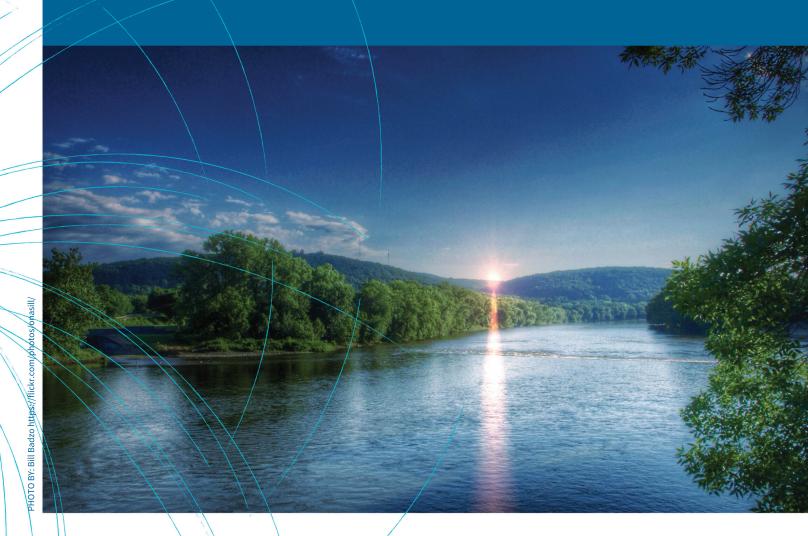


Make Smart Connections.



# 2024—2025 Annual Report



# Introduction & Welcome Message

From the Board of Trustees President & the Executive Director

The Board of Trustees and staff of South Central Regional Library Council (SCRLC) are pleased to present our SCRLC's 2024-2025 Annual Report.

As a member-driven organization, SCRLC works closely with our 85 members to build programs and services that ultimately benefit communities across our 14-county region. What we accomplish collaboratively would not be possible for any one organization to do alone.

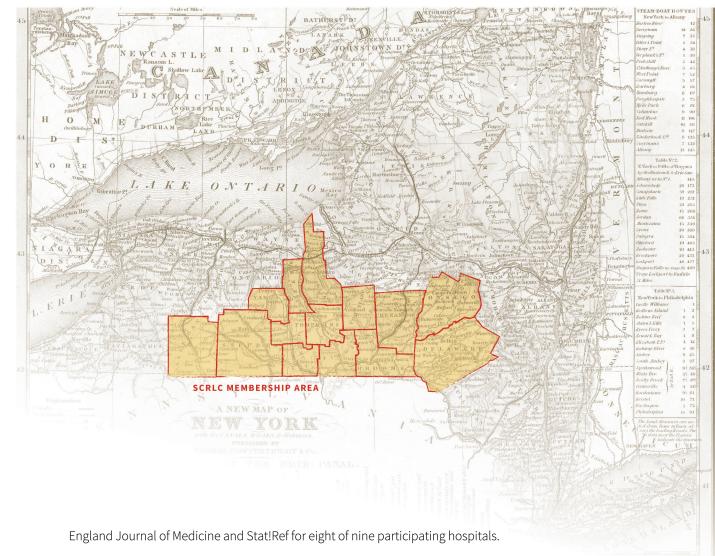
For example, 62 members have contributed to the New York Heritage Digital Collections and to New York State Historic Newspapers. Several academic members served on educational panels for Empire State Library Network (ESLN) programs.

Indeed, we are delighted to see our members actively engaged in so many meaningful ways—whether through building shared resources like New York Heritage, leading or participating in learning opportunities, or serving on the Board, advisory committees, or task groups such as the Plan of Service Design Team. This active involvement strengthens connections across the region and state, shapes programs and services, and amplifies our collective impact across the state and beyond.

SCRLC prioritizes placing its funds directly back into the region through our programs and services. This includes providing grant awards and electronic resources to many of our members as well as offering free learning opportunities.

