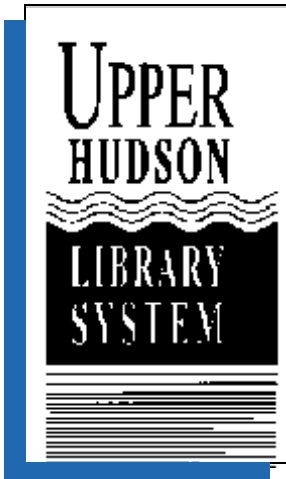


The Latest Edition



[The Latest Edition](#) is a regularly published newsletter for the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

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ONE OF "OUR OWN" TO HEAD NYLA

The New York Library Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Michael Borges as its new Executive Director beginning on Monday, March 22, 2004.



Michael Borges

Mr. Borges is currently a legislative representative for the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) organization where he has been involved in the successful efforts to increase and restore state aid to schools throughout New York State. In his working activities he has analyzed proposed legislation and provided drafts for potential legislative action, written position papers detailing NYSUT's endorsement or opposition to proposed laws, and testified on matters of concern to the organization. Previously, he served as Director of Corporate, Foundation and Government Relations for the Albany Law School. In this role he advocated at the local, state, and national level for his institution. In addition, he was responsible for securing grants and other fund-raising activities.

His experiences as Economic Development Coordinator for the Albany County Dept of Economic Development and Planning, and Planner with the City of Albany gives him much insight into the workings of NYLA's "hometown."

In his "spare time," Mr. Borges has been President of the Guilderland Library Foundation Board of Directors and in 2003 was honored with the **William Meredith Library Advocate of the Year Award** by the Upper Hudson Library System.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE March 10, 2004 UHLS BOARD MEETING

- The Board approved the following funding for the Outreach mini-grants:

Albany Public Library	\$1,250.	Poestenkill Library	\$1,250.
Cheney Library	\$ 500.	Sand Lake Town Library	\$1,250.
Guilderland Public Library	\$1,041.	Stephentown Memorial Library	\$1,215.
Nassau Free Library	\$1,110.	Troy Public Library	\$1,120.
Petersburgh Public Library	\$1,248.	Valley Falls Free Library	\$ 525.
- The Board authorized the UHLS staff to apply for the following grants: the \$5,000 Summer Reading Program grant; the \$4,204 Gates Staying Connected grant; and the \$500 Poets and Writers grant.
- President Philip Erlich appointed Paula Read as Chair of the Trustees Nominating Committee.
- President Philip Erlich appointed Pat Spohr, from the Altamont Public Library, to complete Lynn Strnad's term representing small Albany County libraries. He welcomed her to the Board.

POETS AND WRITERS PERFORMANCES

UHLS has been granted funds for readings by four local poets and writers to take place in several Rensselaer County libraries. The funds were granted from Poets and Writers, Inc and the New York State Council on the Arts. The performances are scheduled as follows:

Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. - Nassau Free Library

Saturday, April 3, 2:00 p.m. - Stephentown Memorial Library

Wednesday, April 21, 7:00 p.m. - Sand Lake Town Library

Saturday, April 24, 2:00 p.m. - Rensselaerville Library

Thursday, April 29, 7:00 p.m. - Castleton Public Library

NATIONAL NEWS



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 18-24, 2004

National Library Week is an observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate. This year National Library Week is being promoted with **@ your library**®.

NATIONAL LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY

Tell your Congressmen about the great programs and activities taking place @ your library! National Library Legislative Day, cosponsored by the District of Columbia Library Association and the American Library Association, is held in May to bring librarians, library trustees, board members, and other library friends to Washington, DC to talk with their Representatives and Senators about issues of concern to the library community. 2003's events brought over 450 librarians and friends of libraries from 47 states to Capitol Hill to advocate on behalf of libraries and library programs.

Monday, May 3 is Legislative Briefing Day and on Tuesday, May 4th, library supporters will walk the halls of Capital Hill and meet with members of Congress. Contact New York coordinators for information on your state's delegation: Mary Rinato Berman (914-231-3260) mberman@wlsmail.org Robert Bellinger (718-720-5766) rbellinger@nypl.org

GRANTS and FUNDING

FINANCIAL EDUCATION GRANTS

The National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) is dedicated to helping individuals acquire the information and skills necessary to take control of their financial lives. Nonprofit organizations may submit a letter of inquiry to apply for funding in response to requests for proposals (RFPs) and the unsolicited grants program. The RFPs seek proposals from qualified applicants for financial education projects conceptualized by NEFE. For a list of current RFPs, visit the NEFE website at <http://www.nefe.org/pages/innovative.html>. The next two deadlines for submitting letters of inquiry are **April 6, 2004** and **August 3, 2004**.

