

# *ACCESS FOR ALL*

## Serving People with Disabilities

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Presentation to the  
RCLS  
Disability Awareness & Etiquette Workshop  
By  
The Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, Inc.

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The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, Inc. (SANYS) is a not-for profit, grassroots organization run by and for people with developmental disabilities. Our goal is to help create a person-centered and person-directed system of supports. We accomplish this goal by:

- *Starting and supporting self-advocacy groups.*
- *Conduct community presentations on disability-related topics*
- *Provide networking opportunities for self-advocates*
- *Advocate for system change to a more person-centered system of supports.*



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- Our presenters:
  - Carole Prieto
  - Serena Prieto

Assisted by Jordan Jankus, Hudson Valley Regional Coordinator



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- Who we are...
- What have been our experiences with libraries?
- What libraries can strive to be...
- Some things that need to be done...



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**But first.....**



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*See anything that could use some improvement?*





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*See anything else that could use some improvement?*



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❖ What libraries can strive to be...





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- *What libraries can strive to be...*
  - ❖ Vibrant community resources
  - ❖ Partners in providing lifelong learning for everyone
  - ❖ Gateways to technology
  - ❖ Places for a safe, welcoming, inclusive social experiences
  - ❖ Reflections of the communities they serve

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- *Some things that need to be done...*

- **Physical Accessibility**

- ❖ Ramps
    - ❖ Automatic doors
    - ❖ Wider aisles
    - ❖ Lower shelf heights

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- *Some things that need to be done...*
  - **Physical Accessibility**
    - ❖ Access to tables and equipment
    - ❖ Accessible bathrooms
    - ❖ Accessible emergency exits

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- *Some things that need to be done...*
  - **Communication Access**
    - ❖ Understanding and patient listening by library staff and patron
    - ❖ Librarian advice supported by written notes
    - ❖ Access to large-print books
    - ❖ Clear signage
    - ❖ Personal assistance when feasible

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- *Some things that need to be done...*
  - **Access To Assistive Technology**
    - ❖ Positioning accommodations for computer & video work stations
    - ❖ Variety of input methods
    - ❖ Text to speech readers
    - ❖ Large font displays
    - ❖ Braille resources

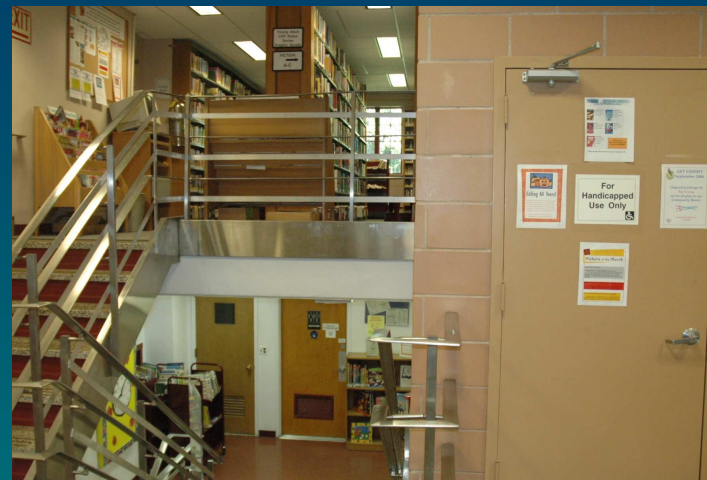
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SO - WHAT WAS WRONG  
IN THOSE PICTURES?



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- *Other opportunities for libraries...*

- Base for Lifelong Learning  
***NO ONE STOPS LEARNING!!***

- ❖ Literacy volunteers
    - ❖ Technology instruction partners
    - ❖ Vocational exploration through technology

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- *Other opportunities for libraries...*
  - Provide safe, welcoming, inclusive social experiences
    - ❖ Community rooms as meeting places for self-advocates and others
    - ❖ Promotion of community events beyond traditional channels
    - ❖ Ensuring that library web sites meet accessibility standards

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- *Other opportunities for libraries...*
  - **Reflections of the communities they serve**
    - ❖ Library workforce includes individuals with disabilities?
    - ❖ Library Board includes people with disabilities?
    - ❖ Outreach efforts to community members with disabilities?
      - Talk with local self-advocacy groups
      - Promote library resources to support networks

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- “The **New York Library Association** was founded in 1890 to lead in the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning, quality of life, and equal opportunity for all New Yorkers.

*That includes us!!*



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**For more information on self-advocacy, contact:**

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