In 2024-2025 we awarded \$59, 179 in digitization projects to 15 members. Summaries are included in the annual report; details and final project reports are available at scrlc.org under "Grants." Additionally, SCRLC awarded \$13,036 to nine hospital members for library materials and technology under the auspices of the Hospital Library Services Program (HLSP). Ten hotspot subscriptions for the telehealth/digital equity kits were funded, and \$5,000 from our DEIJA budget supported the Institute for Reimaging Equity in Academic Libraries (iREAL), co-led by Binghamton University.

Regional subscriptions, including FirstSearch and EBSCO's Literary Reference Source were made available to many members with a low cost-share. HLSP also funded medical resources, such as the online New



Advocacy continued to be a key priority, whether to secure increased state library aid or to protect intellectual freedom, advance inclusivity, support digital equity efforts, or maintain key federal agencies like the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Library of Medicine.

SCRLC's close partnership with the eight other ESLN councils continued to provide free or low-cost programs and services for SCRLC members. We also remained active in the Southern Tier Digital Equity Coalition and worked in partnership with the NYS ConnectAll Office to advance digital equity.

With gratitude for your continued support, collaboration, and engagement,

Megan Diddle

Megan Biddle

Four County Library System, SCRLC Board President

Mary-Carol Lindbloom
SCRLC Executive Director



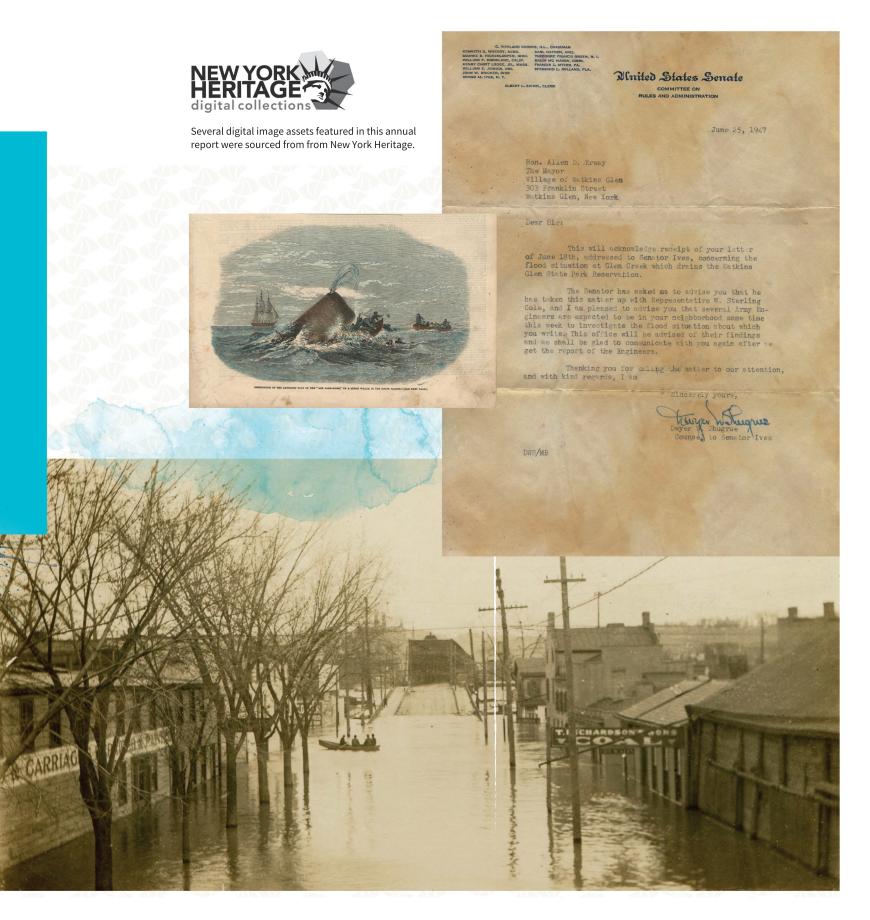
## Mission Vision

South Central Regional Library Council empowers our members through advocacy, networking, resources, and professional development; and by supporting diversity, innovation, and collaboration to strengthen their ability to serve their communities and promote environmentally sustainable practices. South Central Regional Library Council envisions a future where all people who live, work, and study in our communities have equitable and reliable access to information and sustainable resources available anywhere, anytime, and are competent in all literacies. To achieve this vision, our member organizations include and welcome all people, and are valued and well-funded community partners, central to those they serve. In this envisioned future, environmental sustainability is central to our mission and practices.