FOLUSA GRANT

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) and Baker & Taylor have once again partnered with the American Library Association (ALA) to honor the Friends group with the most creative use of ALA's @ your library® campaign logo and/or slogan. Now in its second year, the \$2,000 award is open to Friends groups of all sizes and types who are current FOLUSA members.

Friends groups of all sizes and types, including school, academic, and public library Friends groups, are encouraged to apply. Award information is available online at www.folusa.org, including the official entry form, guidelines,

and details. Please call the FOLUSA office at (800) 936-5872 to verify eligibility. Mail entries, postmarked no later than **May 1, 2004** to FOLUSA/Baker & Taylor Awards, 1420 Walnut Street, Suite 450, Philadelphia, PA 19102. The award will be presented at the 2004 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida in June.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES ANNUAL AWARDS

The Public Libraries Section of NYLA is now accepting applications for several awards to be presented at the NYLA Annual Conference in Rochester, NY. Deadline for submitting award nominations is **June 1, 2004**. Send nominations to: Kevin J. Gallagher, Director, Middletown Thrall Library/11-19 Depot St./Middletown, NY 10940 Email: thrall7@warwick.net.

The Awards are as follows:

Best Practices Award: This award for Innovative Librarianship honors a library director who has provided innovative service to a community of 100,000 or fewer. Nominees are judged on innovative quality of services provided, and initiatives taken to respond to rapidly changing demands. Nominations may be made by a library board member or a by a staff member. Each nomination must be accompanied by a letter of support from a board member or member of the community. The

letter of nomination should be limited to two pages, and must include:

1) Information about the library "before," including specific information about circulation, collection size, programs, condition of building, hours open, and budget.

2) Current information about the library "after," related to the changes previously described.

3) Description of how the nominee initiated the changes.

4) Recommendations for other libraries.

The award is \$1000; a plaque for the library and one for the NYLA office. Attendance at the 2004 NYLA Conference is required.

Outstanding Public Library Building Award: One award will be made for a new or remodeled public library building in New York State. Emphasis will be placed upon those projects that demonstrate cost-effective solutions to space challenges as well as innovative usage of space and layout in the new library. The project must have been completed between January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003. PLS will award \$1000 plus a plaque to the winning library, and

may also name honorable mentions. All entries may have their submissions displayed at the PLS booth at the annual NYLA Conference. Previous winners are ineligible. Submission requirements include:

1) Information about the community: population; annual budget; name and location of library; date of space and layout reorganization.

2) Before and after photographs.

3) Before and after floor plans.

4) Goals and objectives.

5) Budget.

6) Narrative explaining need; planning involved; community benefits; public response; press coverage; etc.

The decision of the judges is final. The award will be presented to the winner at the annual awards ceremony at the 2004 NYLA Conference in Rochester. Please note that this award goes to the library, not the architect.

The Conference Scholarship: This annual scholarship is offered to encourage public librarians, or students in library school, to participate in conference activities. (Applicants need not be members of NYLA or PLS.)

Applications should be in letter form; containing the following:

1) Why you wish to attend the conference;

2) How you plan to integrate the experience into your work;

3) How you plan to share your experience with your fellow professionals;

4) How the award will influence your professional goals.

The Award includes full registration; up to \$500.00 towards expenses and NYLA membership if required. The Winner is expected to attend the full Conference, including the Awards Ceremony.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: JEWISH LITERATURE GRANT

This grant is offered to 200 public and academic libraries by the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office and Nextbook: A Gateway to Jewish Literature, Culture and Ideas. The grant aims to expand audiences for Jewish literature and recruit new libraries to present *Let's Talk About It* programming. Each participating library will receive a \$1,500 grant, training, and program and promotional materials to present a five-part series based on one of four themes. The series will be open to public audiences and feature

discussion programs led by local scholars and supporting materials developed by ALA and Nextbook. To obtain a grant application and guidelines, please visit www.ala.org/publicprograms or www.nextbook.org/ala. Applications for the first grant round must be received by **June 1, 2004**.

