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[Translate](#) ▼

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Western New York Library Resources Council

Table of Contents:

[WNYLRC Updates](#)

[News From The Region](#)

[News From The State](#)

[Professional Development](#)

[Featured Digital Collection](#)

[Listserv Information](#)



Western New York Library Resources Council

57th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 26th, 2023
3:00pm - 7:15pm



@ The Buffalo History Museum

Join us for

- Networking
- Business Meeting of the Membership
- Open Museum Access
- Guest Speaker: Dr. Barbara Seals Nevergold
- Dinner and Dessert
- WNYLRC Awards Ceremony
- Raffles and Giveaways

Registration is open!

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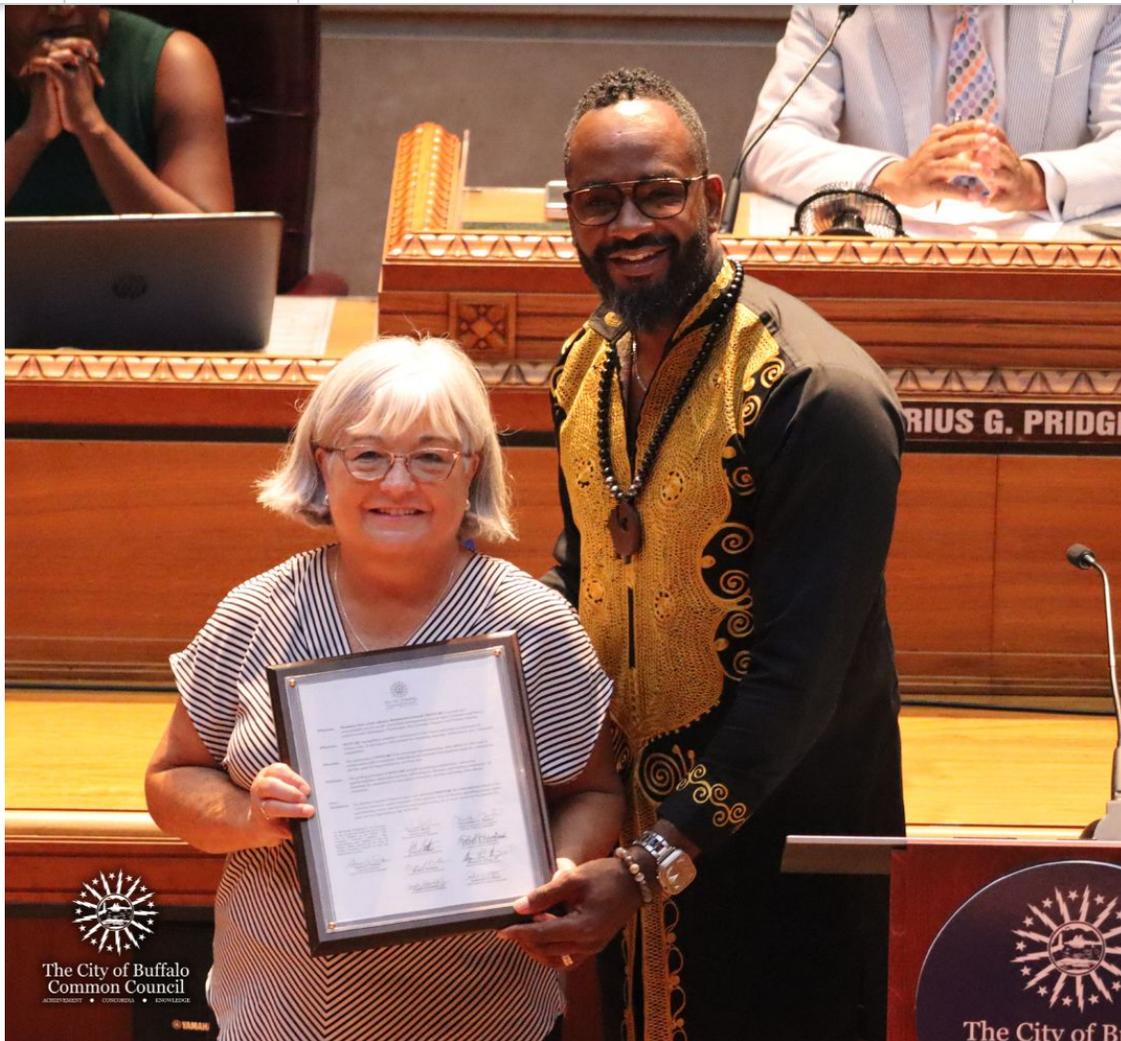
WNYLRC Updates

The Western New York Library Resources Council was formally recognized by the Buffalo Common Council this week in honor of International Literacy Day. They stated, "WNYLRC operates as a commendable not-for-profit consortium encompassing various types of libraries and library systems across Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, and Orleans counties. They exemplify a steadfast commitment to the values that foster an environment that nurtures creativity, exploration, and the quest for improved library services. Visit <https://wnylrc.org/> to learn more." We are honored and thankful to receive this recognition!

Annual Meeting: It's time to register for the Annual Meeting of the Membership! This year the event will take place on September 26th at the Buffalo History Museum. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Barbara A. Seals Nevergold. Join us for a night of business, networking, and celebrating the Western New York library community. [Register for the Annual Meeting here](#)

Unconference: Registration is open for the Intersect Unconference! It will be held October 13th at the Buffalo & Erie County Central Library. [Register for the Unconference here](#)

New Website: In case you missed it, the new website is live! Go to wnylrc.org, select *Log In*, and then click the *Create New Account* tab if you haven't already done so! Accounts from the old website did not transfer so you must make a new one before registering for programs. Please note: if you have any old bookmarks saved from the previous version of the website, you may need to update them.