### Sustaining Our Organization

We prioritized sustainability through:

- the SCRLC Board of Trustees' due diligence & fiscal responsibility, positive audits, and ensuring that our programs & services meet membership needs;
- learning opportunities;
- online documents and minimally printing;
- telecommuting as possible;
- mostly virtual programs, knowing that even online events contain a carbon footprint;
- sharing office space;
- traveling mindfully around the region for our visits, consultations, and deliveries;
- celebrating and promoting the sustainability efforts and progress of our members;
- joining the Sustainable Libraries Initiative.





## **SCRLC** Programs & Services

SCRLC was chartered on May 25, 1967, by the New York State Board of Regents "to improve reference and research library services within the area, and to promote inter-library cooperation in the use of such resources." Member organizations include academic libraries, historical societies, hospitals, museums, public libraries and public library systems, school libraries and school library systems, and special libraries.



The Strategic Directions articulate our vision, mission, and values, leading to their realization:

- **SCRLC... 01** ADVOCATES FOR ITS MEMBERS.
  - **02** CULTIVATES LEARNING.
  - **03** SERVES AS A CATALYST FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, JUSTICE, AND SUSTAINABILITY.
  - **04** FACILITATES PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION.
  - **05** ENCOURAGES INNOVATION AND FUTURE-FORWARD THINKING.



## 01 ... advocates for our members.

Advocacy. Advocating together with the New York Library Association (NYLA), the New York Alliance of Library Systems (NYALS), the Empire State Library Network (ESLN) and library workers everywhere, we collectively increased funding by \$1.725M to \$106.325M in State Library Aid and restored Library Construction Aid to \$44M. There is more work to be done!

NOVELny, an invaluable suite of electronic resources for New York State learners and community members everywhere, was again funded at \$3M.

SCRLC staff participated as part of NYALS in the creation of a new strategic advocacy plan that will create a toolkit and curriculum tailored to advocacy within New York State.

We maintained the ESLN Library Assessment Tools LibGuide, which had 2,029 views during the year. Additionally, the nine archived YouTube assessment videos have been viewed a total of 3,667 times, with 244 views in the last year alone. Advocacy and assessment are closely connected-data visualization and thoughtful evaluation help libraries tell compelling stories to stakeholders, including community members and legislators, to strengthen relationships and build on-going support.



# 02 cultivates learning.

#### **Resource Sharing**

Resource sharing is at the core of everything we do, whether through supporting interlibrary loan, collaborative collection development, building shared resources like the New York Heritage Digital Collections and NYS Historic Newspapers, sharing expertise—both yours and ours—in such collaborative services as AskUs 24/7 virtual reference, Ask the Archivist and of course, our many learning opportunities.

Nineteen academic libraries received \$182,715 in Coordinated Collection Development Aid for Academic Libraries, for a total of \$6,055,417 since the program began in 1988/89.

SCRLC's Bibliographic & Referral Center (BARC), which was outsourced to Tompkins Community College, placed 2,207 requests on behalf of our members.

Medical Information Services Program funded interlibrary loans for medical and health-related requests, plus supported resources for hospitals and subscribed to Niche Academy.

**SCRLC** and the Central NY Library Resources Council teamed up to offer yet another successful Resource Sharing Users Group event. *Resource Sharing: ILL and Beyond* attracted 115 participants from around the state.

