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**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

April 2023



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SLI Newsletter

The latest news and updates from the Sustainable Libraries Initiative



April 2023

- Welcoming SLI's newest staff member, Alex Blend!
- A second Vermont Cohort
- SLCP Meetup on Thursday 4/6
- New Vendor Spotlight

New Members

This month, we are welcoming one library **Roeliff Jansen Community Library** in New York to the SLCP!

We are also welcoming three new members to the SLI, **Caroline Cullinane** from the New York Public Library, **Tully Free Library** (NY), and **Tracy Boland** from Palatine Public Library District (IL)!



SLI's April 2023 Newsletter

An Update from the SLI



We are pleased to welcome Alex Blend as the new Sustainability Coordinator at the Suffolk Cooperative Library System! Along with that, Alex's job responsibilities call for managing both the Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI) and the Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP)! Alex begins in his new position on April 3, 2023.

Alex was most recently the Adult Services/Business Librarian at the Miller Business Center at the world-famous Middle Country Public Library. The Middle Country Public Library is very well known for their

Family Place Libraries program, another homegrown project that went national, just like the SLI! Alex's work gave him great opportunities to work with both library and business professionals from diverse backgrounds. Alex was the 2021 ALA BRASS Public Librarian Support Award winner and, more recently, was elected as the 2023 President of the Suffolk County Library Association, a testament to his reputation in both the national and regional library community.

Alex is a motivated and dedicated professional who proudly shares the values of the Sustainability Libraries Initiative. He is looking forward to supporting the work of the SLI to co-create more environmentally sound, socially equitable, and economically feasible libraries and communities. Alex noted that he is particularly interested in creating educational opportunities for library leaders that will focus on climate action in our communities and workplace wellness in our libraries.

Alex can be reached at sliadmin@suffolknet.org or 631.286.1600 Ext. 1355 and will be happy to answer any questions you might have about SLI membership, joining the Sustainable Library Certification Program, or getting help with your certification activities.

Member News

New Sustainable Library Certification Program Members

Roeliff Jansen Community Library (NY)



New Members:

Caroline Cullinane from the New York Public Library
Tully Free Library (NY)

Events

[SLCP Monthly Meetup](#), Thursday April 6th at 11 pm EST.

Earth Day, Saturday April 22nd

World Book Day, Sunday April 23rd

SLI's Project Planning Webinar recording is now available! Watch [here](#).

Member Spotlight

We are thrilled to welcome the newest members of the Vermont Cohort! [Kimball Public Library](#), [Springfield Town Library](#), [Hartland Public Library](#), [Cavendish Fletcher Community Library](#), and [Orwell Free Library](#)! There are now 15 libraries from across the state of Vermont in the Sustainable Library Certification Program! We are excited to have these libraries on board and look forward to seeing the positive impact their participation will have on their communities. Congratulations and welcome!



Vendor Spotlight



Libraries in Suffolk County, NY recommend EcoChit, Eco-Friendly Receipt Paper! Founded five years ago by Lauren Cousins and Meagan Siddall, [EcoChit](#) is a brand of [eco-friendly receipt paper](#) designed to help our planet! Traditional receipt paper is non-recyclable and contains harmful chemicals, such as BPA and BPS, which can contaminate recycling streams and affect our health. EcoChit is 100% BPA and BPS free, fully recyclable, and plastic-free.

As a member of 1% for the planet, EcoChit contributes to the regeneration of ecosystems through a unique custom print on the back of every receipt. Customers can choose to support either Reforestation or SEAforestation with each purchase. This is a product with a purpose— EcoChit is designed to help create awareness about natural climate solutions while giving businesses a simple way to support them.

EcoChit is offering 10% off all orders for Sustainable Library Initiative Members. Please visit Ecochit's listing on our [Vendor List](#) for SLI's discount code!

Survey

Do you have a minute to share your thoughts about this newsletter? Take this [quick survey](#) and provide your feedback, we greatly appreciate it!

Sustainable Libraries Initiative on Social Media

We're excited to connect with you and your library on our social media! By following us, you'll stay up-to-date on our latest content, announcements, upcoming events, and member library highlights. To make the most of your social media experience, we recommend a few best practices: engage with our posts by commenting and liking. We look forward to building a strong

community with you and your library!



@sustainablelibrariesinitiative



Sustainable Libraries Initiative Group



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