Membership & Benefits

The Rochester Regional Library Council is a network of libraries, museums, nonprofits, and cultural heritage organizations in the greater Rochester area. We serve all types of libraries and information-focused organizations in the five counties around Rochester: Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Wayne, and Wyoming. RRLC elevates information services through personal and professional development, vital connections, and shared resources. We support and advocate for our members in order to amplify their impact and value to the community.

RRLC offers four types of membership:

**Full** - for libraries with librarians on staff and a materials budget

**Affiliate** - for smaller institutions without a librarian on staff

**Individual** - for library students, unemployed, and retired librarians in the region

**For Profit** - for for-profit companies

We invite you to explore the many member benefits a RRLC membership could provide to you or your organization.

Resource Sharing Services

**Access Pass Program:** The RRLC Access Pass is a direct borrowing program that enables library users affiliated with a participating library to access materials onsite and borrow directly from another library with which they are not formally affiliated. The program is based on the premise that participating libraries will translate their commitment to cooperation and service into library access for users of other libraries in the region, even though their collections may not otherwise be open to the public.

[https://rrlc.org/sharing/access-pass/](https://rrlc.org/sharing/access-pass/)

*Available to: Full, Affiliate, and For Profit Members*

*Contact Leah Matusek: lmatusek@rrlc.org*

**Materials Delivery Service:** In order to ensure quick delivery of library materials, RRLC coordinates delivery services for its member libraries. This service connects the major academic libraries in the region with public and school libraries through their system offices. RRLC provides four delivery options (fees apply).

[https://rrlc.org/sharing/delivery/](https://rrlc.org/sharing/delivery/)

*Available to: Full and Affiliate Members*

*Contact Tina Broomfield: cbroomfield@rrlc.org*

**Traveling Exhibits:** RRLC has three New York Heritage traveling exhibits available for members to borrow and host at their organizations. These physical exhibits are available for a one month loan period. Each exhibit has a companion, online exhibit as well.

[https://rrlc.org/new-york-heritage-traveling-exhibits/](https://rrlc.org/new-york-heritage-traveling-exhibits/)

*Available to: Full and Affiliate Members*

*Contact Leah Matusek: lmatusek@rrlc.org*
Membership & Benefits

RRLC Services

Listservs: RRLC maintains an unmoderated listserv, sharing RRLC news as well as member news. RRLC also maintains various closed listservs related to specific committees, projects, or services. If you are a contributor to a committee, service, or project, RRLC invites you to join a listserv. If you would like to be added to the RRLC listserv, please send a request to rrlc@rrlc.org.
https://rrlc.org/about/listservs/
Contact rrlc@rrlc.org

RRLC Training Room: The RRLC training room is located at our office at 3445 Winton Place. The space is available to member use to host meetings, trainings and more.
https://rrlc.org/rrlc-training-room/
Available to: Full, Affiliate, and For Profit Members
Contact Leah Matusek: lmatusek@rrlc.org

Borrow Equipment: RRLC members have access to borrow a variety of equipment that supports digitization, collaboration, travel and adaptive solutions.
https://rrlc.org/services/digital/borrow-equipment/
Available to: Full and Affiliate Members
Contact Ryan Hughes: rhughes@rrlc.org

Ask the Expert Services

Ask the Lawyer: The Rochester Regional Library Council has acquired the services of an attorney to offer RRLC and its members timely input on intellectual property, digital rights management, vendor contracts, and other legal issues that can impact library operations.
https://rrlc.org/services/ask-the-lawyer/
Available to: Full and Affiliate Members
Contact Laura Osterhout: losterhout@rrlc.org

Ask the Archivist: This service is available to provide answers to basic questions regarding archives and special collections. This is a one year pilot program that works in collaboration with the Empire State Library Network and is staffed by archivists at several of the other Councils across the state.
https://www.esln.org/ask-the-archivist/
Available to: Full and Affiliate Members
Contact Laura Osterhout: losterhout@rrlc.org
Rochester Regional Library Council and our partners at the Empire State Library Network encourage our members to share their unique collections. RRLC members are eligible to contribute to various statewide projects.

Available to: Full and Affiliate Members
Contact Ryan Hughes: rhughes@rrlc.org

**New York Heritage**: a free research portal for students, educators, historians, genealogists, or anyone interested in the Empire State's history. New York Heritage contains historical photos, newspapers, maps, letters, and more from libraries, archives, and cultural organizations all over New York State.

https://nyheritage.org/

**Empire Archival Discover Cooperative (Empire ADC)**: is a source of information about archival collections held in cultural heritage organizations across New York State. At Empire ADC you can search and browse collection descriptions (called “finding aids”) to discover what historical materials are available for your research and where to find them.

https://www.empireadc.org/

**New York State Historic Newspapers**: this project exists to digitize, and make freely available for research, significant runs of historic newspapers for every county in the state. Visitors to New York Historic Newspapers get free online access to a wide range of newspapers chosen to reflect New York's unique history.