#### **Engaging a Learning Community**

Learning Opportunities. We hosted and/or facilitated 47 educational activities this year including conference programs, webinars, workshops, co-sponsored events, meetings, demos, and training. Attendance totaled 1,336. Our most popular webinar helped people deal with difficult conversations. We hosted a webinar on the Underground Railroad in our region (funded by an award from Humanities NY). We hosted six webinars that dealt with a range of health and wellness topics as part of our Hospital Library Services Program (HLSP) Webinars addressed a variety of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice + Accessibility ( DEIJA) topics including Dyslexia-Friendly Libraries, the African American Subject Funnel Project, Creating Equitable Library Policies, and more. There were five individualized training sessions.

On-Demand Learning. Available asynchronous learning opportunities included 76 recorded webinars on our YouTube channel (these are weeded yearly to make sure content is up-to-date), including 10 new webinars. There were 3,641 total views which was an increase of 1,099 from '22-'23 ('23-'24 had 7,801 total views due to the popularity of our eclipse webinar series. Three members used our Library Juice Academy discount. Tech-Talk was offered to our members as a weekly newsletter, a database of tech articles, and two webinars per month. There were 262 subscribers to our Tech-Talk newsletter and 177 logins to the Tech-Talk database. Sixty-six SCRLC members attended 24 Tech-Talk webinars on a variety of topics.

Internship. SCRLC offered a paid fall internship.
Allison Gonzales, a first-year LIS student, served as a
Board-student liaison and assisted with the early Plan of
Service activities, including preparing a field visit report.
Allison participated in our annual meeting and Plan of
Service visioning meeting.



#### Connecting to Our Past through Digitization

SCRLC uses collaborative and innovative approaches to improve access to the past for present-day learners and researchers, and those who will need this material in the future.

New York Heritage Digital Collections. Representing all 14 SCRLC counties, this past year the number of items from SCRLC contributors increased to 37,591 items; the total page views across the region's collections increased from 426,764 to 907,938 (112.8%).

SCRLC staff checked in with all members throughout the year, encouraging them to add new collections and participate in projects like EmpireADC. New collections were promoted in the bi-monthly SCRLC News and the monthly SCHOAM newsletter. SCRLC members contributed 326 finding aids on EmpireADC, a shared repository.

New York State Historic Newspapers. includes all 14 SCRLC counties with 194 newspaper titles comprising 1,705,345 pages. SCRLC contributed 1,374,875 (80.6%) of those pages.

**CONTENT dm**. Membership in the NY Heritage collaborative saved SCRLC participants minimally \$120,000 in

CONTENTdm fees, the digital collection management system used for the NY Heritage Digital Collections.

Traveling Exhibits: SCRLC's traveling exhibits about Women's Suffrage, the Erie Canal, the US Census, Hurricane Agnes, Immigration in New York State, and the local Craft Beverage industry circulated a total of 46 times to members and their members.





# 03...serves as a catalyst for diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, & sustainability.

#### **Including Everyone**

- Six specific Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Accessibility (DEIJA) learning opportunities were offered. Overall, our programs included a diversity of presenters on many topics pertaining to DEIJA.
- Updated the DEIJA LibGuide to include an Immigration tab.
- Published a LibGuide on inclusive metadata best practices.
- Through digitization grants, items that reflect historically oppressed and marginalized communities continued to be added to New York Heritage.
- DEIJA actions were featured in our biweekly newsletter; best practices were shared in the monthly SCHOAM! newsletter.
- Provided \$5,000 in funding to the Institute for Reimaging Equity in Academic Libraries (iREAL), co-led by Binghamton University.
- We continued to fund hotspots for 10 of the telehealth digital equity kits, which had been provided to public libraries under the auspices of a grant from Region 7 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM).



# 04 facilitates partnership & collaboration.

#### **Communicating and Collaborating**

Central to what we do, collaboration enables us to do far more with partners than we could ever do alone. Collaboration is highlighted throughout this report.

SCRLC's 25 bi-weekly electronic newsletters were sent to 374 subscribers and 89 subscribers received the monthly SCHOAM! (Special Collections, Historical Organizations, Archives and Museums) Newsletter. The quarterly HLSP News for hospitals reached 29 subscribers.

