



# NYLA ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Prepared by :

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Executive Director**



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
*The Voice of the Library Community*

## LETTER FROM NYLA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dear NYLA Members,

Welcome to NYLA's Annual Report, a new addition to our outreach to members. While this is the first such report we've created in at least 5 years, we hope to continue to grow and expand the information included in the years to come. Since revamping the NYLA Voice to be a quarterly publication focusing on our NYLA Sections, Roundtables, and Committees, we hope that next year this report can capture highlights from all NYLA Units as well.

I've just celebrated my 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary as NYLA ED, and I've spent time reflecting on where we've been, how far we've come, and where we want to go. I want to sincerely thank all of you who volunteer for Council, Units, Committees, etc. Nobody accomplishes anything alone, and we couldn't have made so much progress without your help. THANK YOU!

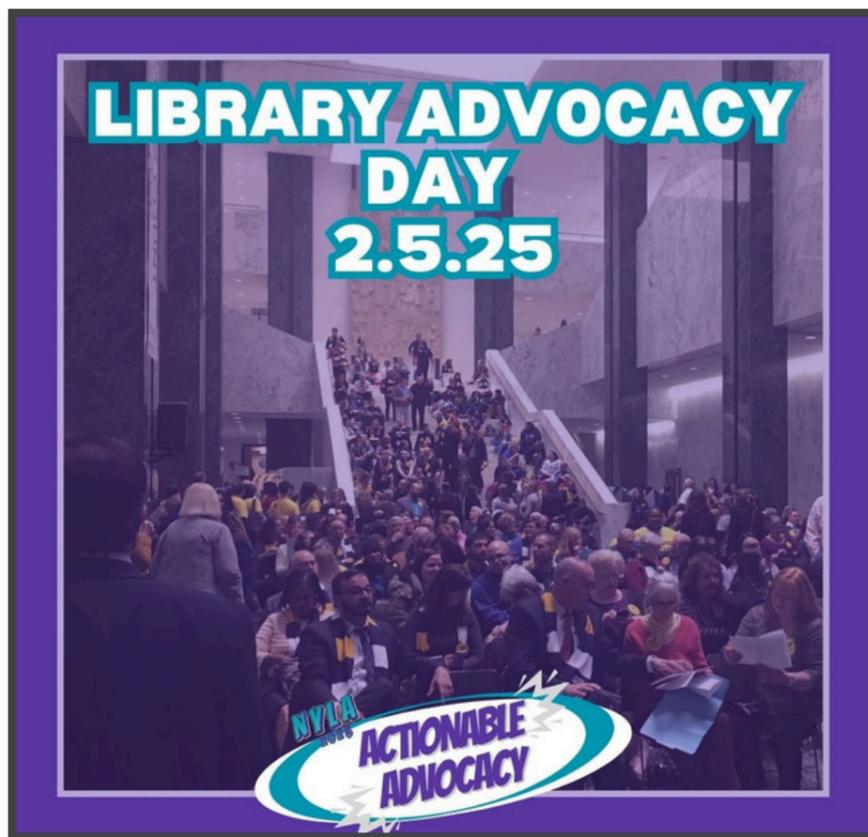
I also want to give appreciation to the hardest working association staff around! Lauren Hoyt, Becky Czornobil, Max Prime, and our intern Misha Bader all deserve a round of applause for putting their blood, sweat, and tears into every NYLA event and activity. I'm so lucky to work with such talented and caring people.

I hope you will take a moment to read through this report and revel in NYLA's successes from the past year. We've done incredible work together, and we have so many plans for 2026! If you get so energized that you can't help but get more involved, email me at [director@nyla.org](mailto:director@nyla.org) and I'll be happy to put you to work!

All my best,  
AnnaLee

# ADVOCACY

- Library Advocacy Day - February 5, 2025, over 700 advocates attended 117 meetings



- Spring on the Hill - May 20, 2025 , 76 advocacy leaders attended (*a 52% increase in attendance!*)
- Online Advocacy Center: 2025 Session saw 24,792 individual advocates send 48,825 emails and make 480 calls to legislators!

