



February 2026

Volume 21, Issue 2

Although spring feels far away (we got the message, Groundhog!), we have some news of big things that will be coming your way sooner than later - look for some special editions between now and the newsletter because we will be announcing:

The return of the **Shadow Program!** We have a graduate student who has started the Community Connections Internship with us this month. The internship project will revive and administer this popular program in which library workers shadow one another for a day.

Registration for the **Annual Meeting on Friday, June 5, 2026**, will open soon. This year, it will be held at the Historic Cornell Boathouse at Marist University. Our keynote speaker will be **Ana Stern**, Senior Manager, Education Program, The Moth.

On May 13, 2026, we will be hosting a **Book Repair Workshop**. Space will be limited, so please look for an email to register that will arrive the week of February 9.

That's what's coming in the future. This is what's in the newsletter today:

- Advocacy Day - tomorrow!
- The Candid Foundation Directory
- Conservation and Preservation Grants
- Employment Opportunities
- New at HRVH
- SEAL Newsletter
- SENYCon 11
- Professional Development

Advocacy Day 2026

On **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**, library workers from all over the state will be converging on Albany to talk directly with lawmakers about library funding and legislative requests.

We hope you can make it, but even if you won't be there in person, there is a lot you can do from your location to amplify the message. Please see the fantastic resources for local information from:

- [Mid-Hudson Library System](#)
 - [Ramapo Catskill Library System](#)
- and statewide information from:
- [New York Library Association](#)

Thank you for being a library advocate!

Candid Directory

All Southeastern members can access the Candid Foundation Directory, an online database designed to connect nonprofits with funding opportunities.

Recognizing that non-profit cultural organizations are facing fiscal uncertainty and potentially losing access to longstanding federal grant programs, ESLN has negotiated remote access to Foundation Directory. This best-in-class research tool helps nonprofits identify and connect with over 240,000 U.S. grantmakers.

What You Need to Know:

- Access is free for staff at all member organizations and institutions.
- This resource is for staff use only—not for the general public or library patrons.

Get started today! Register for a new account at access.esln.org.

Conservation and Preservation Grants

The New York State Discretionary Grant Program for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Research Materials was established in 1984 to encourage the proper care and accessibility of research materials in New York State, to promote the use and development of guidelines and standards for conservation and preservation work, and to support the growth of local and cooperative preservation programs.

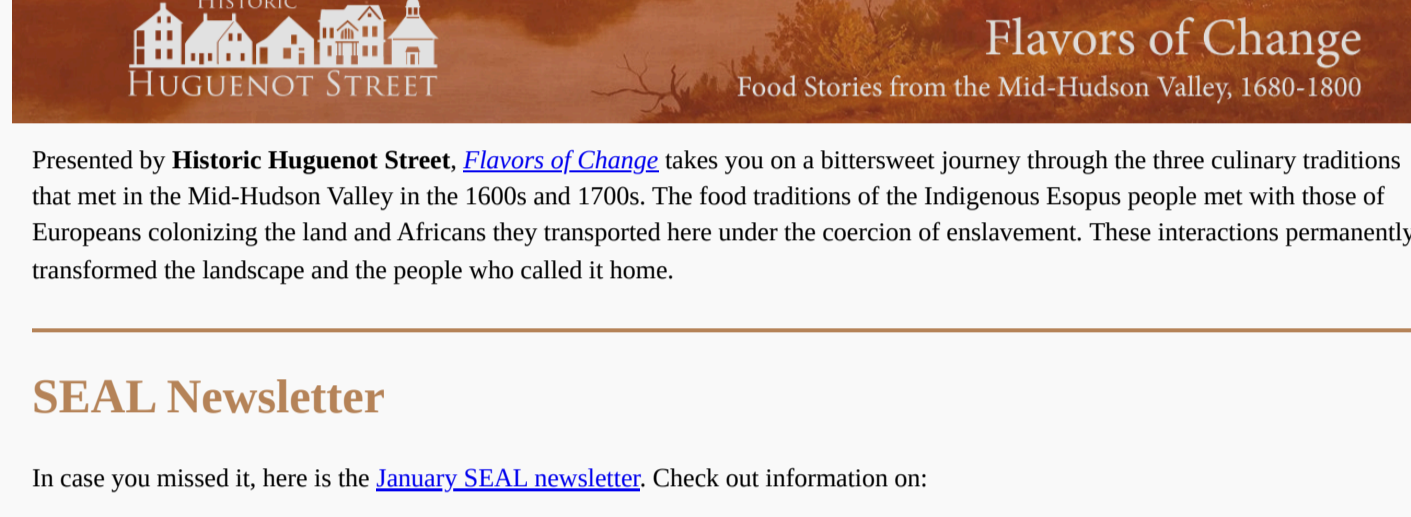
For more information and to apply, see the State Library's website here: <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/cp/grantprogram>

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.

New Exhibit on HRVH!



Presented by **Historic Huguenot Street**, *Flavors of Change* takes you on a bittersweet journey through the three culinary traditions that met in the Mid-Hudson Valley in the 1600s and 1700s. The food traditions of the Indigenous Esopus people met with those of Europeans colonizing the land and Africans they transported here under the coercion of enslavement. These interactions permanently transformed the landscape and the people who called it home.

