You can be a Library Advocate

This is your opportunity to inform government representatives of the ways libraries, librarians, and library staff in their districts are addressing diverse needs of all people in the community.

Below are the scheduled dates for library advocacy meetings - We are back in person!

- You are invited to attend as many of the meetings as you like - whether to meet with a representative serving the district you live in, or a district your library is located in.
- You can share this information with anyone else from your library (staff or patron) who might also be interested in attending.
- Don't know who represents your library? We have that information for you on the WNYLRC Members page!
- If possible, please send your name and the names of anyone else who plans to attend (and which meeting!) ahead of time to Heidi Ziemer (hziemer@wnylrc.org)

What is at stake:

- State Library Aid: $147.1M (Currently at $99.6 million)
- Library Construction: $69.4M (Currently at $34 million)
- Library Materials Aid: Increase to $11.00 ceiling/pupil (Currently at $6.83/pupil)

Meeting schedule (click on "district office" links for locations)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Morinello
Thursday, November 10, 2022, 3pm (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Stephen Hawley

Monday, November 14, 2022, at 11am (The Coffee Press, 13 Jackson St, Batavia)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator Edward Rath

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 10am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes

Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 1:30pm (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Michael Norris

Monday, November 21, 2022, at 11am (Clarence Public Library, 3 Town Place, 14031)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Jonathan Rivera

Tuesday, November 22, 2022, 10am (district office, Grant Street)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator Sean Ryan
Tuesday, November 22, 2022, 2:30pm (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member William Conrad

Wednesday, November 23, 2022, 10am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator Robert Ortt

Monday, November 28, 2022, at 3pm (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Office Rep for Assembly Member Patrick Burke

Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 10am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator Tim Kennedy

Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 11am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Monica Wallace

Friday, December 2, 2022, at 11:30am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator George Borrello

also joining will be Assembly Member Joseph Giglio

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 1:30pm (St. Bonaventure University, Friedsam Memorial Library)
Library Advocacy Meeting with Senator Patrick Gallivan

Friday, December 9, 2022, 10:30am (West Seneca Public Library, 1300 Union Rd. 14224)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Andy Goodell

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 10:00am (district office)

Library Advocacy Meeting with Assembly Member Karen McMahon

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 2:30pm (district office)

Can't make a meeting? Communicate by letter or social media!

Use your social media spaces to communicate with patrons, asking for their help in contacting government representatives to urge them to support funding libraries in 2023! Ask your followers to write letters - or even use their own social media to get the message out there! WNYLRC will be sure to retweet, repost any messaging we see (or you can let us know if we miss it) to help message.

Travel with us to Albany, NY for Library Advocacy Day

Join colleagues from across the state who are "going" to Albany, NY on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, for the annual NYLA LIBRARY ADVOCACY DAY!

Visit the NYLA Advocacy page for details on Advocacy Day in Albany. If you would like to be part of the "Western New York library constituency," please contact hziemer@wnylrc.org to find out how you can join meetings that will be scheduled throughout that day.
ENROLL TODAY! Sign-up as a Library Advocate

Use the link above and complete an online form to enroll as a Library Advocate, and you will receive e-mail alerts when your action is needed to act on behalf of libraries. Now advocating for your library services can be quick, simple and timely, plus there is no cost to you. Thank you for your support!

More Library Advocacy Information & Resources in Western New York

DID YOU KNOW? The School Library Association of Western New York (SLAWNY) has a LibGuide devoted to school library advocacy? Check it out!

WNYLRC Webinar: New York State’s Budget And You: A Primer on Libraries and the State Budget Process, presented by Ken Stone and Bri McNamee:

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR THE HARD WORK YOU DO!!!

Official Website for New York State Government:

Under the “Government” tab, you can find out how to contact the Governor’s office; find and contact your state representatives; get updates on bills and legislation relating to libraries and more.

New York State Law and Libraries:

Searching NYS Law and Regulations Relating to libraries just got easier! Anyone searching for current New York State law and regulations pertaining to libraries, library systems, trustees, and librarians in New York State can now access this information quickly on the New York State Library’s website. This interactive web resource makes components of the State Library publication Excerpts from New York State Education Law, Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Pertaining to Libraries, Library Systems, Trustees and Librarians available in a user-friendly and easy to navigate web tool for users. This interactive site supersedes the 1995 print version and the FTP files of the Excerpts document that has been on the State Library website since 1995.

The American Library Association’s Office for Library Advocacy provides information on ALA’s Advocacy Institute, federal legislative issues, library funding, and grassroots resources. ALA also reports on federal legislation that impact intellectual freedom and privacy.
OCLC's **WebJunction Advocacy Courses** are FREE!

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