... WHAT WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON

New RRLC service: Ask the Lawyer!

In partnership with the Western New York Library Resources Council, RRLC has acquired the services of an attorney to offer members timely input on intellectual property, digital rights management, vendor contracts, and other legal issues that can impact library operations.

All RRLC member libraries are eligible to participate as are the member library systems and their member libraries. Some of the questions from other libraries are archived on the WNYLRC website: Recently Asked Questions (RAQ).

Find out more at: https://rrlc.org/services/ask-the-lawyer/.

And the winners are …?  
The RRLC Library of the Year contest had a record number of nominations this year – 1,853. Who are the winners? We’ll announce them soon!

And the winners will be honored at the RRLC Annual Meeting, June 1, at Casa Larga. We hope you will join us!

Good News for Delivery Participants

Costs for RRLC JetX delivery will remain constant for the next year, and even have a small decrease for the school library systems and the public library systems. The RRLC delivery connection with Empire Library Delivery will continue into its second year.

Although the courier increased cost by 3%, RRLC reallocated funds to keep cost low. Even in this digital age, we know timely delivery of (paper) books remains crucial to libraries.

Remember – our Breakthru Grant opportunity is ALWAYS OPEN. Write up your good idea and send it to us. We promise to respond within two weeks! Get the easy to complete form here.
Advocacy Efforts Pay Off in Difficult Year
Though threatened with a $4 million cut by the Governor, Library Aid was restored to level funding thanks to the intensive advocacy efforts of library supporters across the state.

Over 1/3 million messages were sent to legislators over the advocacy season by 9,000 individuals through the NYLA Advocacy Center.

Thank you for your efforts!

State Library Aid: $95.627M total
Still short of the $102 million that is legislated, it reverses the Governor’s proposal which would have slashed funding.

This funding will ensure that funding for systems remains intact, as well as special funding that particularly benefits academic and special libraries:

- Coordinated Collection Development Aid for Academic Libraries,
- Hospital Library Services Program and Medical Information Subsidy Program funding,
- Conservation/Preservation funding, and funding such as
- Regional Bibliographic Databases which funds much of the digitization, such as New York Heritage, in New York State.

State Library Construction Aid: $24M total
This is a real victory. Not only did the Legislature restore the $5 million the Governor proposed to cut, but it added $5 million more. Considering the great need there is among our public libraries for “infrastructure enhancement”, this money will be put to good use.

... WHAT LIES AHEAD: DATES TO NOTE:

- May 10 – Creating with Canva Graphic Design for Librarians
- May 17 – Legal Research for All – Sponsored by Library Assistants Group
- May 24 – Hurray for Social Justice!
- May 31 – Books Kids Will Sit Still For with Judy Freeman
- June 1 – RRLC Annual Meeting and Library of the Year Awards, Casa Larga
- June 30 – RRLC Technology Grants due
- Aug 21-22 – Tech Camp!
- Sept 27-28 - Save the Date for the fall Northeast Regional Digital Collections Conference, Kingston, NY.

To view our calendar and to register go to: https://rrlc.org/upcoming-events/.