

# SOUTHEASTERN NEWS

**December 2025**

Volume 20, Issue 12

As we wrap up this year, our big news is that we have a complete data report about Digital Navigators of the Hudson Valley to share with you. Support for this project, titled *Hudson Valley Connected*, was provided by New York State's ConnectALL Digital Equity Technical Assistance Program and funded by the New York State Executive Budget. The project was awarded in January 2025 to Southeastern NY Library Resources Council and managed by the Digital Equity Research Center at the Metropolitan New York Library Council. Please see the story below for more information

Aside from that, we have other pieces of news and information for you this month:

- Ask the Lawyer
- Employment Opportunities
- SEAL Newsletter
- NYLA Developing Leaders
- Computers in Libraries Conference
- Professional Development
- Advocacy Day - save the date!

## Ask the Lawyer

The council retains an attorney to offer Southeastern and its members timely input on human resources, intellectual property, digital rights management, vendor contracts, First Amendment, civil rights, employment law, and other legal issues that can impact library operations.

There are some new RAQs on the website from November:

- [Fixing Municipal Library Trustee Term "Drift"](#)
- [Dealing with Demands to Preserve Evidence](#)

In addition to the recently asked questions, we keep an archive of past Ask The Lawyer Recordings on our website. These include popular webinars such as:

- The Ultimate AI Policy for Your (Public, Academic, Museum, etc.) Library (September 11, 2025)
- Accommodations in the Library - Employee Edition (December 5, 2024)
- Unlocking the Mysteries of Directors & Officers' Insurance (November 22, 2024)
- Know The Path, Avoid The Pitfalls: Arranging Contracts For E-Resources (March 7, 2024)

[Please have a look at our resources page](#) for a full list of recordings, links, and related materials.



Got a question for the lawyer?  
[Ask it here.](#)

*Please keep in mind: the "Ask the Lawyer" service is not legal representation of your organization. Always alert officers at your institution if a lawsuit is threatened, or if a matter is so specific or critical that your own institution's attorney should be involved. And yes -- you can always "Ask the Lawyer," if you don't know if a particular issue hits that threshold!*

See the full RAQ here:  
<https://wnylrc.org/services/askservices/raqs>

## New Data from Two Years of Service



### Digital Navigators of The Hudson Valley

Trained, trusted guides who help people with technology needs

The Digital Navigators program tackles urgent  
real-life digital barriers.

*The patron needed to print train tickets...  
including forwarding an email, general  
smartphone email navigation, and using  
Safari on the iPhone.*

Digital Navigator, Orange County.

*This client is applying for a Commercial  
Drivers License and needed to schedule a  
road test...We were able to successfully  
schedule his road test!*

Digital Navigator, Dutchess County.



[hvconnected.org](https://hvconnected.org)

We are excited to announce that for the first time, we have a full data study to share about the work of Digital Navigators of the Hudson Valley. Using information gathered by dozens of Navigators through their work with thousands of clients from 2022 to 2024, this report demonstrates the positive impact our Navigators have made on our communities.

To learn more, you can [explore this information on our website](#), download PDF files [of the full executive summary](#), or download a [summary of data findings](#) to learn more about the impact of the program.

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## Employment Opportunities

Local library jobs are listed on our employment page here: <https://www.senylrc.org/jobs>

We receive updates all the time and post them as soon as possible. You can submit your listing by sending an email to [jobposting@senylrc.org](mailto:jobposting@senylrc.org).

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## SEAL Newsletter

In case you missed it, here is the [November SEAL newsletter](#). Check out information on:

- SEAL News
- Southeastern Resource: Tech-Talk
- Updated Training Resources
- Inter-library Loan News

Would you like this newsletter delivered straight to your inbox the day it is published? The wait is over - [sign up to receive the SEAL Newsletter here](#)

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## NYLA Developing Leaders

New York Library Association (NYLA)'s Developing Leaders Program's mission is to connect, educate, and empower rising leaders in the library profession. This comprehensive six-month program, running from January to June, is tailored for library professionals with a minimum of three years of experience looking to explore and strengthen their leadership skills.