## **2026 Save the Dates:**

Spring on the Hill - Tuesday, May 19, 2026



# NYS BUDGET

Enacted FY2025-2026 NYS Budget included:

- **State Library Aid: \$106.325M (+\$2.473M increase)**
- **State Library Construction Aid: \$44M** (restored \$10M proposed cut)
- **Library Materials Aid: \$6.25 per pupil** (flat funding since 2007)
- **NOVELny: \$3M** (flat funding)

**Love Your Library Fund:** Release of \$100K

**Schomburg Research Center:** \$500K (flat funding)

**Langston Hughes Community Library:** \$222.5K (+55K increase)



# LEGISLATION

- **Freedom to Read Act – S.1099 (May) / A.7777 (Simone)**
  - Passed the Senate and Assembly. Awaiting final action from Governor Hochul.
  - Vetoed by the Governor at the end of 2025.
- **Open Shelves Act – S.1100-A(May) / A.3119-B (Kelles)**
  - Passed twice in the Senate (5/20, 6/12) but did not receive action in the Assembly.
  - Currently in the Assembly Standing Committee on Libraries and Education Technology
- **eBooks Terms Legislation – A.3589 (Carroll)**
  - Conversations about the bill with its Assembly sponsor and potential Senate sponsors are ongoing
- **Media Literacy**

NYLA has worked internally and with outside partners to:

  - refocus Media Literacy priorities
  - appeal to NYSED on Media Literacy issues
  - keep certified school librarians centered in all Media Literacy conversations



# MEMBERSHIP

- NYLA ended the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year with **3,302 members**.
- While these numbers have decreased since the previous fiscal year, several variables affect these figures:
  - Our first renewal period in our new database and the fixed membership year
  - The second planned increase in dues per the Balanced Budget Task Force recommendations

Moving forward, the NYLA staff and our Membership Committee are committed to evaluating all variables, specifically focusing on the following:

- Improving member experience and increasing engagement of current membership
- Continuing our work towards operational efficiency
- Focusing on developing relationships with library students



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- With Conference registration of 856 people, we reached 95.1% of our 900 registrant goal for the year.
- The Developing Leaders Program began a new cohort in January 2025. With 24 participants, it was a great group! Watch for registration for the next round coming soon, which will begin in February 2026.
- The Youth Services Section hosted their annual section conference on April 4, 2025 in Mount Kisco, NY. The theme was: All on the Same Page, and had a total attendance of 121.
- The Section of School Librarians hosted their annual section conference from May 1-3, 2025 at the Woodcliff Hotel in Rochester, NY. The theme was: Sharing Your Story, and had a total attendance of 390.
- Becky Czornobil ran a successful Library Skills Academy in October 2025, with a registration of 37.