https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/

**Empire State Immersive Experiences (ESIE)**: a platform for hosting 360° images and panorama tours. ESIE can be used to highlight places, landmarks, and objects in your community. Create and share a virtual walking tour of a public outdoor space, or use a 360° image to supplement learning.

https://esie.space/

**Empire State Library Network Academic Institutional Repository (ESLN AIR)**: an institutional repository platform by Ubiquity Press for our academic library members. Ubiquity provides easy, flexible hosting for institutions looking to house their public, private, and embargoed works at a fraction of the cost of competitors.

https://www.esln.org/empire-state-immersive-experiences/
Membership & Benefits

Grant Opportunities

RRLC offers a variety of grant opportunities throughout the year to help members improve their services and build capacity. Each opportunity is unique and offers its own set of requirements. 

https://rrlc.org/services/grant-opportunities/

Available to: Full and Affiliate Members
Contact Laura Osterhout: losterhout@rrlc.org

**RRLC Causewave Capacity Building Grant:** We believe in our members and we help them build capacity in order to better fulfill their missions. RRLC collaborates with Causewave Community Partners to provide capacity building assistance in the areas of brand development, board development, values development, marketing, communication, and fundraising planning. 

https://rrlc.org/grant-opportunities/rrlc-causewave-capacity-building-grant/

**Special Project Grants:** We offer special project grants to members who want to undertake a project that will help the organization fulfill its mission; projects with a potential impact on the larger RRLC community are given first priority.  

https://rrlc.org/grant-opportunities/rrlc-special-projects-grant/

**Action & Innovation Grant:** This grant supports projects that take action on issues impacting the community served by an organization. Projects that take action in an innovative way or are in collaboration with other RRLC members or community organizations are preferred for this grant. 

https://rrlc.org/services/grant-opportunities/action-innovation-grant/

**Collections & Access Grant:** This grant supports member projects that improve access to collections. Projects must make collections more accessible and freely available to end users, preferably through one of the ongoing statewide projects. Projects that highlight underrepresented voices receive priority consideration. 

https://rrlc.org/services/grant-opportunities/collections-access-grant/

**Internship Grant:** RRLC provides a grant to a host organization that helps to introduce students to the wide variety of career opportunities in libraries, archives, and cultural heritage organizations, and help provide meaningful work experience that builds professional skills. 

https://rrlc.org/services/grant-opportunities/internship-grants/

**Harold Hacker Fund for the Advancement of Libraries:** Each year the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library (FFRPL) offers a grant opportunity for Rochester area libraries who want to further education and professional development for library staff or to implement innovative library projects and programs. RRLC administrates this grant on behalf of the FFRPL. 

https://rrlc.org/services/grant-opportunities/harold-hacker-fund-for-advancement-of-libraries/
Membership & Benefits

Continuing Education Opportunities

RRLC provides extensive training for librarians and library staff at RRLC member libraries and library systems. Most classes are offered free of charge and are held online, via Zoom, or at RRLC's Training Center. RRLC welcomes comments and suggestions and members have the ability to request or propose training ideas.

https://rrlc.org/training/about/
Available to: Full, Affiliate, For Profit, and Individual Members
Contact Tina Broomfield: cbroomfield@rrlc.org

RRLC Classes & Events: we offer a variety of training classes and webinars throughout the year on a wide range of topics impacting libraries, museums, and cultural heritage organizations.

https://rrlc.org/events/

Classes & Events from Across the State: as a member of RRLC, you are able to attend training classes & events from our sister library councils across the state, most of which are free to RRLC members. See the Empire State Library Network events calendar for details and upcoming events.

https://www.esln.org/event-list/

Treehouse Online Learning: Treehouse is an online learning platform focusing on developing technical skills, with over 200 courses available on-demand. The platform offers beginner to advanced courses in topics such as web design, game development, user experience design, and more! New courses are added every Wednesday.

https://rrlc.org/training/online-learning/

Skillshare Online Learning: Skillshare is an online learning platform with over 20,000 classes in design, business, tech, and more. New courses are added frequently.

https://rrlc.org/training/online-learning/

Library Juice Academy: RRLC offers a 20% off discount to Library Juice Academy for RRLC members.

https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/
Membership & Benefits

These are just some of the benefits available to you or your organization as a member of the Rochester Regional Library Council. We look forward to working with you, and encourage you to contact any of our staff with questions.

Rochester Regional Library Council
3445 Winton Pl
Suite 204
Rochester, NY 14623
rrlc@rrlc.org
585.223.7570

Laura Osterhout
Executive Director
losterhout@rrlc.org
585.902.2535

Leah Matusek
Administrative & Membership Coordinator
lmatusek@rrlc.org
585.364.1954

Collette Coffey
Business Manager
ccoffey@rrlc.org
585.364.1955

Tina Broomfield
Educational Services Manager
cbroomfield@rrlc.org
585.364.1957

Ryan Hughes
Digital Services Manager
rhughes@rrlc.org
585.206.2977