FLS Announces 2017 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Recipient

The 2017 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award goes to Colleen Powers from Wadsworth Library, Geneseo, NY. Colleen is one of the founding members of the Friends group that formally began in 2004. She has served as chair of membership, volunteer coordinator, programming, publicity, and as President from 2011 to 2017.

Colleen works well with the Board of Trustees. She was one of six on the search committee for the new Director. She attends Board meetings to give a report on Friends' activities. She also urges others on her board to attend on a rotating schedule. As a reciprocal gesture, library trustees attend the Friends board meetings in rotation. Colleen has worked to increase Friends membership and has coordinated six membership drives and is working on the seventh.

Colleen has encouraged ongoing groups who meet regularly throughout the year such as knitting for any and all. She was instrumental in creating other ongoing family hands-on groups during the school year to include Legos (now 4 years) and Origami (5 years), finding volunteers to mentor and finding supplies for these programs.

Together with the Friends' treasurer and the Library Director, Colleen helped prepare and complete the application to become a 501(c)(3) entity. She has been instrumental in many aspects of the library from finding funds to working with community businesses, the Livingston County Museum, and the local Food Pantry. Here are just a few of her successful ideas:

♦ The Mainly Main Street Series is in its second year, bringing in owners of three local businesses as program presenters.
♦ Around the World is another series of evenings in which locals share their stories and pictures of travel to different areas of the world. Colleen actively recruits three or four volunteer presenters.

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Friends of Libraries Section
— A Network of Library Advocates in New York State

Volume 3, #4 -- September 2017

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The mission of the Friends of Libraries Section is to promote and inspire local Friends groups in libraries of all types for the betterment of New York State's library community.

Friends Day Schedule at a Glance

Friday, November 10
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Choose Your Local Resources for Successful Fund-raisers

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Exclusive NYLA Trade Show

11 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Bringing Friends Back From the Brink

12:30 -2:00 p.m.
Section Luncheons

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Exclusive NYLA Trade Show

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Best Practices for Management of Friends Boards

4:15 - 5:15 p.m.
Friends & Trustees Building Community When Disaster Strikes

The FLS annual membership meeting, including the announcement of the Dan Casey Award winner and installation of the 2017 Executive Board, will begin the session, followed immediately by the program.

Saturday, November 11
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Friends Choose Their Own Leadership

Wednesday, November 8
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Fiduciary Practices for Nonprofit Organizations

Editor's note: Times subject to change based on final schedule. See the NYLA Annual Conference Brochure or go to www.nyla.org for more information.
September. Many delicious varieties of apples ripen around the state. Cumulus clouds billow in soft blue skies. Elementary and secondary students begin to file onto yellow buses. College students are already hard at work.

What thoughts of a past or present school year come to mind as a new one begins? The Friends environment is ideal for lifelong learning and developing informed community leadership to benefit present and future generations. Here are just a few of the ways Friends groups and FLS do so.

- **Scholarships**: Some Friends of Libraries (FOL) groups offer scholarships to college students. Thanks to NYLA and the Lake Placid Foundation, FLS will select its second Dewey Fellow in 2018. The Fellowship, awarded for advancing the library cause, involves a generous stipend toward the cost of attending the NYLA annual conference.

- **Wall of Fame**: FLS offers two ways to recognize stellar accomplishments. The annual Daniel W. Casey Advocacy Award honors a volunteer member or a group of the library community whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends of the Library organizations. The FLS Tribute Fund is a vehicle available to members throughout the year.

- **In-service workshops**: Friends Friday at the NYLA annual conference is packed with practical and stimulating FLS workshops, with an additional Saturday session to tempt you. FLS annual meet-ups offer opportunities to exchange ideas and best practices with regional colleagues and FLS Board members. FLS representatives travel to present "Getting Started" and "Keep it Growing" training at the request of libraries and systems.

