces barriers to learning, growing, and strengthening our communities. It is because of this role, so crucial to our democracy of informed citizens, that I and many others at libraries across the country have been seriously evaluating the complex and long-standing issue of library fines—and whether to do away with them.”

10 Reasons Libraries are Still Better than the Internet  

American Libraries feature, Dec. 19

Marcus Banks writes, “Sixteen years ago, American Libraries published Mark Y. Herring’s essay ‘Ten Reasons Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library’ (April 2001). Technology has improved exponentially since then—social media didn’t even exist yet. But even the smartest phone’s intelligence is limited by paywalls, Twitter trolls, fake news, and other hazards of online life. Here are 10 reasons why libraries are still better than the internet.”

The Future Looks Bright for Librarianship  

Public Libraries Online, Dec. 15

Noah Lenstra writes, “USA Today recently published an article titled ‘Careers: Eight Jobs That Won’t Exist in 2030.’ The first career listed was ‘librarian.’ Empirical data paint a far different future. According to a report on The Future of Skills: Employment in 2030 by Pearson, ‘Librarians, curators, and archivists’ will be the ninth most in-demand occupation group in coming years. Librarians will be more in demand in 2030 than media and communication workers and construction trade workers.”

News Worthy  

National

- **Suburban libraries working to be more accommodating to the homeless** | The Beacon News 1.6.18
- **Jacqueline Woodson Is Named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature** | The New York Times 1.4.18
- **In frigid weather, Evanston library social worker helps assist homeless population** | Chicago Tribune 12.28.17
- **No more fines for overdue books in 2018 at Waukegan Public Library** | Chicago Tribune 12.28.17
- **17 striking findings from 2017** | Pew Research Center 12.26.17
- **No more library fines for most young readers in L.A. County** | Los Angeles Times 12.25.17
- **The Power of Community Outreach Meeting the Demands of the Growing Senior Population** | Public Libraries Online 12.8.17
2017 RCLS Annual Meeting Awards

At the RCLS Legislative Breakfast and Annual Meeting held on Friday, September 15, Annual Awards presentations were made. The following is a nomination for the Member Library Adult Program of the Year Award:

**Program:** “Nyack Library Maker Space Expo ”

**Nominator:** Elizabeth Hobson

**Nominating Library:** Nyack Library

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in July 2016 the Nyack Library Maker Space committee got together to present our first ever Maker Space EXPO. Our committee is composed of staff members from almost every department in the library, including Children, Teen and Adult services, Technical services, Circulation and Administration. Our members each volunteered to host a table showing the different technologies currently available in the library, along with a few wish list items.

We had seven different tables set up in our Carnegie Farian Room, and a display on the sidewalk leading up to the library. Each department had something different to show our patrons, from a small, 3D printer our Head of Technology & Outreach assembled at an RCLS workshop, to 3Doodler pens, LED light-up paper bowties, a Makey-Makey electronics kit fruit orchestra, and sewing machines set up to make tiny, take-away pillows. There was even a block-play area for the very littlest makers.

Our fantastic community volunteer Dr. Dunc (Duncan Bell) set up two tables illustrating projects that could be made with 3D printers, (he brought two of them), Arduino-controlled light displays, and outside the library, a full-size Auto-Garden set up. The Auto-Garden is a planter with an Arduino-controlled independent watering system.

We counted at least 300 people who came through our Expo that Sunday afternoon. Many different patrons were intrigued by our concept. Families had fun putting together simple projects, teens enjoyed the sewing machines, and we had multiple inquiries about beginning Maker groups in the area. Post-Expo we presented an Arduino programming workshop taught by Dr. Bell during the winter and early spring months, and sewing workshops for older elementary students and adults (attendees each went home with comfortable pajama pants they made themselves). Great fun was had by all.
**System Calendar**

For a complete and up-to-date list of events, including links to additional information, see the [RCLS Calendar](#).

To add information, contact Ruth Daubenspeck.

**January**

**Monday, 15**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**RCLS CLOSED—NO DELIVERIES**

**Tuesday, 16—Friday, 19**

- **Juvenile Book Preview**, RCLS 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- **RCLS Board Meeting**, RCLS—6:30 p.m.
- **SUPLA, Callicoon**—9:30 a.m.

**Monday, 22**

- **CLOUSC Mock Caldecott & Newbery Discussions**, Newburgh—9:00 a.m.
- **RCLS Teen Librarians’ Mock Printz Award Discussions**, Newburgh—2:00 p.m.

**Monday, 22**

- **ANSER Committee**, Newburgh—9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, 25**

- **LARC-Adult Services, Spring Valley**—10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, 25**

- **RCLS Managers Meeting**, RCLS—10:00 a.m.

**Friday, 26**

- **State Annual Report Workshop**, Washingtonville—10:00 a.m.
- **State Annual Report Workshop – Hands-on Training**, Washingtonville—1:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, 30**

- **LARC-YS Mock Newbery & Caldecott Discussions—Valley Cottage**—9:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, 31**

- **System Orientation**, RCLS—10:00 a.m.

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**RCLS Headquarters E-mail and Extension Directory (845.243.3747)**

- **Robert Hubsher** ............Executive Director ................................................................. 242
- **Chuck Conklin** .............Delivery & Building Maintenance Supervisor ......................... 226
- **Dan Donohue** ..............ILL/Technical Services Librarian ........................................... 237
- **Randall Enos** ...............Youth Services Consultant .................................................... 240
- **Stephen Hoefer** .............Fiscal Officer ........................................................................ 223
- **John Hurley** .................ANSER Manager and Systems Administrator ....................... 228
- **Jerry Kuntz** .................Electronic Resources Consultant ............................................. 246
- **Grace Riario** ...............Assistant Director & Outreach Coordinator ............................ 233