

## Advocacy Day 2022: March 2

This year Advocacy Day is on Wednesday, March 2 and will be completely virtual. Directors and trustees have been sent emails on how to sign up for our meetings, but you can also sign up for advocacy meetings [here](#). A reminder that some of our advocacy meetings will be shared with our neighboring library systems (Southern Tier, Four County, Pioneer, and Monroe), as well as with our regional library council (South Central Regional Library Council). If you are interested in learning more about advocacy talking point and other advocacy information, check out our [webpage](#).

Throughout the pandemic, libraries supported and have been supported by the communities they serve. Visit the [New York Library Association's Advocacy](#) page for more information.



You can get more digital access with your Finger Lakes Library System library card. FLLS, OWWL Library System, and the Southern Tier Library System have teamed up to share OverDrive collections! Learn more [here](#).

## Annual Reports Due Now

Our libraries are steadily working on the NY State Annual Report. FLLS hosted a workshop for directors on February 1. We have also discussed Annual Reports at our monthly Member Library Support Group Meetings and FLLS Directors' Meetings. Thank you to all of our libraries for working on getting your reports to us on time. The deadline for submitting is February 28. A reminder that your library board of trustees must approve Annual Reports before submitting.

If you have any questions, please reach out your 2021 Annual Report contact Jenny Shonk.



Last year, 18,047 people participated in over 1300 Summer Reading programs offered by our libraries!

## Summer Reading Workshops

The 2022 theme is Oceans of Possibilities and our heads are already swimming with programming ideas. This year, FLLS has joined nine other systems around the state to present two virtual sessions for our member libraries: Oceans of Programming Possibilities for Kids on February 16 and one for Teens on March 10.

FLLS will also offer a members-only Summer Reading Session on March 8 focused on reporting and evaluation as well as Adult programming ideas.

## Trustee Handbook Book Club

In February,, authors Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich focused on facilities and a Board's duty to "maintain a facility that meets community needs." Attendees asked about capital financing, construction grants, and the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#).

The March 29th book club meet up will dive into [Policies and Risk Management](#) Save the date info has been shared and registration begun. [Bookmark this link](#) for more information.

FLLS is developing learning opportunities for trustees in the new year. We can also meet the specific needs of your board with tailored workshops. Contact us for more information.

Miss the bookclub? You can access the recordings and more resources [here](#).

## Book Challenges and Your Library

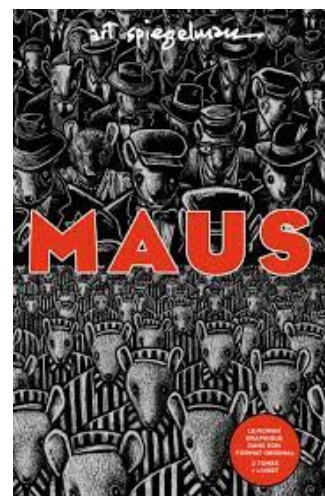
Book challenges have been making headlines nationally and [locally](#).

While the focus has been primarily on school libraries, this is a good time to revisit your library's collection development and challenge policies. Remember, these documents must be posted on your library's website to comply with NYS Minimum Standards.

The [ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom](#) offers toolkits and resources for libraries on this subject.

Locally, NYLA has delivered a [position statement](#) on the Defense of Intellectual Freedom. Last December, library advocate and lawyer Stephanie "Cole" Adams presented Calm, (Legally) Cool, and Collected: Tactics for Libraries Facing Book Challenges and Collection-based Protests. You can view the [webinar recording here](#).

Looking for sample policies? See our central library TCPL's Request for [Reconsideration of Library Materials](#) policy.



In January, a Tennessee school board voted to ban *Maus* by Art Spiegelman. Since then, the book has been one of the top requested titles in our public library system.