- **Distance learning/webinars**: Some library systems have live streamed FLS workshops to various locations in their vast geographic service areas. The NYLA Continuing Education Committee, including its FLS liaison, is currently developing webinars.

- **Class officers or school board**: Those elected to leadership positions shape the future, serve as conduits as well as advocates, and connect to the larger community. FLS opportunities include continuing education, conference planning, liaisons to NYLA committees and Council.

- **Teachers/mentors**: Workshop presenters at the NYLA conference and library system meetings equip and inspire participants, sparking lively exchanges of ideas and experiences. Networking at FLS meet-ups can lead to valuable one-on-one exchanges.

- **School paper**: The quarterly FLS newsletter is a goldmine of the latest information, creative ideas from colleagues, and opportunities to contribute to the organization and recognize achievements. Many FOL newsletters provide similar content at the local level.

- **Lockers**: Information is stored conveniently on the NYLA website or your local library's site. No combination locks are required.

- **Yearbook**: The FLS annual membership meeting and local FOL meetings highlight accomplishments of the past year and help attendees put names with faces.

- **PTA/PTO**: Friends raise funds for special events such as author visits or plays, spaces such as reading gardens, rewards such as summer reading prizes, or celebrations.

- **Book fair**: Bargain hunters and avid readers of all ages stagger away with armloads of volumes and satisfied smiles. The library benefits financially; community goodwill increases.

- **Honor Society/Community service credit**: Junior Friends run and support programs for peers and younger children at public libraries. College students provide valuable insight into how their academic Friends groups can enhance campus life. Academic Friends can be vital links between campus and community.

- **Field/class trips**: Some FOL sponsor regional or even international visits to destinations of cultural interest. Some fund museum passes which library families may borrow.

- **Budget vote**: Roadsides bristle with "Vote Yes" signs when Friends groups with budgets requiring annual taxpayer approval advocate diligently in their communities. NYLA has a strong voice and member presence in Albany on Library Advocacy Day.

Libraries are education. As you pass a campus this fall, why not pause for a moment to reflect on what your Friends group does? We invite you to consider how FLS can help you broaden your horizons or provide a way for you to do the same for colleagues. Feel free to contact our Board members with questions or suggestions. See you in Saratoga Springs!

Editor's note: Visit [www.NYLA.org/Friends](http://www.NYLA.org/Friends) to view resources that Janet mentions in this message to FLS members including The FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award, FLS Dewey Fellow Application, FLS Tribute Fund, and FLS News and Notes newsletters.
There’s still plenty of time to register for this year’s NYLA Annual Conference. FLS is offering the most ambitious lineup of programs in the 25 year history of the Friends of Library Section and its predecessor, the Empire Friends Roundtable. Starting with the first-ever FLS Continuing Education workshop on Wednesday — Fiduciary Practices for Nonprofit Organizations -- all the way through our selection of five programs spanning Friday through Saturday morning, there’s something for everyone working with Friends of the library groups.

Remember that NYLA offers reduced registration rates for members registered as Friends or as part of a Friends Group Organizational Membership as well as members registered as students, trustees, and retirees. Also, you do not need to register for the conference to attend just the Wednesday CE workshop. NYLA members also receive a discounted CE workshop rate.

Register before September 30 to beat the final rate increase for conference attendees. All the information you need for the conference is available online at www.nyla.org. Go to the News and Events tab and then click on Conference & Trade Show. Additional information is available in the June 2017 issue of Friends News and Notes. Find that newsletter at www.NYLA.org/Friends and click on Publications.

Plan your adventure for the conference whether it’s a journey straight through the offerings from FLS or a mix and match of many different programs offered by the Sections, Roundtables, and Affiliates of NYLA. You’ll find great networking opportunities at programs, special conference events, and at the Trade Show.

Be on the lookout for the ways that FLS will celebrate its 25th anniversary of Friends Helping Friends all across the state of New York. Don’t miss the FLS Annual Membership Meeting which will precede our program Friends & Trustees Building Community When Disaster Strikes. Meet the incoming FLS Executive Board and hear about this year’s Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award recipient.

