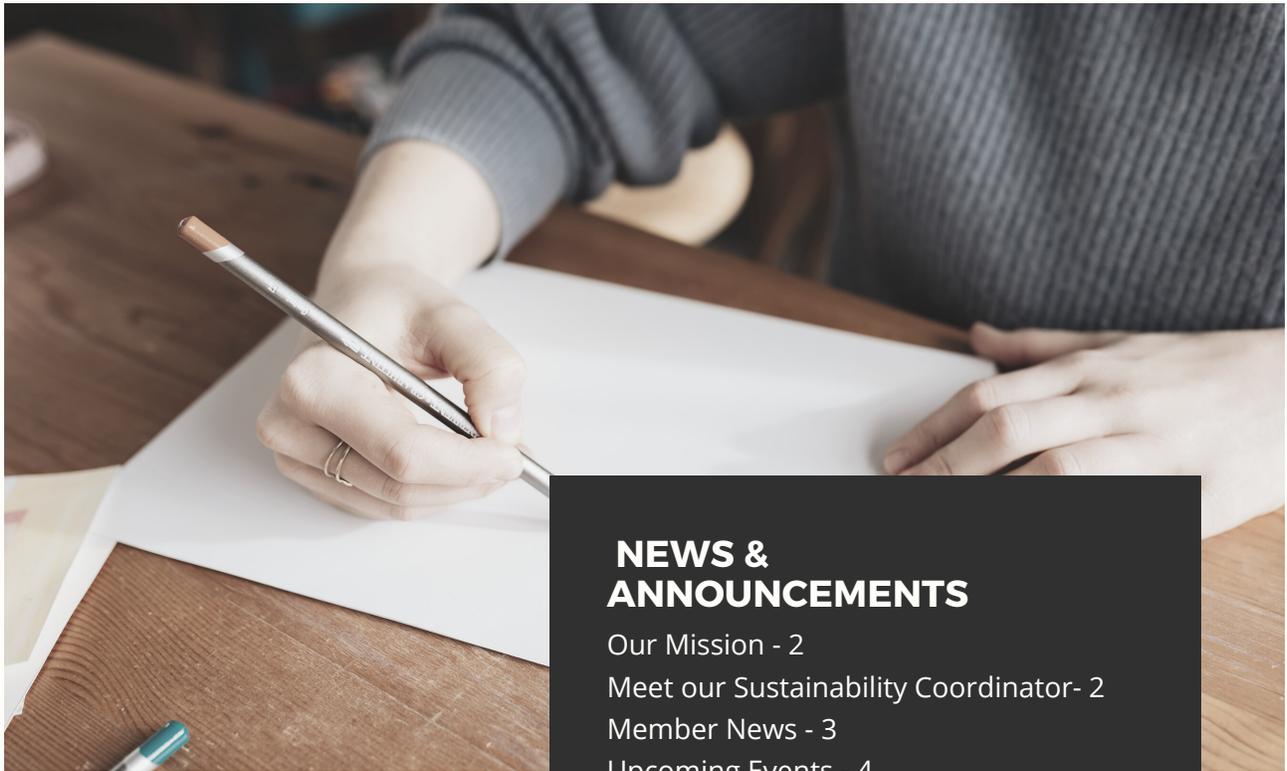




**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

The latest news and updates from the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#)

NEWSLETTER



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BREAKING NEWS

[American Library Association](#) President Patty Wong announced a focus on sustainability and mentioned the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) in her inaugural remarks at the ALA Annual Conference.



Follow us on social media

Like many of us living through this past year of turbulence and reflection, the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) has had time to reevaluate, reflect and is now ready to reemerge with new energy and commitment. In case you missed the announcement, the [Suffolk Cooperative Library System](#) (SCLS) has agreed to be the sponsoring organization for this program. They have created a new position of [Sustainability Coordinator](#) to provide administrative and organizational support for the Sustainable Libraries Initiative. Communications will now be directed through the Sustainability Coordinator (sliadmin@suffolknet.org) and the newsletter will now be sent from the SCLS Listserv. The [Advisory Board](#) remains the same throughout this transition and onward.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative](#) remains the same: to advocate through our libraries and communities the value of practicing and providing leadership in the areas of environmental sustainability, social equity and economic feasibility.

NEW MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND PRICING STRUCTURE

Along with the change in administration, we are thrilled to announce a new membership structure. In addition to the free resources available through the site such as the [Road Map to Sustainability](#), we are now offering an option to become a member of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative with a [membership fee](#) based on individual, library (prorated based on annual budget), or school librarian level. Membership allows access to our newsletter, meetups, a discounted rate for webinars, and additional online resources. This is a great option if you are interested in the program, but wish to learn more about it before deciding to pursue the full certification. Additionally, we have changed our [Certification Program](#) pricing to a [one-time fee](#) that will open the certification dashboard features of our website. This section contains the list of benchmarks for certification along with exclusive resources, innovative ideas, and policy examples which have been compiled to help inspire and guide you through the process.