Visits to SCRLC's virtual spaces totaled 1,005,707! This figure includes 77,616 website visits, 16,512 views of our 20 LibGuides, 3,641 interactions with our new videos, and 907,938 visits to our NYHeritage collections.

The most popular **LibGuides** were History Unbound (5,549), Disaster Planning and Recovery for Libraries (2,047), Library Assessment Tools (2,029), and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, and Accessibility (1,798). Facebook engagement increased from 317 to 331 followers.

The 58th Annual Meeting, held at Cornell University's Ornithology Lab, included a workshop by Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, "Sustainable Libraries and Organizations" and featured a panel discussion with Keturah Cappadonia (Southern Tier Library System), Ansley Jemison (Ganondagan), Sarah Wagner (Ornithology Lab), and Nate Hill (METRO).

**Eighty-five individual benefit-contribution summaries** were distributed.

Ask the Lawyer: SCRLC expended \$4,750 to support members with legal inquiries.

More Learning Opportunities. There were eighteen ESLN-sponsored webinars on various topics including the ACRL Roadshow; one on CCDA, five as part of the Academic Library Leadership series; one on generative AI; one on conservation and preservation grant writing; one on D&O insurance; five webinars as part of the Ask the Lawyer series; and one on protecting and preserving collection. A particularly successful ESLN webinar was "Patrolling the Stacks? Responding to Activity by ICE & Other Law Enforcement Agencies at Your Library", which had 58 SCRLC attendees (662 total).

SCRLC's Member Engagement Librarian and Digital Services Librarian organized the ESLN luncheon at the NYLA conference "Building Power and Community During Crisis Times: The Work of Library Freedom Project" which was delayed from the previous year due to speaker illness.

Through our ESLN collaboration, 619 library workers from outside the SCRLC region participated in our learning opportunities and many SCRLC library workers engaged in those offered by other councils.

Digital Equity for All. The Southern Tier Digital Equity Coalition, formed the year before to continue the work of digital equity in the 8 counties of our region not otherwise served by digital equity coalitions, received non-profit status and was awarded a Technical Assistance Grant. Partners include Finger Lakes Library System, Four County Library System, Southern Tier Library System, and a few other organizations in the Southern Tier.



# 05...encourages innovation and future forward thinking.

#### **Leading and Supporting Innovation**

Technology and Digitization Grant Awards. SCRLC distributed fifteen digitization and technology grants for the 2024-2025 grant cycle, totalling \$59,179.00. With these grants, digital objects were added to New York Heritage digital collections (https://nyheritage.org/) or New York Historic Newspapers (https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/).

#### The 2024-2025 Grant recipients were:

- Cayuga Onondaga BOCES SLS: \$4,430 to digitize yearbooks from Auburn, from 1924 through 2004, including multiple public high schools that once existed in the community before Auburn High School opened in 1971.
- Chenango County Historical Society & Museum:
   \$5,000 to continue digitizing the Robert Bellamy
   collection and the Mary Fargo collection. The Bellamy
   collection reflects the community of people of color
   around Norwich, including records of the AME Zion
   church. The Fargo collection is the only known set of
   comprehensive material associated with a female
   entrepreneur and business-owner in Chenango County.
- Cortland County Historical Society: \$2,450 to digitize the Helen Jewett McAleer postcard collection, which features postcards from her uncle, the famous mathematician and Cortland native, David Eugene Smith.
- Elmira College: \$4,200 to digitize their yearbooks, The Iris, as well as their Alumnae Bulletins and Campus Magazines.
- Fenimore Art Museum Library: \$4,604 to digitize the Mohawk Courier (1838-1859) and Glimmerglass (1909-1968) for New York State Historic Newspapers.
- Finger Lakes Library System: \$4,400 for the George P. and Susan Platt Cady Library in Nichols to digitize their local yearbook collection.
- International Motor Racing Research Center: \$2,240 to digitize Watkins Glen Grand Prix racing photographs and 15 reels of 16mm film created by Lester "Andy"