We look forward to seeing you in Saratoga Springs this November!

What’s a Trade Show Anyway?

Each year, the Trade Show at the NYLA Annual Conference features the latest and greatest products and services available to libraries of all types. The Show is an opportunity to give the vendors feedback on their products and let them know the needs of your library. It is the hub of the conference, with book signings, refreshments, and giveaways.

Having exhibitors at the conference makes the conference affordable to attend. The companies pay booth fees which subsidize the costs of the NYLA program meeting rooms. It is always good practice to thank the exhibitors for being at the conference — it shows you understand their efforts to be there and to greet conference attendees (over and over!). But what’s in it for Friends volunteers?

On Friday, November 10, it is "Friends Day" in Saratoga Springs. Start your day with a free continental breakfast provided by our exhibitors beginning at 8 a.m. The Trade Show runs from 8 o’clock to 3 p.m. this year, with exclusive times when there are no program sessions competing for your attention (10 – 11 a.m. and 2 – 3 p.m.). If you are not attending a Section luncheon, 12:30 – 2 p.m. will give you more opportunities for some one-on-one discussions with the vendors.

Attending the trade show can seem daunting—where should I start? A list of the exhibitors can be found at www.nyla.org/conference. Explore the show and you'll find New York State and Federal agencies, schools of library and information science, vendors of audio and e-books, magazines, and of course, print books. If your Friends group is considering items to market your organization with the Friends logo on a tote bag or pen, you'll be in luck! Maybe you're looking for an idea for a donor wall, an unusual piece of furniture made just for young readers, or an online subscription you might underwrite for your library. You can also find tips for new attendees on the 2017 Trade Show page using the link above.

Come with a list of things your group or library needs. See the products that are out there and what new features are being offered. As you walk around, you can immediately compare companies’ products, prices, and services. Friends often buy display units or furniture for their libraries—go sit in the chairs you are considering! It's great to see things firsthand. Some vendors will have scheduled presentation times to demonstrate the products' features.
Networking is another vital aspect of the Show. Meet colleagues that share your passion for libraries. Create and strengthen relationships with people "in the know." You’ll want to stop by the FLS Booth for your member gift and to talk "best practices" with Friends volunteers from around the state.

And bring a little folding money! We always hear "I didn't know there would be this many raffles" or items for sale. Many of the NYLA units have raffle baskets to raise some funds; tickets run from $1 each to $5+ for multiple opportunities to win. The vendors also have drawings for products and services. One lucky Friends group won a $100 gift certificate last year that helped them buy imprinted marketing items that they handed out to their members at the Friends annual meeting. Bring address labels with your cell phone number to stick on the raffle slips; if you win, you’ll want folks to find you while you are in convention hall.

Come prepared with a large shoulder bag for the literature you’ll pick up along the way. Many vendors have giveaways known as "swag" (something we all get) like pens, key chains, mugs, tote bags, and posters to offer you in exchange for your attention to their products. Business cards are helpful to present to vendors who can jot on the back what they talked with you about and can follow up with you once you are home. Similarly, get cards from the vendors and make reminder notes on what you saw or discussed.

Networking, keeping up-to-date with trends in libraries, handling products, and taking ideas back to your group and library staff will make the Trade Show a valuable experience for you. Enjoy!

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Meet the Recently Elected FLS Board Members

Congratulations to the winners of the FLS elections this past July. Rejoining the board as First Vice President/President-Elect is Lisa C. Wemett. Incumbents Lynne Madden, Secretary, and Marie Orlando and Susan Swanton, Members At Large, will remain on the Board. FLS is pleased to welcome Patricia Loughan and Terry Morris, both Members At Large.

You had the opportunity to read their profiles before they were voted in, but here’s some additional tidbits about these newly elected board members. Your newsletter editor asked them to complete these statements.

