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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We want to hear from you! Share your thoughts about the bulletin via the survey: https://forms.gle/warJw3bxwsKj8kkj9. Thank you! We appreciate your feedback!

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

The New York Public Library and ALA invite Libraries and Teens To Join New Campaign

Ways to Make Your Performances, Book Clubs and Maker Programs Accessible

25 Novels You Need to Read This Fall

Mental Health Resources for Libraries

Applying learning theories in real-world contexts

For $150,000, You Could Own a Former Carnegie Library (But It Needs Work!)
Here is a recap of our 65th FLLS Annual Meeting held on October 13, 2023:

Over 80 library staff, directors and trustees joined us at the Hilton Garden Inn in Auburn, NY for our first in-person Annual Meeting since 2019. A big thank you to all who attended and had the opportunity to network and speak with other libraries and trustees. A very large thank you to the FLLS staff who assisted that day: Diana Leigh and Heidi Eckerson who ran the registration table and to Jenny Shonk for highlighting our outreach services and a look back at FLLS over the years with our scrapbooks.

We started our meeting hearing from Jean Currie, Chair of the Library Trustee Association Section of NYLA. Jean gave an overview of LTAS, why libraries and their boards should consider joining that section, and an overview of the newly updated Trustee Handbook that will be coming out next month. FLLS is ordering plenty of print copies of the new Handbook and will be distributing them to our libraries in November.

FLLS Board President Martin Tombs ran the business portion of our Annual Meeting. Earlier in the year, the FLLS Board of Trustees approved two bylaw changes and our membership ratified those changes during our October 13 Annual Meeting. They were changes that allowed voting trustees from each member library to vote in trustee elections (the former bylaws allowed for respective county voting and at-large trustee voting only) and a change in our quorum for voting to one-third of the libraries that are members of the Finger Lakes Library System.

The FLLS membership voted in two new trustees to the FLLS Board of Trustees. Priscilla Berggren-Thomas was elected for Cortland County representation. Priscilla is the retired director of the Phillips Free Library in Homer. Kasia Maroney was elected for Tompkins County representation. Kasia is a fine arts conservator specializing in three-dimensional objects and works with museums, libraries, universities and galleries. We welcome both of our new trustees to the Board! We also want to send a special thank you to Sue Heavenrich, who will be leaving our Board at the end of December!

Our speaker for our Annual Meeting was Darcy Lipp-Acord, a Youth Services Librarian at Campbell County Public Library in Gillette, Wyoming. For the past two years, Darcy and her staff have been dealing with a well-organized community effort to censor books and discredit the library and library staff. Her presentation provided training to our libraries on how to identify common strategies used by book-challenging groups and linking these with abusive behaviors typically found in domestic relationships. She also discussed strategies for front-facing staff in responding to potentially abusive behavior in patron interactions. We received incredibly positive feedback about Darcy’s presentation from both library staff and trustees and appreciate her coming to our area to speak to us. Darcy’s slides were sent out via email today.

Like our member libraries, FLLS creates an annual report to our community and released that during our Annual Meeting. A large thank you to Jenny Shonk from FLLS for creating these reports for us! You can find our current reports at https://www.flls.org/about-us/.

I hope everyone has a relaxing weekend!
Sarah
65th Finger Lakes Library System Annual Meeting
Friday, October 13, 2023 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Auburn

Thank you, Sue!

Presenter, Darcy Lipp-Acord
Upcoming Webinars

Gather & Grow: Cultivating Knowledge and Understanding (STLS)
Friday, October 27, 9:30am-1:15pm
One day FREE virtual content - brought to you by the Southern Tier Library System, in partnership with Chemung County Library District through Central Library Development funds. Keynote Speaker: Meg Medina! Meg Medina is the current National Ambassador of Young People’s Literature. She is an award-winning and New York Times best-selling author who writes picture books, as well as middle grade and young adult fiction. When she’s not writing, Meg works on community projects that support girls, Latino youth, and/or literacy. She is a faculty member of Hamline University’s Masters of Fine Arts in Children’s Literature and lives with her family in Richmond, Virginia. Other sessions include: Intellectual Freedom with Sara Dallas, Body Talk with Bethany Snyder, Serving the Neurodiverse Library User with Dawn Behrend, and Fostering Equity Through Employee Wellbeing with Ozy Alozie.