- Gerard (1929-2013), documenting sports car and formula one races at Watkins Glen, from 1955 to 1964.
- Newfield Historical Society: \$2,950 to digitize their high school yearbook collection.
- Seward House Museum: \$5,000 to digitize a portion of Fanny Seward's Library, the only complete collection of books belonging to a teenage girl in the antebellum period.
- Seymour Public Library District: \$2,600 to hire an intern to expand on their HistoryForge project, focusing on the Parker Street neighborhood.
- Southern Tier Library System: \$5,000 to add the Andover Advertiser and the Andover News (ranging from 1869 to 1978) to New York State Historic Newspapers, to continue digitization of the Cuba Patriot, and to digitize a collection of works by the Cuba Poetry Society.
- SUNY Oneonta James M. Milne Library: \$3,130 to digitize the card catalog reflecting the Cooperstown Graduate Program's oral history collection.
- The History Center in Tompkins County: \$1,020 to digitize the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra's program collection.
- Ulysses Philomathic Library and Interlaken Library: \$8,000 to digitize microfilmed reels of the Trumansburg Free Press by Advantage Archives and with additional inclusion on New York State Historic Newspapers.
- Waterloo Library & Historical Society: \$4,155 to digitize their high school yearbook collection.

Visit https://scrlc.org/Grant-information to read the final reports.

Electronic Resources. SCRLC offered all governing members Literary Reference Source, (EBSCO), FirstSearch/WorldCat Discovery (OCLC), Niche Academy, Tech-Talk, and access to LibGuides. Members continued to collectively save thousands of dollars in subscription fees.

Virtual Reference. SCRLC's AskUs 24/7 statewide virtual reference participants offered their users point-of-need reference service, while saving money by participating in this collaborative service: Binghamton University, Broome Community College, Cayuga Community College, Cornell University, Ithaca College, SUNY Cortland and SUNY Delhi.







## Improving Patient Outcomes: The Hospital Library Services Program (HLSP)

Nine regional hospitals participated in the HLSP program, receiving electronic resources, interlibrary loan support, research assistance, consulting, and individual grants totaling \$13,036. Grant funds expanded library offerings to the medical providers and administrators, as follows: 45% for physical books, 3% for electronic books (last year, the split between physical and electronic was 50/50), 23.0% on journal subscriptions (all electronic), 8% funded circuit services, and 21% for clinical services (ie, UpToDate). Why more physical books? Some hospital libraries created emergency carts to provide information during stressful situations like power outages and cyberattacks that take out a hospital's electronic system.

Electronic Resources for Hospitals. SCRLC served as a central agent for hospital library members' electronic resources, including New England Journal of Medicine, accessed by the hospitals 9,126 times. Stat!Ref, also provided to all hospitals, was used 1,737 times. Four hospitals (Auburn Memorial Hospital, Bassett Healthcare, Cayuga Health, and UHS Wilson) participated in a 49-51 cost-share (library/SCRLC) for a set of OVID e-journals, used 1,491 times. Past studies have shown the correlation between access to credible medical information and improved patient outcomes, so quite likely, every time one of those resources is accessed, patients may fare better!