My first job was...
"a part-time clerk/typist at the Wayne County and Ontario Cooperative Library Systems, the forerunners of the current Pioneer Library System. They seriously hired me solely for my typing skills!" Lisa
"in the ladies department in W.T. Grunts in Fairport, NY. I was in high school." Lynne
"a Library Page at Crandall Public Library in Glens Falls, NY." Pat
"customer service at Gaylord Brothers (library supply)." Terry
"a shopgirl at M.H. Lameston (kind of like Woolworth's) on Madison Avenue in NYC, now long gone." Marie

I’m happy when...
"I’m sharing my travel pictures (and Terry Mulee’s) when we present travelogues at area libraries. I love revisiting our trips!" Lisa
"Now with my official working days over, sitting in the Adirondacks, knitting and watching the Moose River flow by my campsite. Or in the river, kayaking!" Lynne

"I’m hanging out with my family.” Pat and Terry
"I hear from my grandchildren.” Marie

My favorite food is...
"seafood of all types.” Lisa
"Chocolate!” Pat
"Bocce’s Pizza in Buffalo New York.” Terry (www.boccespizza.com)
"pasta (also chocolate, but not at the same time).” Marie

My favorite beverage is...
"a vanilla milkshake.” Lisa
"wine (although beer from Raquette River Brewing in Tupper Lake is starting to grow on me).” Marie (www.raquetteriverbrewing.com - owned by her daughter's boyfriend)

My favorite household chore is...
"I’m having a hard time believing that there is such thing as a 'favorite chore'!" Pat
"My favorite household chore is laundry (yes, I even like to iron).” Marie

Editor’s note: Sue Swanton is traveling internationally. We’ll catch up with her another time. I added the web addresses of the two businesses just for fun.

left to right; Lisa, Lynne, Pat, Terry, and Marie
Friends of Drake Library celebrated a true literary feast with members of the College and community this spring. The Feast was a fund-raiser that raised money for the library and awareness of the work being done by FODL to support Drake Memorial Library and benefit students, faculty, staff and members of the community. A Literary Feast featured a number of well-known authors and favorite literary characters while celebrating the library. Such notables as Jane Austen, Edgar Allen Poe, Mother Goose, Oliver Twist, Susan B. Anthony and many others made for a festive and informative evening. The characters were brought to life by faculty and students who took on the persona of the notables. More than 50 people were in attendance for an evening that also included a served dinner, with a generous portion of William Shakespeare on the side.

Editor’s note: FLS board members Rebecca Fuss, Lisa Wemett, and I attended this event in April. FODL, in collaboration with the library and many other college departments, hosted a fun-filled evening. The basic concept of “feasting on literature” could be replicated by other groups. The key components of the evening included a reception where the featured authors, wandering literary characters, guests, and hosts “feasted” on refreshments, literary displays (including cookbooks!), and conversation. This was followed by a “round robin” where the audience went in rotation to hear readings and re-enactments of classic literature. The evening culminated with dinner, a troupe presenting a segment of Shakespeare’s As You Like It and a visit from Susan B. Anthony.

Even the smallest of Friends groups could scale this idea to their space and resources. And I can tell you first hand that a good time was had by all!

25 Years of Continuing Education

When the Empire Friends Roundtable was started in October 1992, the founders knew the value of professional development for volunteers and library staff. Within six months, EFR held its first in-person workshop, How to Start a Friends Group. One year later, in March 1994, the Board began to discuss a “videocassette” to expand the reach of their training. How to Form or Revitalize a Library Support Group was completed by September 1994 with production assistance from Rochester Institute of Technology. The Empire Friends Roundtable won the 1995 Baker & Taylor/Friends of Libraries USA Award for this video, an amazing national recognition for such a new organization.