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Executive Director Sheryl Knab and Buffalo Common Council Member Ulysees Wingo Sr. (Masten District) display the proclamation recognizing the Western New York Library Resources Council for International Literacy Day

News from the Region

There will be a community unveiling of a new collection at the **Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library (Buffalo & Erie County Library System)** on Wednesday, September 13 at 2:00 pm. This collection is comprised of digitized funeral programs from African American churches in the city of Buffalo. This is an important piece of history. The project was made possible thanks in part to a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services as part of the ConsidertheSourceNY.org Diversity and Collaborative Knowledge Program. Ron Gaczewski, Digital Production, Preservation and Annex

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public access.

This past summer, **Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System** created the CCLS Road Trip program, encouraging patrons to visit their member libraries, explore their collections, programming, and win prizes! Learn more about [this exciting road trip program here](#).

Additionally, LJ Martin, Outreach & Youth Services Consultant, **Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System**, and Shannon Donovan, Director, **Bemus Point Library**, who created the CCLS Road Trip were recently awarded the 2023 Literacy Chair Award from Judith's Reading Room. Judith's Reading Room stated that the CCLS Road Trip "perfectly addresses 'summer slide,' the so-called loss of reading competency while students eschew books over more playful activities." Cathy Leiber, President of Judith's Reading Room, said, "The Road Trip instills a sense of wanderlust." Congratulations to both LJ & Shannon!

Recent Grant Awardees:

A few grant awards have been announced recently and some of our members are recipients. Congratulations to the following:

New York State Public Library Construction Grants were awarded to [these Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System members](#): **Ashville Library** - \$10,202 to renovate library restroom; **Dunkirk Public Library** - \$123,345 to repair masonry and improve electrical, lighting, and HVAC systems; **Falconer Public Library** - \$14,202 to replace front door for handicapped accessibility, install book return slot, replace glass panels; **Fluvanna Free Library** - \$75,788 for new ADA compliant vestibule; **Hazeltine Public Library** - \$8,306 for ADA compliant doors; **James Prendergast Library** - \$35,044 to add LED lighting, acoustic panels, update Makerspace; **Patterson Library** - \$125,690 to update kitchen and waterproof marble/brick. This amounts to a total of \$392,417 for Chautauqua County libraries!

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

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News from the State

The New York Library Association issued a statement in support of American Library Association's President, Emily Drabinski:

On November 18, 2021, the New York Library Association's Council adopted the following position statement on Intellectual Freedom. In our statement, we reaffirmed our commitment to "...the rights of all patrons to access information on a variety of topics and viewpoints without restrictions, which is a fundamental act of participation in a democracy."

This commitment extends to any attempt to silence or censor our most marginalized communities that our libraries serve, including and not limited to the LGBTQ+ community. We cannot uphold our core values of democracy and intellectual freedom if we are challenged and threatened by individuals (or parties) who refuse to accept those who are different from them.

With the uptick of challenges to books and programs featuring the LGBTQ+ community, it is not surprising to hear the recent uproar of lawmakers across the country calling for the defunding of the American Library Association. We know clearly that their concerns are rooted in their discomfort at the power of an outspoken and public member of the LGBTQ+ community being exactly who she is without fear.

Libraries are rooted in our commitment to the freedom of information by providing materials and programming that represents perspectives from marginalized communities. We have a unique responsibility to empower our communities by providing these diverse viewpoints because diversity is the core, not the crux, of a strong democracy. We will not fall silent when our library community is threatened.

Therefore, we condemn the backlash towards the American Library Association's President, Emily Drabinski, and stand with all librarians and libraries who continue to uphold the core principles of our profession without fear.

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being held in Saratoga Springs, NY, and will run from Wednesday, November 1st to Saturday, November 4th. [Find more information, including rates, here.](#)

Here are some ESLN highlights to check out at NYLA:

- Thursday, November 2 from 12:00 - 1:30 pm: *ESLN Luncheon - Building Power and Community During Crisis Times: The Work of Library Freedom Project* presented by Alison Macrina, LFP
- Thursday, November 2 from 1:45 - 3:00 pm: *Make Real Connections with 24/7 Chat Cooperative Reference* presented by Caitlin Kenney (WNYLRC) and Leah Dodd (Cornell University)
- Friday, November 3 from 11:00 am - 12:15 pm: *An ESLN Showcase of Collaborative Resources Available to New York Libraries* presented by various ESLN Staff

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[Back to Top.](#)

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Virtual Trainings and Meetings

Getting Started with Libby and Hoopla, Wednesday September 20, 3:00 - 4:30

pm: In an age where digital collections are increasing in size and use, it is important for library staff to understand how to access ebooks and other forms of digital media. Join us as we explore how to use Hoopla and Libby, two of the most popular apps used by libraries to provide digital collections to patrons. With the knowledge provided, library staff will be better equipped to help patrons use the same apps to access their collections.

This session is being held in person at the Central Library.

[Register here](#)

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

[Back to Top.](#)



Pg. 27 — 84%

Pictured are David Stevens, Dean of Students, and an unknown staff member at Genesee Community College in the late 1970s. Genesee Community College was founded in 1966 as part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system and this was just one of the many entertaining events held at the school.

[Genesee Community College History, "Faculty and staff gathering, 1970s." *New York Heritage Digital Collections*. 1979.]

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[Back to Top.](#)

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.

For more information about enabling an email digest, [click here](#).



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