[Find out more information about the program and apply here](#)

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From Southeastern NY Library Resources Council

## Professional Development



**Equity, Diversity  
& Inclusion SIG**  
Wednesday, December 3  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
via Zoom



DECEMBER 4  
10:00 AM  
**LEADERSHIP  
SIG**

*In person at Southeastern*

### **EDI SIG**

Wednesday, December 3  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

We're back, and we're still talking about ways to support diversity in libraries. As long as our patrons come from different backgrounds and demographics, our job is to create programs and services that reflect the communities we serve. In this meeting, we will check in on how our efforts are going, support each other's challenges, and celebrate each other's joys.

This month's meeting will be held via Zoom.

[Register Here](#)

### **Leadership SIG**

Thursday, December 4  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

In a new iteration of this group, we will talk about working in post-traumatic situations. Whether a traumatic situation was experienced by the collected staff or individually, on the job, or after hours, we can learn ways to adapt our management style to lead. At a time of turmoil and threats to libraries, leadership can feel lonelier than ever.

This meeting will be held in person in Southeastern's conference room.

[Register here](#)

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## Reference SIG

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Facilitator: **Maggie Leung**, Dominican University

[Register here](#)

This month's topic is: Translating Reference Questions into Library Programs & Services. That will be our starting point for the conversation, and the details can be refined and amended by the participants as needed. Bring any reference questions you have handy!

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## Tech-Talk Webinars

1-hour sessions on Wednesdays at 3 pm

- December 3: [EXCEL] **Spreadsheet Storytelling: Interactive Features You Need.**
- December 17: [GRAPHICS] **GIF Animations for Images, Websites and Social Media.**
- January 14: **[CYBERSECURITY] Say Goodbye to Password Hassles with Passkeys!**
- January 28: [COMMUNICATION] **OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past and Present! Why Attend?**
- February 11: [GOOGLE FORMS & AI] **Let AI Reveal the Story Behind Your Google Form Responses.**
- February 25: [WEB TOOLS] **Discover 10 Free Web Tools We Use Continually.**

[Webinar Details & Register at this link](#)

NOTE: You'll need Southeastern's login info to register! Members can email Moshe Siegel at [moshe@senylrc.org](mailto:moshe@senylrc.org) to request it if they don't have it.

## Other Professional Development

### **Medical Librarians Supporting Pharmacists**

Produced by South Central Regional Library Council

Tuesday, December 2: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Strategic Planning Best Practices**

Produced by Long Island Library Resources Council

Monday, December 8: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Developing the Donor – Common Sense Approaches to Donor Relationships**

Produced by Central NY Library Resources Council

Tuesday, December 9: 10:00 am - 11:00 am

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Transcribing the American Revolution: Programming Volunteer Service for the Library of Congress**

Produced by Long Island Library Resources Council

Tuesday, December 9: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **A Dark History Revealed: The Roots of Eugenics on Long Island**

Produced by Long Island Library Resources Council

Wednesday, December 10: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **The Science of Personal Care Products**

Produced by Rochester Regional Library Council

Wednesday, December 10: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **An Introduction to NYS Historic Newspapers**

Produced by Northern NY Library Network

Wednesday, January 14: 10:00 am - 11:00 am

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Weed'em and Reap – Keeping a Healthy Collection Through Weeding**

Produced by Central NY Library Resources Council

Wednesday, January 14: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Occupied Long Island: Voices from the American Revolution**

Produced by Long Island Library Resources Council

Thursday, January 15: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **Lunch & Learn: Libraries as Key Players in Publishing: The Guthrie Clinic Journal of Medicine**

Produced by South Central Regional Library Council

Thursday, January 29: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

[More information and registration here](#)

### **SUNYLA Midwinter Virtual Conference**

Produced by SUNYLA

Friday, February 6: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

[Call for Proposals Due December 5](#)



# SOUTHEASTERN NY LIBRARY RESOURCES COUNCIL

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