Through the years, EFR/FLS has regularly sponsored seminars at each NYLA annual conference. The practice of in-person workshops offered around the state was revived in 2015. Lisa Wemett developed two presentations, Getting Started: Creating and Sustaining a Friends Group for Your

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2017 Casey Award continued from page 1

♦ The Livingston County Museum is nearby and together they had summertime outside movies on the Museum's wall for two years. The Museum will also host a program on the Library’s 150th Anniversary with the former director as speaker.

♦ Colleen has served as chair for two years (and will this year as well) for the popular library book sales. She delivers the unsold books to a final destination that has changed yearly as she has tested various services which accept bulk books.

♦ Colleen has written three successful grants for funding for series programs from the Livingston County Council on the Arts: History of Women of the Genesee Valley; Music Around the World; and Around the World in a Flash.

♦ She worked with the local food pantry to get their patrons to use the library encouraging kids to read in the summer with a free book (donated by the Friends) when they reached their goal. She helps staff the bookmobile that is sent to low-income housing to encourage reading and even partners with local restaurants and a bakery to donate a portion of their profits to the library for a one-day event.

Congratulations Colleen! FLS is proud to add you to the list of Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award recipients.

Do you know of a volunteer member or a group within the library community whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends organizations? Consider nominating that person or group for the FLS Casey Award. For more information on the award and for the nomination form visit [www.NYLA.org/Friends](http://www.NYLA.org/Friends) and click on Awards and Scholarships.
Help for Exempt Organizations

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers help that is accessible online, by mail, by telephone, and in person in their regional offices. Most IRS forms and publications can be downloaded from the Internet at www.irs.gov.

Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, addresses activities that could jeopardize a public charity’s tax-exempt status. While Federal law provides tax benefits to nonprofit organizations that have been recognized as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Code requires that these organizations must comply with federal tax law to maintain their tax-exempt status and avoid penalties.

How long should your organization’s records be kept? If your officers change, how do you report that to the IRS? The Compliance Guide identifies general compliance requirements on record keeping, reporting, and disclosure for exempt organizations (EOs) that are classified as public charities. Content includes references to the law, Treasury regulations, IRS publications, and IRS forms with instructions.

Friends need to keep apprised of new EO information. See www.irs.gov/eo for the Life Cycle of a Public Charity which describes the compliance obligations of charities. Sign up for the EO Update, a free newsletter for tax-exempt organizations and the professionals who represent them.

Good Ideas from All Over

The Friends of the Avon (CT) Library select the best of their book donations every day to put in their ongoing sale, “The Booktique.” This inspired idea has lead to increased book sale revenues of nearly $5,000 per year.

The Friends of the Mystic & Noank (CT) Library were part of the library’s book-cart drill team. Participating in the 2017 Irish Parade in March, they garnered the "Most Gregarious Unit" Award!

The article, “The Library of Things,” in the June 2017 issue of American Libraries focused on the nontraditional and imaginative items libraries offer for checkout. Things on the list included canning equipment, musical instruments, a Roomba® vacuuming robot, Wilton cake pans, and croquet sets. Wood Library in Canandaigua loans fishing rods and tackle boxes, popular with summer visitors to the lake, as does the Woodward Memorial Library in LeRoy.

When the Meeker (OK) Friends of the Library held their annual fund-raising dinner at the Masonic Temple Lodge, the local Masons matched the Friends’ receipts dollar-for-dollar. The Friends raised over $4,000 through the generous support of this community group.

Looking for an unusual place to tell patrons about your programs and Friends projects? Think captive audience. What about the inside of the public bathroom stalls? Fayetteville Free Library posts highlights of their library events in a one-page flier titled “The Writing on the Stall.” Printed in large font and full color, it catches the reader’s eye!

Way to Go... Awesome Fund-raisers!

Congratulations! The Friends, trustees, and staff of the Kinderhook Memorial Library held the groundbreaking on August 28 for their library expansion. They reached two million dollars in fund-raising in less than three years!

And more congratulations...