# SCRLC PEOPLE & Our Members

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

#### **MEGAN BIDDLE**

Four County Library System *President* 

#### KRISTIN DADE

Cornell University

Vice President

#### SARAH GLOGOWSKI

Finger Lakes Library System *Treasurer* 

#### **MATTHEW ROSLUND**

Bassett Healthcare Secretary

#### **GABRIELA CASTRO GESSNER**

Cornell University

#### **KIRSTEN GOSCH**

Cayuga Museum of History & Art

#### **JULIA IANNELLO**

Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES School Library System

#### **ERIKA JENNS**

Southern Tier Library System

#### MARGARET KAPPANADZE

Elmira College

#### **HUGH McHARG**

Corning Museum of Glass

#### MARY ANN MUNROE

Greater Southern Tier BOCES School Library System

#### **DAVID SCHUSTER**

Binghamton University

#### **DAVID STEVICK**

Houghton University

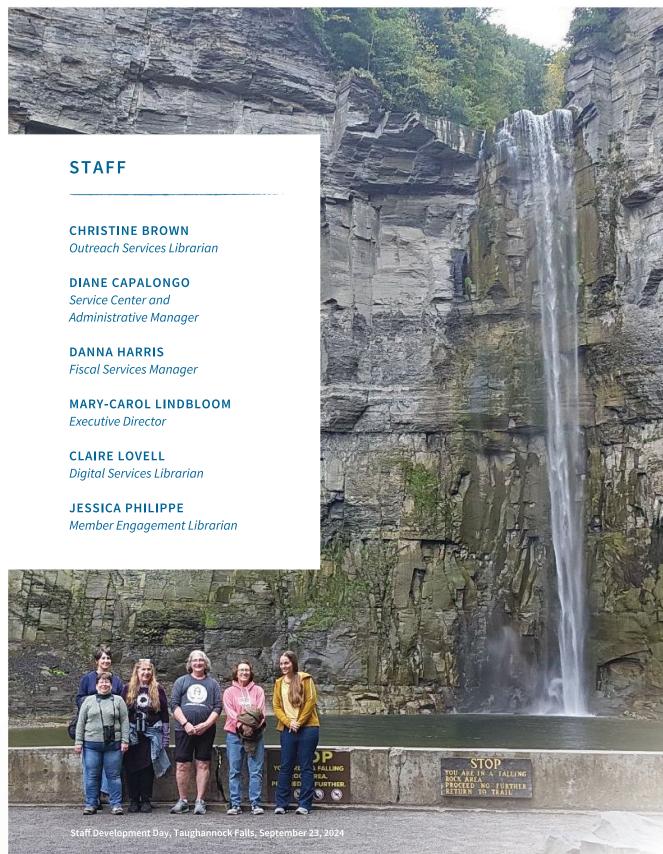
#### **BRIAN SULLIVAN**

Alfred University

#### **KARIN WIKOFF**

Ithaca College







# SCRLC PEOPLE & Our Members continued

SCRLC's 2024-2025 Intern, Allison Gonzales

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

#### AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

Steven Bachman, Four County Library System Sarah Glogowski, Finger Lakes Library System Brian Hildreth, Southern Tier Library System

Julia Corrice, Cornell University Shauna-Kay Harrison, Alfred University Kendyl Litwiller-Sutherby, Southern Tier Library System Erin Rushton, Binghamton University Maggie Young, Steele Memorial Library

#### DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, JUSTICE, AND ACCESSIBILITY

Nancy Abashian, Binghamton University Beth Hylen, Corning Museum of Glass Allie Shanafelter, Corning Museum of Glass Jenny Shonk, Finger Lakes Library System Karin Wikoff, Ithaca College

#### **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

Megan Benson, Binghamton University Simone Clunie, Binghamton University Brian D. Lee, Four County Library System Jenny Shonk, Finger Lakes Library System

#### HOSPITAL LIBRARY SERVICES PROGRAM

Laura Liepke, Binghamton University

Matthew Roslund, Bassett Healthcare Mikki Smith, Guthrie Lourdes Dr. Fantasia Thorne-Ortiz, Northeast College of Health Sciences Emily Tilton/Hilary Westgate, Cayuga Medical Center Danielle Zavada, UHS Wilson Medical Center

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES (ACITS)

Dovin Adenuga, Houghton College Mary Ann Munroe, Greater Southern Tier School Library System Susanna Van Sant, Tompkins Cortland Community College

#### RESOURCE SHARING

Barbara Blake, Binghamton University Deb Geier, Finger Lakes Library System Gregg Kiehl, Tompkins Cortland Community College Haleigh Mikolajczyk, Southern Tier Library System Virgilio Pinto, Ithaca College (Chair) Sarah Shank, Ithaca College Sarah Trancansky, SUNY Broome Community College

#### **MEMBERS**

Alfred State College **Alfred University Libraries Allegany County Historical Society Auburn Community Hospital Aurora Ledyard Historical Society Backbone Ridge History Group BAE Systems** 

**Bassett Healthcare Binghamton University Libraries** 

**Broome County Public Library** Broome-Tioga BOCES

Canal Society of New York State **Caroline History Association** 

Cayuga Community College

**Cayuga County Historian's Office** 

Cayuga Medical Center

Cayuga Museum of History & Art

Cayuga Onondaga BOCES

**Chemung County Historical Society** 

**Chemung County Library District** 

Chenango County Historical Society & Museum

Chenango Memorial Hospital Civics4Action Collaborative **Cornell University Library** 

**Corning Community College** 

Corning Inc.

