

For Immediate Release

2012 Voters Guide for Library Advocates Released

Albany, NY - The New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC has released its 2012 Voters Guide: The Library Advocate's Guide to the Voting Records of the New York State Legislature.

The Guide, which has been published since 2010, grades NYS legislators on their voting records on library funding and legislative issues, based on both Bills brought to the floor and those that were not.

The Guide gives library supporters statewide the opportunity to see how their elected officials are voting. "We've seen a dramatic increase in how the legislation was scored since 2011. The influx of A's and B's certainly reflect the perceived importance of libraries and funding for our communities," stated John Hammond of New Yorkers for Better Libraries. He continued, "This is a proud moment for the library community, as our messages are working. Libraries have never been more important than they are today."

Scores are calculated based on: library aid in the state budget; the sponsoring of library priority legislation; votes on library legislation, as well as: letters of support (in the Assembly). The grading scale is based on the number of total points each legislature receives in each category. More details on how the scores are determined can be found within the Guide.

The 2012 Voters Guide can be found at www.nylibs-pac.net and at the New York Library Association's website at www.nyla.org. The Guide is being distributed to legislators, the media and the library community throughout New York.

About NYLA:

The New York Library Association (NYLA) is the voice of the library community in New York. NYLA is the oldest state library association in the country and represents school, college, special and public libraries, library staff, trustees, and students from around the state.

NYLA is the only statewide organization dedicated to advocating on behalf of all libraries and library staff in Albany and serves as the spokesperson on library matters to the media and public policymakers.

About New Yorkers for Better Libraries:

The New Yorkers for Better Libraries Political Action Committee was established in 2003 by library leaders who believe that there is a need to supplement the library community's advocacy efforts with campaign contributions and other activities directed toward those in Albany who can really help libraries.

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