

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW YORK BLACK LIBRARIANS' CAUCUS JOINS THE NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ALBANY, NY – The New York Library Association (NYLA) is pleased to announce that the New York Black Librarians Caucus (NYBLC) has incorporated their operations with NYLA, under the Round Table structure. On February 1, 2018 the NYLA Council unanimously approved the formation of the NYBLC as a NYLA Round Table.

NYBLC, an affiliate of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc. (BCALA) NYBLC founded in 1970 in Queens, NY under the name the Black Librarians' Caucus of Queens. In 1975, the name was changed to the current name to broaden membership in New York City. Today, NYBLC continues to thrive as a vital organization that actively advocates for quality library services in all communities and, provide professional opportunities for Black Librarians. As a result, of the global technology-driven knowledge economy we now live in, NYBLC strives to, bridge the digital divide as well as, among other vital issues.

Sandra Michele Echols, President of the New York Black Librarians Caucus: "The NYBLC began when a group of Black librarians gathered to discuss the widespread racism in the profession. It has grown to become an organization dedicated to the advancement of Black librarians throughout NYC; through professional development opportunities, advocacy, and scholarships. We are excited to continue this work under the NYLA umbrella to broaden our impact throughout the state."

Tim Burke, NYLA President & Executive Director of the Upper Hudson Library System: "NYLA is thrilled to have NYBLC join the organization as a Round Table. Their commitment to the betterment of the library profession is commendable and we look forward to helping them advance their mission."

NYLA Round Tables cover a host of library issues and provide members with a place to share common interests and educate colleagues through conference programs and other gatherings. NYBLC will continue their long-standing commitment providing pathways into the profession for individuals representing diverse backgrounds, and the distribution of several scholarships.

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.

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