Corning Museum of Glass

**Cortland County Historical Society** 

**Cortland Free Library** 

**Delaware Chenango Madison Otsego BOCES** 

**Delaware County Historical Association** 

**Dryden Town Historical Association** 

**Edith B. Ford Memorial Library** 

**Edmeston Museum** 

Elmira College

Fenimore Art Museum

**Finger Lakes Library System** 

**Four County Library System** 

**Genoa Historical Association** 

George F. Johnson Memorial Library

**Greater Oneonta Historical Society** 

**Greater Southern Tier BOCES** 

**Hanford Mills Museum** 

Hartwick College

Historic Ithaca

**History Center in Tompkins County** 

**Hornell Public Library** 

**Houghton University** 

**Huntington Memorial Library** 

Int'l. Motor Racing Research Center

**Interlaken Public Library** 

Ithaca College Library

Jones Memorial Hospital

Keuka College

Lourdes Hospital McGraw Historical Society

Mt. Saviour Monastery

**Newfield Historical Society** 

Northeast College of Health Sciences

NY Center for Agricultural Medicine & Health

**NYS Academy of Fire Science** 

Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES

**Schuyler County Historical Society** 

**Schuyler Hospital** 

**Seneca County Historian Office** 

Seneca Falls Historical Society

Seneca Falls Library

Seward House Museum

Seymour Public Library District

Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital

**Southern Tier Library System** 

**Spencer Historical Society** 

**Steuben County Historical Society** 

**SUNY Broome SUNY Cortland SUNY Delhi** 

**SUNY Oneonta** 

Swart-Wilcox House Museum

Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Resource Center

**Tompkins Cortland Community College** 

**Tompkins County Public Library** 

**Tompkins Seneca Tioga BOCES** 

**UHS Wilson Medical Center** 

**Ulysses Philomathic Library** 

Waterloo Library & Historical Society

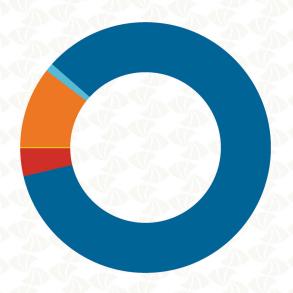
**Yates County History Center** 



## 2024-2025 Financial Report

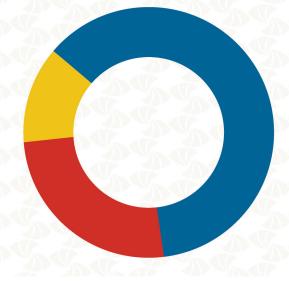
#### RECEIPTS

TOTAL	933,168
MISCELLANEOUS	6,762
CONTRACTS AND FEES	99,498
INTEREST	1,015
MEMBERSHIP DUES	31,770
STATE & FEDERAL AID/GRANTS	794,122



#### EXPENDITURES

TOTAL	931,092
GENERAL OPERATING	117,692
MEMBER SERVICES	241,313
SALARIES & BENEFITS	572,087





South Central Regional Library Council (SCRLC) is one of nine regional, non-profit multitype library consortia of New York State. Headquartered in Ithaca, SCRLC serves libraries and other cultural organizations across 14 counties and 10,045 square miles. The counties are Allegany, Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Chemung, Delaware, Cortland, Otsego, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, and Yates. The counties comprise the unceded homelands of the Cayuga, Onondaga, and Seneca peoples of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. The region also includes Susquehannock and Lenape lands in the south/southeast corners of the region.