CAVENDISH AWARD

An annual award consisting of \$3,000 and a citation of achievement recognizes either a school or public library which demonstrates excellence in library programming by providing programs which have community impact and respond to community needs. Advocacy, partnerships and creativity of use of resources, regardless of the size of the library, will be taken into consideration. Donated by Marshall Cavendish Corporation. **Deadline is December 1st**. For more information: www.ala.org/ala/awardsbucket/cavendishaward/Cavendish_application.rtf

GALE GROUP AWARD

An annual award consisting of \$2,500 and a 24k gold-framed citation presented to a library organization that exhibited meritorious achievement in carrying out a library financial development project to secure new funding resources for a public or academic library entity. Donated by the Gale Group. **Deadline is December 1st**. For more information: www.ala.org/ala/awardsbucket/galegroupaward/Gale_Application.rtf

HOWARD AWARD

A bi-annual award consisting of \$1,000 and a 24k gold-framed citation of achievement honoring a librarian, library board, library group, or an individual who has exhibited unusual courage for the benefit of library programs or services. **Deadline is December 1st.** For information: www.ala.org/ala/awardsbucket/howardaward/howard_application.rtf

MEET THE FUNDERS

Staff and volunteers of non-profit organizations are invited to meet representatives of local foundations and corporations distributing grants in the Capital Region. The panel presentation will be held **Tuesday, April 6, 2004** from 9:00 - 11:00 AM at the Italian American Community Center, 257 Washington Avenue Extension in Albany. Panel participants, including Key Bank and the Hawley Foundation, will share information on funding priorities and application procedures. Cost is \$21 per person and includes continental breakfast. To register, send check and contact information to Grantmakers Alliance, c/o The Community Foundation, Executive Park Drive, Albany, NY 12203. For more information, call Maureen Yee at 446-9638.

HOME DEPOT GRANTS

The Home Depot is committed to giving back to the communities where its associates and customers live

and work. To make a significant impact, it concentrates its efforts in four key areas: affordable housing, at-risk youth, the environment, and disaster preparedness and relief. The Home Depot will respond to grant applications in only these four areas. The Home Depot Foundation will only fund nonprofit organizations that are designated as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) by the Internal Revenue Service in the United States. For information: www.homedepotfoundation.org/hfus/enus/apply.html Proposals are accepted throughout the year.

WORTH NOTING

The **Albany Public Library** is once again a host site for the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Volunteers will be present in the library's small auditorium every Saturday from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM through April 10th. The service is provided on a first come-first served basis. To qualify for this program, an individual's maximum household income cannot exceed \$41,000.

The renovation project at the **Bethlehem Public Library** is complete! Patrons and staff sailed through the project's five phases, in spite of collection relocations and other temporary inconveniences. The project took six months and was finished just about on schedule. The Library is proud of its refurbished facility including new carpet, paint and lighting, a cheerful Children's Place,

streamlined circulation area, centrally located information/reference desk, new group study rooms, a Local History Reading Room, and more.



Carollynn and Gene Langley

The **Brunswick Community Library** will hold a Volunteer Recognition Celebration with *Quiet Creek Music* on Sunday, April 25 at the Brunswick Family Community Center. Library volunteers will be recognized for all they do for the Library. Listen to Carollynn & Gene Langley's program *Quiet Creek Music*. This Americana happening will feature traditional & original folk songs played on the mountain dulcimer, auto-harp and pennywhistle. Refreshments will be provided by the Board of Trustees. Join us for an afternoon of culture, celebration and sustenance. Call 279-4023 for reservations.

The **Stephentown Memorial Library** will sponsor it's second *Stephentown Quilt Show* on Saturday, May 29th from 10 AM - 4PM. at the Stephentown Fire Hall. On display will be quilts of all sizes, antique quilts, and quilted clothing and accessories. Admission for adults is \$5 and \$2 for children under 12. All proceeds will benefit the library.

PEOPLE

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), awarded a 2004 Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship to **Joyce Laiosa**, Head of Youth Services at Voorheesville Public Library. The Fellowship will allow Joyce to spend a month studying alphabet books of the 19th century at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Noralee Itchoak, UHLS Resource Sharing Coordinator, has announced her retirement. Noralee has been employed at UHLS since October 30, 1995, and her last day of work will be April 16, 2004. She has done an excellent job for UHLS and its members, and will be missed by all. We wish her the very best.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

ALBANY MAIN:

GALLERY AT THE LIBRARY: Dr. Charles Semowich, Executive Director of the Albany Center Galleries, will talk about the Gallery at the Library and the current exhibit. Tuesday, April 6th at 12:15 PM.