Marketing 101 For Librarians (Innovative)
Thursday, November 9, 2:00pm
If jump-starting your library’s marketing is one of your goals for 2024, then this is the webinar that will set you up for success. In just 60 minutes, and in plain language, Marketing Maven Kathy Dempsey will illustrate the concept using the Cycle of True Marketing. Next, she'll explain how to get started, and finally, how to make your promotions more efficient and effective. This quick FREE "Marketing 101" class will give attendees a good grasp of marketing definitions and lingo, segmentation needs, and strategic communication. Listeners will leave this session with: an understanding of why some promotions just don't work, a solid foundation in the concept of true marketing, tactics for writing attention-getting messages, and ideas for finding money and time for marketing

LOOKING FOR MORE?
⇒ CLRC
⇒ SCRLC
⇒ WebJunction
⇒ Libby Webinars from OverDrive

Conferences & Special Programs

Trustee Handbook Book Club
Upcoming Session:
Financing & Managing Construction Projects
Tuesday, December 19, 2023 | 5:00-6:30pm
REGISTER! All those who attend a live session will receive a certificate of attendance and a follow up message with a recording of the session. All sessions will be recorded and archived on the landing page for the series.

Polaris Help
To view Polaris documentation and videos from Innovative, visit the links below:
https://vimeopro.com/innovativeiii/webinars
https://innovative.libguides.com/polaris
You can also view FLLS training videos below, contact jshonk@flls.org for the password:

⇒ Polaris New User Part 1
⇒ Polaris New User Part 2
⇒ Polaris Item Maintenance Part 1
⇒ Polaris Item Maintenance Part 2
⇒ Polaris Reporting Part 1
⇒ Polaris Reporting Part 2
⇒ Polaris Leap
PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

OverDrive Big Library Read

We’re over the moon to share that OverDrive’s next Big Library Read is coming up next month! The featured title “Artie and the Wolf Moon” by Olivia Stephens will be available for simultaneous use in ebook and audiobook formats between November 2-16th from Libby.

**Look for your 2024 OverDrive Contribution Request Memo and Form coming out in an email on October 31.**

Summer Reading 2024

Adventure Begins at Your Library is CSLP’s theme for next summer. The online manual code was sent out last week. Please share with library staff who are a part of summer programming. However, please don’t post the info in a public place.

FLLS LibTour ‘24

Ok, so it’s not the catchiest title, but we’re working on it! We’re embarking on our first library system road trip with the twin goals of promoting our member libraries as well as advocating for them. Stay tuned for more information.

Interested in helping to plan the trip? We’re looking for folks of all skill sets and interest levels. Let us know here.

Questions? Reach out to Heidi heckerson@fls.org.

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The American Astronomical Society (AAS) Solar Eclipse Task Force invites proposals for small grants to fund programs, activities, and events that will engage the public with the April 8, 2024, solar eclipse across North America. Priority will be given to programs specifically designed to engage meaningfully in eclipse education, outreach, and science activities with under-represented groups (URGs; including women/girls, ethnic minorities, and people with physical and/or mental disabilities) who often don’t imagine themselves in science careers or who believe that science is “not for them.”

Jay M. Pasachoff
This program, funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, is named for the late Jay M. Pasachoff, a member of the AAS Solar Eclipse Task Force and professor of astronomy at Williams College. He studied the heating and dynamics of the Sun's corona at solar eclipses all across the planet and was deeply devoted to advancing astronomy education and science literacy, bringing students on his eclipse expeditions and writing numerous textbooks, trade books, and popular articles.

Number & Size of Mini-Grants
We anticipate making 20 to 30 awards in the standard range $1,000 to $5,000 and a smaller number of awards in the augmented range $5,001 to $20,000. If you seek one of the augmented mini-grants, you must pay special attention to your budget justification. Legitimate reasons for applying for one of these larger awards include, but are not limited to, the large scale of a proposed program, activity, or event (e.g., the large size of the audience to be reached); the need for expensive equipment to achieve the objective of a proposed science experiment; and the high cost of professional services to be engaged in producing an app, a software product, or a program for radio, TV, or other broadcast. Mini-grants are open to libraries!

Deadline
Proposals are due by 5:00 pm Eastern time on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Call for Proposals: https://eclipse.aas.org/mini-grants/call-for-proposals
Submit a Mini-Grant Proposal: https://eclipse.aas.org/mini-grants/proposal-form