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MEET OUR NEW SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

Sustainability is not a new concept for the [Sustainable Libraries Initiative's](#) new Sustainability Coordinator, Annemarie Gordon. The concepts of environmental conservation, social equity and responsible financial planning have long been a part of her personal and professional life. As Treasurer of the [Brookhaven Free Library](#) for 9 of her 10 years serving on the Board of Trustees, she gained an in depth insight into library operations and oversaw all income and expenditures. As a community member, she developed and hosted an ongoing conversation series to inform about and discuss the high level of housing segregation on Long Island, and brainstorm ways to promote social equity and encourage meaningful connections to bridge the racial divisions in her community.

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NEW MEMBERSHIP, CONTINUED

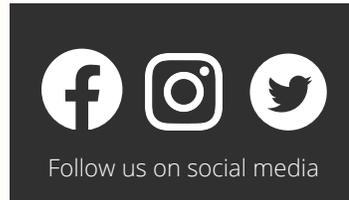
Once enrolled, you will be matched with a mentor who has been through the program, receive support through the program's Sustainability Coordinator and a mentor who will work with your team, and connect with your peers to become leaders in sustainable practices. Within the Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP), you can work at your own pace to complete the certification process. **If you or your library are already enrolled, the new policy will be effective next year, your enrollment is automatically continued through 2021.**

MEMBER NEWS



Congratulations to **Joanna McCloskey**, who has become the first school librarian to be certified through the Sustainable Libraries Initiative!

Congratulations to the **Patchogue Medford Library**! Their team, led by Jeri Cohen, completed the Sustainable Library Certification Program in March 2021. They will be honored at the Annual New York Library Association (NYLA) Conference in November, along with other libraries who have finished the Certification Program in the past year. Their Certification Presentation highlights substantive changes to their policies that have been approved by the board of trustees, an employee driven recycling program, and their teen managed community garden. We thank the **Patchogue Medford Library** for being an early adopter of this program and for serving as a role model to other libraries in the program!



SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR, CONTINUED

An outdoor enthusiast and waterperson, she can be found on Long Island's Great South Bay for recreation, often on a standup paddleboard, and in her advocacy work to protect the bay through planting oysters with FOBB, volunteering at the HOG Farm, and working with the advocacy group BLARG. A recent graduate of the University at Buffalo's MILS program, she is thrilled to be taking on this groundbreaking and somewhat unconventional librarian role to advocate for causes near and dear to her while using her academic training to gather, organize, and disseminate information to the existing and new members of this program. She can be reached by email: sliadmin@suffolknet.org or phone: 631-286-1600 x1355.



Annemarie Gordon, our new Sustainability Coordinator, enjoys surfing on the south shore of Long Island.

MEMBER NEWS, CONTINUED

South Huntington Public Library

The [South Huntington Public Library](#), which received its Green Business Partnership Certification in October of 2019, is happy to report that after a brief hiatus, due to the pandemic, is continuing its work on the library specific benchmarks. The Green Team and entire staff are committed to achieving full certification sometime in the fall. Our organic Learning Garden (pictured) has been planted and we look forward to a bountiful harvest that we can once again share with our community.

Lindenhurst Memorial Library

The [Lindenhurst Memorial Library](#) held a groundbreaking ceremony with its Board of Trustees on July 7 as its library renovation and expansion kicks off. The community voted in favor of a \$9.4 million dollar bond in October 2019, after the Library became the third library to achieve [SLCP certification](#). Some of the sustainable features include a 73KW solar panel array, an interior smart lighting system, solar parking lot lights, and electric vehicle charging stations. The Library is out on the road this summer while demolition occurs, and can be found every Saturday at the local farmers market where they give away produce grown in their organic community garden in the library's backyard.



UPCOMING EVENTS

[SLCP Online Meetup](#)

Thursday, July 15, 11:00 am EST.

[Sustainable Thinking Builds Strong Libraries and Resilient Communities](#)

[Core Forum](#), a division of ALA

Saturday, October 9, 2021 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel

CALL FOR ITEMS

Have you created a library policy or program with Sustainability in mind? Share your ideas with our community! Contact sliadmin@suffolknet.org to be featured in our newsletter or on the SLI Website.



Follow us on social media

Don't miss our important news: Please add sli-newsletter@lists.suffolknet.org to your address book to keep our newsletter out of your junk or spam folders!