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Western New York Library Resources Council

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WNYLRC Updates

New Website: In early August, we will be launching a new website for the organization. Please log into your current website accounts and download any certificates of attendance you haven't saved from previous WNYLRC programs. If you need assistance with this, please contact us. Your account information will not be transferred over to the new site. Stay tuned!

ALA: Did you go to ALA!? We're sorry we missed you. Jay and Caitlin attended, each for the first time, and had a blast taking in the national conference and the beautiful city of Chicago. The camaraderie was terrific - as Judy Blume said in the opening general session, "We're going to fight, fight, fight!" I also want to add two other quotes from the session that resonated with me: Cortney Hall said, "The right words read at the right time can save lives." And Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias said, "Authoritarian regimes ban books, not democracies." These are all important reminders of why library workers are so essential to their communities. This is why our library jobs are important to us and why it is so important to push back hard against the egregious challenges happening not only in our region but across the state and

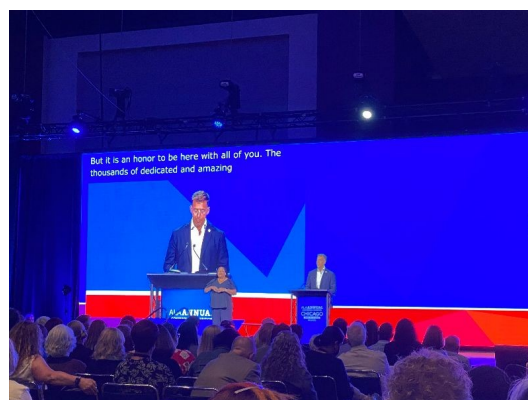
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From Jay's ALA report: "Libraries are foundationally not only homes for books, but places where knowledge and expertise are cultivated and shared; if market forces are deprecating these experts and pushing in cheap, low-information employees then there is a natural niche to be found for libraries as the new home for this expertise and knowledge. This requires a bit of a philosophical shift in libraries and among their workers, but ultimately will be a bulwark against future irrelevance of our profession and enhance the overall breadth of skills that can be found in libraries." It's true! We are knowledgeable, skilled workers with a variety of interests. We have degrees and certifications proving our expertise. All too often, when we leave institutions, we see our jobs posted with the same qualifications for less pay and a lesser title. Let's stop devaluing our worth as a profession and start demanding the respect we deserve.

New York State Education Department: Barbara Lilley, Library Development Specialist II Conservation at New York State Education Department, came to visit WNYLRC and did a presentation on how to write a New York State Conservation/Preservation Grant. After the presentation, Sheryl, Heidi, and Barbara visited several WNYLRC members including Burchfield Penney Art Center, Buffalo History Museum, and Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Branch.

Annual Meeting: Save the date for the Annual Meeting of the Membership! This year it will take place on September 26th at the Buffalo History Museum. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Barbara Seals Nevergold. Join us for a night of business, networking, and celebrating the Western New York library community. Registration for this event will open later this summer (on our new site!).

Role Changes: There are a few changes happening at WNYLRC this summer. Besides the aforementioned website transition, we are transitioning some roles. Caitlin's new title is Reference and Research Services Coordinator. She will continue to run Ask Us 24/7, manage social media services and Ask The Lawyer RAQs, and coordinate with Empire State Library Network (ESLN). However, she will also be working the reference desk in the Buffalo General Medical Center Library and tackle reference questions for BGMC staff as part of the Hospital Library Services Program. Jenn is moving to full-time status and her title is now Member Engagement Services Coordinator. She will be coordinating professional development for WNYLRC, coordinate with the membership and answer member questions, and assist with marketing and

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*Speakers during the ALA Opening General Session. Clockwise from top left:
Justin Chanda in conversation with Judy Blume, Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, FCC
Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, and ALA Executive Director Tracie D. Hall.*

New Member

We are excited to welcome one new member into the fold. This spring, the WNYLRC Board of Trustees approved this new applicant for membership.

Please welcome:

- [National Spiritualist Association of Churches](#)

Take some time to click through and learn a little bit about this new institution and what they do. You can also view the rest of the membership in [our directory](#).

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Pictured from left: Barbara Lilley, Heather Gring (Archivist and WNYLRC Board Member), and Sheryl Knab at Burchfield Penney Art Center.

Photo contributed by Heidi Ziemer.

News from the Region

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Collections Cynthia Van Ness attended the very first legal same-sex wedding in New York State. Kitty Lambert-Rudd and Cheryle Lambert-Rudd became the first legally wed same-sex couple in New York State, marrying at midnight in Niagara Falls during the month of June. This was 12 years ago! Since then, the Buffalo History Museum began soliciting and collecting memorabilia from legally wed same-sex couples in the area, to preserve this monumental history. If you have any appropriate items including wedding invitations, photos, copies of vows or wedding licenses, orders of service, and even receipts from wedding vendors you used, please get in touch with Cynthia or other museum staff. This is an important piece of history that should be preserved.

Do you have institutional news you'd like featured here? Email [Caitlin](#).

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News from the State

Are you a public library trustee? Did your library trustee term begin on July 1? If so, consider this your reminder that [New York State Public Officer's Law §10](#) requires all public library trustees to take and file an oath of office within 30 days of beginning your term of office. From the New York State Library: Public library trustees are public officers and the oath of office is required to officially undertake and perform the duties of a public library trustee.

If a public library trustee does not properly complete and file an oath of office, the trustee's position may be deemed vacant. [See Public Officer's Law §30\(1\)\(h\)](#).

For more information about how and why the oath of office is administered, and where to properly file an oath of office, please see the [Oaths of Office FAQ](#) on the New York State Library website.

Not sure whether your library is legally a public library or an association library? Library type information is listed for every public and association library in New York State on the library's Annual Report and also on the [Find Your Public](#)

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Questions about the legal requirement for oaths of office or about library types should be directed to the director of the public library system of which the library is a member. Contact information is available [here](#).

Questions about this email reminder or the Oath of Office FAQ on the State Library's website may be directed to [Frank Rees](#), Public Library System Services Program Manager, Division of Library Development.

Do you have institutional news you'd like featured here? Email [Caitlin](#).

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Virtual Trainings and Meetings

We are currently not hosting trainings in July and August. Please check back for future training opportunities!

To learn about and register for professional development opportunities from other ESLN councils across the state, check out [the shared calendar](#)!

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Ask a certain generation of Western New Yorker about what they used to do for fun in the summer and they'll enthusiastically reminisce about Crystal Beach. Crystal Beach was located in Fort Erie and was a popular destination for local amusement since the late 1800s. The beach was considered to be exceptionally beautiful and the park itself featured rides and other attractions. While the park closed down in the 1980s, Crystal Beach is still a nice visit if you're looking for a place to relax by the shores of Lake Erie.

[Crystal Beach, "Swimmers at the Beach." *New York Heritage Digital Collections*. Undated.

<https://nyheritage.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/VTP005/id/84/rec/4>].

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Listserv Information

Did you know that you can change your WNYLIB-L subscription to a digest form rather than immediate delivery of list items? This way, you can receive one daily email with all of the information sent to WNYLIB-L instead of receiving each email individually. To enable digest, send an email to:

listserv@listserv.buffalo.edu (or just click that link). In the body of the email message write: **SET wnylib-l digests**. Leave the subject area of the message blank and delete any signature file you have at the end of your message. If you click the email link above, the message should be ready for you to send. Please note that you need to be already subscribed to the list in order to change this setting.

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