

Executive Director's Report to MHLS Board – March 2018

1. GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL
 - A. Proposed State Library Aid: \$91.6M (3% cut from 2017)
 - B. Proposed Library Construction Aid: \$14M (42% cut from 2017, which would mean a \$378,392 decrease in available construction aid funds for the MHLS region)
 - C. NYLA's Library Advocacy Day on February 28 had more than 1,000 participants with more than 60 advocates from the MHLS region including MHLS Trustees Mark Wilson, Stuart Auchincloss, Priscilla Goldfarb, and Richard Swierat.
 - D. The New York State Senate and Assembly will release their one house budgets soon.
 - E. Advocacy efforts are on budget issues with a final budget legally required to be approved by April 1, 2018.

2. ORIENTATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS - Saturday, March 17, 2018
 - A. Orientation scheduled for the 2 hours following the March 17 MHLS Board meeting.
 - B. A light lunch will be served after the Board meeting and ALL MHLS Trustees are invited to lunch even if they do not plan to stay for the orientation. At lunch each MHLS Trustee should plan to briefly introduce themselves, including their background and relationship with libraries.
 - C. Trustee Services Committee, at their November 2017 meeting, recommended using the 2017 orientation format/agenda for 2018.

3. MHLS FORUM
 - A. The MHLS adopted Acton Plan specifically calls for planning and conducting regional conferences on awareness/advocacy topic of "broad interest." The first event under this Action Plan charge was the October 27, 2017, symposium - "Women in Politics: Past, Present, & Future - A Recognition of the Centennial of Women's Right to Vote in New York."
 - B. MHLS has organized a second regional conference for March 24, 2018. The "Violence Against Youth – Listening to Our Community Forum" will provide people of diverse backgrounds a chance to express their views as a step toward understanding the community's concerns and ideas regarding violence against youth. The facilitated forum will feature various aspects of the issue presented by representatives of our schools, service organizations, universities, businesses, and government. Presenters will include:
 - Cassidy Douglas, Poughkeepsie City School District Student
 - Paul Donnelly, Poughkeepsie High School Teacher
 - Danny Hairston, SNUG Program Coordinator/Family Services
 - Eve Waltermaurer, Ph.D, Director of Research & Evaluation, The Benjamin Center, SUNY New Paltz
 - Sheila Appel, U.S. Regional Director, Corporate Citizenship at IBM
 - Freddy Larrosa, Singer/Songwriter

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S EVENT PARTICIPATION – FEBRUARY

- A. Directors Association Meeting
- B. MHLS Board of Trustees Search Committee Meetings
- C. Directors Association Meeting
- D. MHLS Staff Anti-Harassment Training
- E. MHLS Incentives Committee Meeting
- F. Columbia County Library Association Meeting
- G. NY Libraries Advocates Luncheon
- H. Public Library Systems Directors Organization (PULISDO) Meeting
- I. New York Alliance of Library Systems (NYALS) Meeting
- J. New Yorkers for Better Libraries Annual Gala
- K. New York Library Advocacy Day