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW

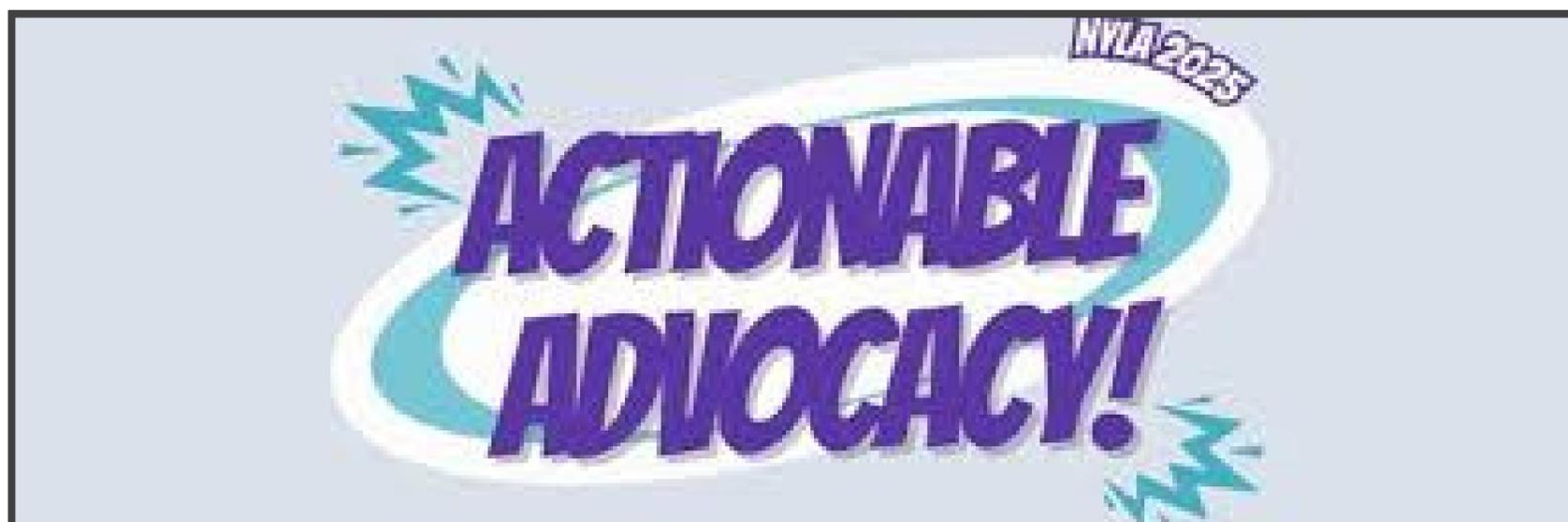
Date: November 5-9, 2025

Location: Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY

Theme: Actionable Advocacy

President: Tim Spindler

Keynote: Micaela Blei



## **Total Profit**

Projected: \$270,600.00

Actual: \$283,369.41

2.7% more than anticipated

## **Total Registrations**

Projected: 900

Actual: 856

4.9% below goal

## **Total Program Sessions**

106

## **Total Per Attendee Cost**

\$271



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW

## Registration

Projected: \$357,600.00

**Actual: \$358,878.00**

## Trade Show

Projected: \$95,000.00

**Actual: \$119,170.00**

## Sponsorships

Projected: \$10,000.00

**Actual: \$2,450.00**

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### TOTAL

PROJECTED: \$462,600.00

**ACTUAL: \$480,498.00**

3.9% MORE THAN ANTICIPATED

## Space

Projected: \$8,000.00

**Actual: \$14,737.50**

## AV/Tech

Projected: \$75,000.00

**Actual: \$78,821.60**

## Printing/Misc

Projected: \$33,000

**Actual: \$29,298.34**

## Food/Beverage

Projected: \$56,000.00

**Actual: \$59,371.29**

## Speaker Fees

Projected: \$20,000.00

**Actual: \$14,737.50**

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### TOTAL

PROJECTED: \$192,000.00

**ACTUAL: \$197,128.59**

2.7% MORE THAN ANTICIPATED



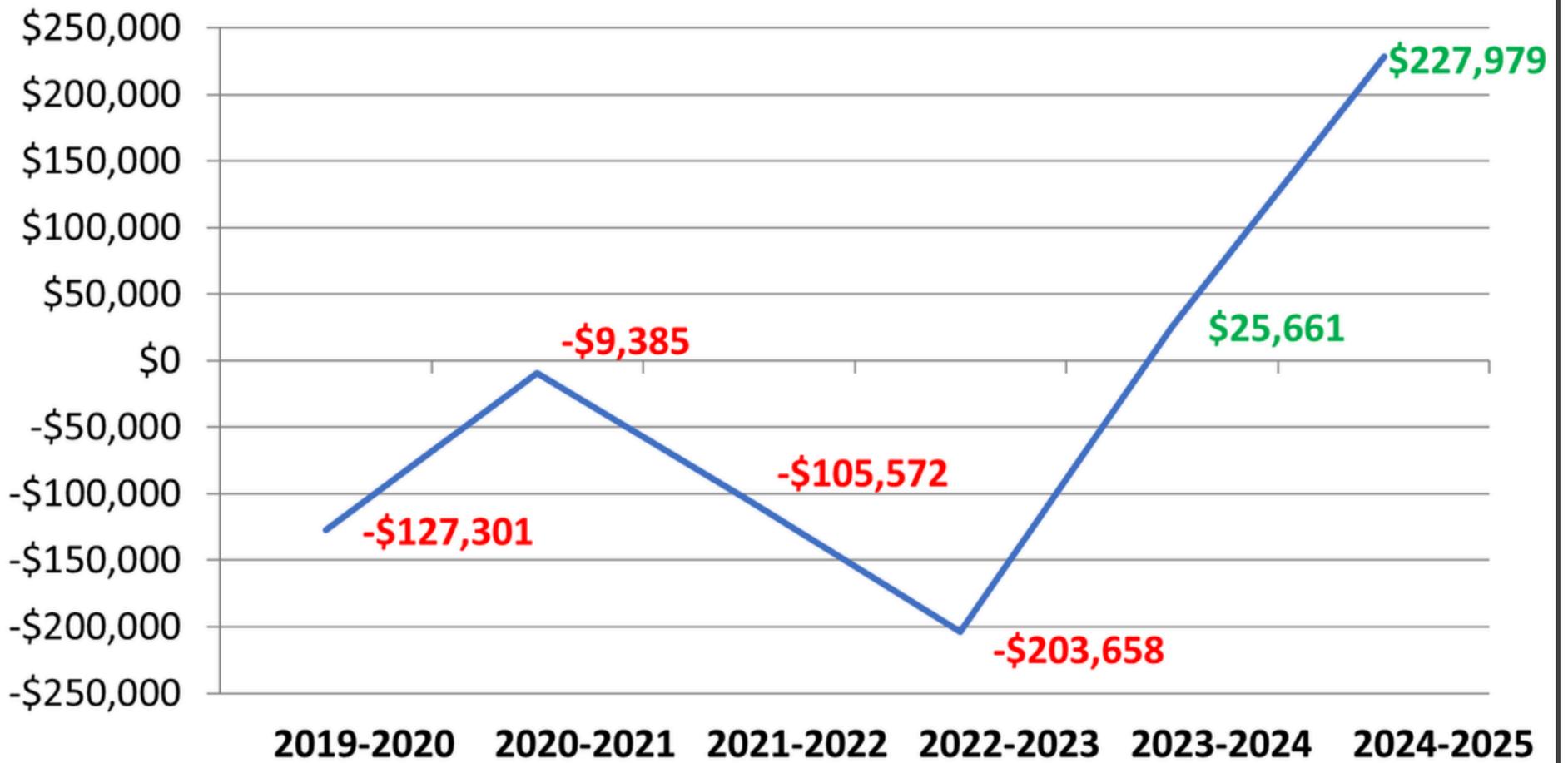
# OPERATIONS

- NYLA received our second clean audit opinion in 2 years.
- NYLA Council approved a \$2,000 donation to the Basloe Library from the NYLA Legal Defense Fund.
- NYLA granted 3 scholarships and 4 First Time Conference Stipends to NY MLS students this year, totaling \$8,000 invested in future members of the field.
- The Council voted to move \$50,000 from the operating account back into the Fund for the Future investment account, as a result of the Balanced Budget Task Force recommendations and improved financial situation.