BOOK REVIEW: Prentice Carnell, Past President of the Albany Business College, will discuss The Price of Loyalty by Ron Suskind. Tuesday, April 13th at 12:15 PM.

MEET THE AUTHOR: Debra J. Dickerson, author of The End of Blackness: Returning the Souls of Black Folk to their Rightful Owners will discuss her book. Wednesday, April 14th at 7:00 PM.

INDEPENDENT FILM FORUM: Dan and Joe Masucci, of Fountainhead Pictures, will screen their latest efforts: *The Last Round* and *Inside Digital Filmmaking*. Thursday, April 15th at 7:00 PM.

BOOK THIS NIGHT: A new Book Discussion Group will begin at the Library. The first book selected for discussion is the new, fast-paced thriller The DaVinci Code by Dan Brown. Tuesday, April 27th at 7:00 PM.

INDEPENDENT FILM FORUM: The film, *Salt of the Earth* by Herbert Biberman will be shown. This is a 1950s film about a coal miner's strike in New Mexico. Gerald Zahavi, SUNYA Professor of History, will speak about the current state of the labor movement. Wednesday, April 28th at 7:00 PM.

HOWE:

COOKS FOR KIDS: Amateur cooks will share their specialties to raise funds for children's reading programs at the Howe Library and Two Together. Thirty food-tasting stations will be set up in the library and guests will sample everything from chili to chitlins. Celebrity chefs will include Jeffrey Cannell, Director of the Albany Public Library; Master Chef Steve Stofelano of the Mansion Hill

Inn; and Scott Jarzombek, Youth Services Librarian at the Howe Library. The keynote address will be given by Albany School Superintendent Michael Johnson. Master of Ceremonies will be Brian Taffe, News Anchor for Time Warner Cable. Tickets are \$25 per person at the door. Sunday, April 18th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.

BRUNSWICK:

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING CLASS: The Red Cross will provide training to those 11 years old and up who want to be babysitters. The cost is \$42 to be paid at the time of registration. The Friends of the Library will provide lunch for all attendees. Register in advance at the Library. Class size is limited. Call the library at 279-4023 for more information. This class fills quickly. Tuesday, April 13th at the Brunswick Family Community Center from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

EGG DECORATING: Spring is a time of rebirth and growth. Listen to stories of the season and decorate eggs with some friends. For children ages 6 and up. Registration is required, call the Library to save your space, 279-4023. Wednesday, April 14th from 2:30 - 3:30 PM at the Brunswick Family Community Center.

RIVERWAY STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: We have been chosen to be part of the Riverway Storytelling Festival. Watch for more details! Tuesday, April 27th from 7:00 - 8:00 PM at the Brunswick Family Community Center.

GUILDERLAND:

FOLK SONGS OF THE SIXTIES: Old Songs, Inc. and the Guilderland Public Library present "The American Conscience: Folk Songs of the Sixties," a concert featuring local performers George Ward, Debra Burger, Wanda Fischer, Roger Mock, Annie & Johnny Rosen, Susan Trump, Toby Stover, Mark Schmidt, Bill Spence, and Andy Spence. Listen and remember through an evening filled with songs of protest, war, peace, and change. Space is limited. Arrive early. This concert is made possible in part with public funds from the NYSCA Decentralization program and the Guilderland Library Foundation. Friday, April 2nd at 8:00 PM.

RADIO DISNEY: During Spring Break, come to the Guilderland Public Library for an afternoon of music, fun, entertainment, and non-stop laughs with "Phil N. Good" and the Party Patrol. All ages are welcome. Wednesday, April 14th 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

POETRY READING: Harry Staley, poet and Professor Emeritus in English at SUNY Albany will present a public reading of his poetry. His published works include The Lives of a Shell Shocked Chaplain, a narrative poem that follows the life of Charles J. McCaffrey; and All in One Breath, an autobiography centering on his war experiences. Tuesday, April 13th at 7:00 PM.

