

TRUSTEE

LTA | LIBRARY TRUSTEES
ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK STATE

Vol. XXXI, Issue No. 4, December 2018

President's Greeting By Adria Ripka

Hello, Library Trustees Association of New York members and supporters. As we close out 2018, LTA is holding its annual membership renewal campaign. We look forward to, and appreciate, your continued support for this vital library trustees' organization.

I am pleased to introduce you to our new Executive Director, John McCarthy. The LTA board of directors looks forward to John's leadership as we move to our next iteration of LTA and are excited by the possibilities for providing our members with more benefits and opportunities to connect with the wider library community.

As many of you are aware, LTA has been going through some changes since June 2018. In the process, we have been working on updating our website, social media, planning some upcoming regional trustee education sessions, as well as exploring the idea of becoming a

section in the NYLA family. You'll learn a bit more from John in this issue. LTA will be asking your input on this decision in February 2019.

We encourage you to renew your membership with LTA. For those of you who have not, yet, joined, please know that Library Trustees Association of New York is the **ONLY** organization chartered in New York State to represent library trustees. Your membership will make a difference not only to LTA, but to you and to your library.

You'll see the membership renewal form on page 3. We are using postal mail for the 2019 renewal process while we streamline our on-line capabilities. Please fill it out in a timely fashion. **LTA**



A New Year, a New LTA By John McCarthy, Executive Director, LTA

You may have noticed that your Library Trustees Association has gone through a few changes in 2018. Despite a rousingly successful Trustee Institute and consistent growth in membership in the last few years, every organization like the LTA goes through a bout of growing pains at some point. We are determined to come out even more valuable to you and your library on the other end of this process.

2019 will see the arrival of more resources on our brand new website, including videos, webcasts, and an unofficial Trustee Boot Camp inspired by efforts from the State and other interested parties. It will also see the return of the Policy Database, something applauded and requested not just by members of LTA and not just by New York State residents.

2019 will also see the advent of a question the LTA board will be putting to you, the members. Should the LTA enter into some form of partnership with the New York Library Association? We have several options on

the table, which we will discuss with you and get your feedback on, but none of those options interfere with the mission of your LTA. Trustees helping trustees. Trustees teaching, recognizing, advocating for, and caring about the special nature of our role in the library community.

Our mission won't change, but gaining the economies of scale that NYLA is able to offer has become something to consider. Our independence won't diminish but our voice may be amplified closer to the level of our passion for our libraries.

In the next few months, we will be seeking your feedback on multiple options for partnering more formally with NYLA, including an option where there is no partnership. Ultimately, this is your choice, and it is our responsibility to help you make it an informed one. In the meantime, we will be making sure that your LTA is worth everything you put into it and more. **LTA**



The 2019 Legislative Session Outlook: A New Direction Toward the Future

**By Jeremy Johannesen,
Executive Director, NYLA**

The Legislative Committee of the New York Library Association brings together voices from every constituent group within the library community, including LTA, to craft a common vision for a shared Advocacy Agenda for each legislative session. 2019 will present circumstances that have not been seen in nearly a decade; Democratic party control of the Senate, Assembly, and Governor's Office. Capitalizing on this opportunity, the Legislative Committee has laid out a bold set of budgetary and policy requests.

\$200M for Statewide Library Aid

Together with advocates from across the state we will be advocating for "Support New York IDEALS: Increasing Democratic Engagement through Adaptive Library Services"; a plan that calls for \$200M for Statewide Library Aid. NYS Library Aid is set in Education Law at \$102.6M, and yet that amount has not been provided in over a decade, and this chronic underfunding of the library program has amounted to a compounded shortfall of over \$120M.

\$75M for Library Capital Infrastructure Improvements

With flat funding for a decade, the last two years of increases to the Library Construction Aid program have been most welcome. (Up \$10M in 2017 to \$24M, and another \$10M in 2018 to a total of \$34M) Yet the NYS Library's Division of Library Development has documented the existing need for capital improves at over \$1.7B. A continued increase in New York's investment in our libraries physical infrastructure is critically needed.

Libraries Count: Census 2020 - \$40M for Library Based Complete Count Initiatives

For the first time ever, the national Census will be conducted largely online. Acknowledging that nearly 20% of American households are not online, many will turn to their local library as an access point for



participation. Systemic underfunding at the federal level has pushed responsibility for this initiative onto the states, and New York stands to lose both representation in Washington, and funding that is determined by Census data should there be an undercount. Libraries will play a vital role in this process, but need the resources to meet their potential for support.

In addition to these budgetary items, there are three top policy priorities for 2019.

Equal Access to School Libraries and Librarians

This long-standing priority calls for amending Education Law to require access to a certified school librarian for students in grades K-5. Current regulations provide for access beginning in grade 6.

Transparent Contracting with Educational Institutions

Many academic libraries are pressured into accepting non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) as part of their contracts with electronic resource providers. These NDAs stifle competition and transparency and negatively impact the buying power of the institutions.

Universal Access to the Library Construction Aid Program

Currently when accessing the Library Construction Aid Program, the locality is required to fund their project with a minimum 25% match. This threshold is unattainable to many small libraries, effectively barring their participation. A reduced local matching threshold of 10% is proposed.

Complete details on the 2019 NYLA Advocacy Agenda can be found at nyla.org/advocacy – click on "Learn".

SAVE THE DATE – Join supporters from across NYS in Albany on Wednesday, February 27 for Library Advocacy Day 2019! Complete details on Library Advocacy Day 2019 can be found at nyla.org/advocacy – click on "Attend" **IA**

USE THIS FORM TO RENEW OR BEGIN YOUR MEMBERSHIP USING POSTAL MAIL.

2019 LTA Library Membership Invoice

Library Name: _____

Library System: _____

Director's Name: _____

Library Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Facebook URL: _____

Website URL: _____

Your library's budget is: _____

Total population served by your library is: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES

<u>If library budget is:</u>	<u>then dues are:</u>	<u>If library budget is:</u>	<u>then dues are:</u>
less than \$30,000	\$10	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	\$175
\$30,000 - 50,000	\$35	\$1,000,001 - 3,000,000	\$225
\$50,001 - 100,000	\$60	\$3,000,000 - 5,000,000	\$325
\$100,001 - 500,000	\$120	\$5,000,001 - 7,000,000	\$425
		more than \$7,000,000	\$525

Your membership dues are (based on budget and scale above): \$ _____

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

WHEN MAILING YOUR REGISTRATION, PLEASE:

1. update your trustee or library's name and contact information
2. mail a check for your library's membership to: PO Box 11048; Albany, NY 12211
3. include up-to-date e-mail addresses

(Reminder: all contact information shared with LTA is kept confidential and is used only to share news and resources.)

If you have any questions, please contact John McCarthy, Executive Director, at jmccarthy@librarytrustees.org

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

LTA, formerly NYSALB, has been supporting NYS library trustees since 1949, and is the only state chartered organization for NYS trustees.

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PERIODICAL
CLASS

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P.O. Box 11048
Albany, NY 12211

Adria Ripka, Salina Free Library, Onondaga County — *President, Trustee Editor*
Martha Anderson, Ramapo Catskill Library System — *Vice President*
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Edris Scherer, Westchester Library System
George T. Wolf, Monroe County Library System

John McCarthy — *Executive Director*

Visit us on the web: www.librarytrustees.org
Write to the editor, aripka@librarytrustees.org
Phone: 518-445-9505

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Contact Colleen Parmelee, Program Director at:
cmparmelee@coolins.com or (518) 698-9033.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019

LTA board of directors meeting, November 12 (conference call)

Library Advocacy Day, February 27, 2019 in Albany