- NYLA paid \$15,000 in speaker fees for the 2025 annual conference, up from \$7,500 in the previous fiscal year.



# OPERATIONS

## NYLA Deficit/Surplus by Fiscal Year



# OPERATIONS

Executive Director toured much of the state for visits and speaking engagements at:

- Bethlehem Public Library Press Event with Congressman Paul Tonko
- Brooklyn Public Library – Brooklyn Heights Branch
- Buffalo and Erie County Public Library – Main Library Tour
- Capital District Library Council Meet the NYLA President Event
- Columbia County Library Association Trustee Appreciation Dinner
- Farmingdale Public Library
- Long Island Library Conference
- Mid-Hudson Library System Annual Meeting
- NYLA School Library Section Annual Conference in Rochester
- NYLA Youth Services Section Annual Conference in Westchester
- Onondaga County Public Library Managers Meeting/Retreat in Syracuse
- Public Library System Directors Organization Annual Meeting at Mid-York Library System
- Ramapo Catskill Library System Annual Meeting and Legislative Breakfast
- Roeliff Jansen Community Library Banned Books Week Event
- School Library System Administrators Summer Institute in Saratoga
- SUNYLA Conference in Delhi
- Upper Hudson Library System Annual Meeting
- Western New York Library Resources Council Annual Meeting



# OPERATIONS

Executive Director also participated in national conferences:

- Keynoted at Vermont Library Association Conference in Killington, VT
- Presented at ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA
- Attended Advocacy Day with COSLA in Washington, D.C.



# A LOOK AHEAD

Key dates for 2026:

- **April 17:** NYLA YSS Section Conference, Buffalo, NY
- **Mid-April:** Membership Open Renewal
- **April 30 - May 1:** NYLA SSL Section Conference, Ithaca, NY
- **May 19:** Spring on the Hill, Albany, NY
- **June 9:** Developing Leaders Graduation, Albany, NY
- **Late August - October:** Library Skills Academy, Online
- **November 4 - 7:** NYLA 2026 Annual Conference and Tradeshow, Saratoga Springs, NY