TROY:

COMPUTER CLASSES: Classes for beginners have been scheduled at the Lansingburgh Branch of the Troy Public Library. All classes are free and open to the public. Please call 235-5310 to register. *Introduction to Word* - April 3rd from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM. *Intermediate Word* - April 17th from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

JOB OPENINGS

ADULT SERVICES REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

The Bethlehem Public Library has an opening for a part-time Adult Services Reference Librarian. This position provides proactive public service to the community by staffing the reference desk and assisting children and adults. The position is available immediately and requires Friday evenings and every third weekend in rotation. Typical duties include: staffing the public service desk; answering reference questions; providing reader's advisory service; providing instruction in the use of electronic resources and serving as librarian-in-charge. This position reports to the Head of Adult Services. Required education/experience include an MLS from an ALA-accredited program, a New York State Public Librarian Professional Certificate and experience with computer technology and electronic resources. Salary: \$18.40 per hour. Deadline for applications: **Thursday, April 8, 2004.** Please send resume and cover letter to: Kathy Zazarine,

Human Resources Administrator/Bethlehem Public Library /451 Delaware Avenue/Delmar, NY 12054

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Brunswick Community Library, is seeking a Director. The Director reports to a Board of twelve Trustees and is responsible for the overall operation of a growing public library with 6 part-time professional employees, an annual budget exceeding \$100,000, circulation of 41,900 and a collection of 14,000 items. The Director is responsible for the supervision of all employees and volunteers, public relations, assisting the Trustees with fund raising, liaison with governmental and community groups, developing an annual budget for trustee approval, coordinating book-keeping activities, and overseeing collection development, programming goals and facilities management. The minimum qualifications are an MLS from an ALA accredited program, a New York State Public Librarian Professional Certificate, and supervisory and administrative experience. This is a full-time position of at least 35 hours per week including some evening and weekend hours. Salary range is \$30,000 - \$40,000. Benefits include: health insurance, holiday, vacation and sick days, and retirement funds. Submit a letter of interest and resume by **April 9, 2004** to: Kathy Jabour/Brunswick Community Library/605 Brunswick Road/Troy, NY 12180.

CALENDAR

April 2004

- 2 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 5 Deadline for nominations for Library Program Award, Trustee Award and William Meredith Advocate Award
- 9 Deadline for Annual Report Narratives to UHLS
- 12 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 14 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 14 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 14 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 15 Deadline for May issue of The Latest Edition newsletter
- 16 Youth Services Advisory Council 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM at UHLS
- 20 Database Maintenance Advisory Council 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 26 Acquisitions and Serials Training Workshop 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at UHLS
- 27 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 27 Acquisitions and Serials Training Workshop 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at UHLS
- 30 Acquisitions and Serials Training Workshop 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM at UHLS

May

- 7 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 10 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 12 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 12 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 12 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 14 Deadline for June issue of The Latest Edition newsletter
- 25 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 27 Youth Services Advisory Council 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM at UHLS
- 31 UHLS CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

June

- 4 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 7 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 9 UHLS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING at The Albany Country Club
- 15 Deadline for July-August issue of The Latest Edition newsletter
- 22 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

July

- 2 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 5 UHLS CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 12 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 14 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 14 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 14 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 27 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT: Philip Erlich (Rensselaer)
VICE-PRESIDENT: Charles Diamond (Watervliet)
TREASURER: Mary Alice Molgard (Berne)
SECRETARY: Jeffrey Cannell (UHLS Directors Association)

Erin Apostol (Albany)	Robert Ganz (Guilderland)
LouAnne Lundgren (Poestenkill)	George O'Connor (Troy)
Lois Prenovost (Brunswick)	Paula Read (Bethlehem)
James Reilly (Voorheesville)	Mary Ellen Schroder (Valley Falls)
Pat Spohr (Altamont)	Hawley Zwahlen (William K. Sanford)

TRUSTEE EMERITI:

Harry Howansky
Katherine Wells
David Worden

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Philip Ritter

MISSION STATEMENT: The Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) coordinates programs and activities to assist and complement the resources and efforts of its twenty-nine member libraries to improve library and information services in the local communities of Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

VISION STATEMENT: Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) and its twenty-nine members will operate as a consortium and be a part of a dynamic statewide and national network, operating in cooperation and collaboration with educational and cultural organizations, community human service agencies and the business community to provide library and information services to the people of the Capital Region of New York State.