SEAL Newsletter

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

- New SEAL Feature: Managing Multiple Branches
- Updated ILL Procedures
- Upcoming ESLN event on Title II
- Additional 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](#)

Professional Development

The 11th Annual SENYCon is happening on Friday, April 10, 2026! We are welcoming all back to our space to celebrate a decade of inspiring work from our members. Presentations will be in person, attendees can come in person or watch a livestream.

Send in your proposal here

SENYCon is a collection of presentations from member library workers for member library workers. It is a place for you to showcase big and small ideas. In this forum, you can practice future presentations, deliver encore presentations, or share something you've learned on the job that will benefit others.

If you have a unique idea, clever work hack, best practice, or want to practice your presentation skills, we invite you to submit your proposal using the form linked above. Southeastern's Continuing Education Committee will review the submissions and decide which will be selected to be part of another diverse and engaging day.

The deadline for proposals is Friday, February 6, Anywhere On Earth
*In the case of inclement weather or power outages, we may postpone the event to Friday, April 17, 2026

E-Accessibility, WCAG 2.1, Title II, and Your Library (in NY)

Tuesday, February 10, 2026
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Presenter: **Stephanie "Cole" Adams**, The Law Offices of Stephanie Adams PLLC
Location: Online Via Zoom
[Register here](#)

A core function of any library is providing access to content, often through web-based platforms. April 26, 2026, and April 26, 2027, are two deadlines for public institutions to ensure web content and mobile apps comply with the U.S. Department of Justice's 2024 Final Rule on Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which requires all web content and mobile applications provided or made available by public libraries to be accessible to people with disabilities. This involves complying with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1, Level AA, with limited exceptions for certain kinds of content.

But what if your library has or provides access to content that doesn't comply? This session will review the legal obligations, techniques for meeting the standards, and mitigating legal risk, while focusing on what's most important: library access for all.

Registrants will be able to submit questions in advance and during the session.

Beyond Post-it Notes: Passwords, Passkeys, and more

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Trainer: **Nate Stone**, National Digital Inclusion Alliance
Online via Zoom
[Register here](#)

Want to know more about how to help your patrons with their logins? Join us for Beyond Post-it Notes: Passwords, Passkeys, and more, A Digital Navigators webinar.

So much Digital Navigator or tech help work is helping people reset passwords. This webinar will focus on strategies to help community members avoid having to do that, from using an analog notebook to password managers and passkeys. We'll focus on techniques that maximize security while maintaining as much convenience as possible.

If you have questions about Password Managers, Passkeys, or what kind of system works best for your needs, please join us for this webinar.

Resource Sharing SIG

Date: March 25, 2026
Time: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Location: Newburgh Free Library
[Register here](#)

Join us for the next Resource Sharing SIG, in-person at Newburgh Free Library! Matthew Thorenz, the Local History Librarian at Newburgh Free Library, will join us to give a presentation on utilizing newspaper databases to search for digitized newspapers and articles.

This SIG provides a friendly space for resource sharing professionals to meet, discuss workflows, and share resources. The Resource Sharing Special Interest Group (SIG) meets to discuss issues of Interlibrary Loan, delivery, union catalogs, and other related topics. The members of the group are a mix of full-time and part-time, degreed and non- degreed library staff, and come from all library types. Registration for this event is free and open to all.

Tech-Talk Webinars

1-hour sessions on Wednesdays at 3 pm

- 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.**
- March 11: [WEB AUTHORING] **Webpage Accessibility That Actually Works for Libraries, WCAG 2.1 Explained.**
- March 25: [WORD] **Using Word's Page Breaks, Tabs & Sections for Polished Documents.**
- April 8: [GRAPHICS] **Unlocking Canva Features Without the Overwhelm.**
- April 22: [WORD] **The Secret Productivity Tool in Creating a Table of Contents.**

[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 to request it if they don't have it.

Other Professional Development

Common Cents: Creating a Robust Programming Schedule on a Shoestring Budget

Produced by Rochester Regional Library Council
Thursday, February 5: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

Effective Communication: Fostering a welcoming environment for our Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing patrons

Produced by the New York State Library
Friday, February 6: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

SUNYLA Midwinter Virtual Conference

Produced by SUNYLA
Friday, February 6: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

Webinar: Succession Planning to Build Future Leaders

Produced by Central NY Library Resources Council
Thursday, February 12: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
[More information and registration here](#)

Trivia Event for Blodgett Memorial Library

In person: Hudson Valley Brewery, Beacon, NY
Thursday, February 26: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

Leadership Transitions of Key Employees

Produced by ESLN
Thursday, March 5: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

Webinar: Should It Stay or Should It Go?

Produced by Central NY Library Resources Council
Wednesday, March 11: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
[More information and registration here](#)

Speaking Off the Cuff: Not Prepared to Speak? Try This Technique!

Produced by Rochester Regional Library Council
Wednesday, March 11: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

Webinar: We're Getting Evaluated

Produced by Central NY Library Resources Council
Wednesday, March 18: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
[More information and registration here](#)

All Aboard! Practical Approaches to Effective Library Onboarding

Produced by ESLN
Thursday, April 9: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
[More information and registration here](#)

New York Archives Conference Virtual Conference

Friday, June 5, 2026
[Call for Proposals Due February 1, 2026](#)

Sustaining the Future of Academic Libraries: An Online Conference

Produced by Library Journal
June 15-16, 2026
[Call for Proposals Due March 2, 2026](#)

SUNYLA 2026 Annual Conference

Produced by SUNYLA
June 16-18, 2026
[Call for Proposals Due February 27, 2026](#)