With persistent hard work, the Friends of the Chili Public Library and the Friends of the Gates Public Library again joined forces for the 21st annual Gates Chili Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament and Dinner Auction on July 31. Each Friends group will see a donation of $7,500 from their monumental volunteer efforts!

Pop-up Boutique

The Friends of the Webster Public Library hosted a LuLaRoe Pop-up Boutique fund-raiser this summer. President Karen Stoddard reported "There were people lined up waiting for the sale to open and everyone had a fun time." Held in the library meeting room from 4 to 7 p.m., customers had instant gratification in seeing the clothing and taking it home immediately. The company sales representative took care of set up and sales. The Friends were in charge of publicity and staffed a membership table to let customers know about the group. The effort netted $350.

Leading to Reading

The Leading to Reading project, an outreach program of the Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, began in 2004. A new initiative is a joint venture with the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, "Laundromat Libraries."

Colorful crates of books have been placed in several area laundromats, food banks, and courts. Children may select a book to take home. More than 30,000 books have been distributed in Dutchess County.
By June 2016, 110 people had been trained in four locations in cooperation with public library systems (Southern Tier, Ramapo Catskill, Mid-Hudson) and the Friends of the Plattsburgh Public Library. From the fall of 2016 to date, three additional Keep It Growing sessions have been offered for 93 people reaching a total of five library systems. Presentations have been in Orchard Park, Victor, and Watertown; a fourth workshop will be held in Webster on September 30. For more information visit http://websterlibrary.libcal.com/event/3461969. Discussions are underway to hold Getting Started in the Finger Lakes region in early 2018.

FLS is also offering its first pre-conference workshop on November 8 in Saratoga Springs at NYLA’s annual conference. NYLA is designated as an approved provider of professional development opportunities in the field of library and information science by the Division of Library Development of the NYS Education Department. Four NYLA Sections are eligible to sponsor a CE workshop each year and 2017 is our rotation. We are excited to offer a 3-hour session on Fiduciary Practices for Nonprofit Organizations. Participants receive certificates to document the number of contact hours for their attendance. (See the Conference article on page 3 for more information.)

Next year will bring a new chapter to FLS’s continuing education activities. The Executive Board has agreed to partner with NYLA and the NYLA Continuing Education Committee to offer our first-ever webinar. The topic is being firmed up, but once the arrangements are made, FLS members will be eligible to register and attend the webinar at no cost—a true benefit of membership!

Of the more than 200 participants who have attended the new workshops, 88% have rated them “outstanding” overall. Check out the FLS Events page (www.nyla.org/friends) for additional information to learn how your group or system can host these two-hour workshops in your area.

As FLS enters the next 25 years, you can be assured that the Section will continue to embrace the best ways to provide education on Friends of the Library topics.
Add a name to the FLS Tribute Fund List and honor that special individual or group. Choose Friend, Good Friend, or Best Friend! It’s so easy to do!

Visit www.NYLA.org/Friends and click on Awards & Scholarships for more information and to download the form.

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Call or write to us anytime. To visit the Friends of Libraries Section website, go to www.NYLA.org/friends

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NYLA leads, educates, and advocates for the advancement of the New York library community.

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Share Your Newsletters
We encourage all editors of newsletters for Friends of the Library groups to put FLS on their e-mail distribution or mailing lists so we can have a rich exchange of information with fellow Friends organizations statewide. You might spot your group’s project featured right here! If you would like to see your news included in the Friends News and Notes, please mail a copy of your print newsletter to Terry Mulee, Friends of Libraries Section/NYLA, 293 Elmdorf Avenue, Rochester, NY 14619. Electronic newsletters may be e-mailed to FLS.NYLA@yahoo.com. Thanks for sharing!

Add a name to the FLS Tribute Fund List and honor that special individual or group. Choose Friend, Good Friend, or Best Friend! It’s so easy to do!
Visit www.NYLA.org/Friends and click on Awards & Scholarships for more information and to download the form.

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