

Message from Jeremy Johannesen, Executive Director New York Library Association (NYLA)

The NYS FY2015-16 budget process is now complete. NYLA is pleased to report that thanks to the tireless efforts of NY's library advocates, we have had a very successful budget cycle. Our message that "Libraries Are Education", and that library funding should increase proportionately with increases in school aid has been heard loud and clear.

Included in the NYS FY2015-16 Budget:

- +\$5M increase in library aid over the Governor's Executive Budget, bringing total library aid in FY2015-16 to \$91.6M. This represents a nearly 6% increase in library funding over last year.
- \$1.3M reimbursement for MTA Payroll Taxes remitted in FY2014-15
- Permanent exemption from MTA Payroll Taxes for public libraries and library systems going forward
- \$14M in Library Construction Aid

Now is the time to voice your thanks to your elected representatives for their support.

[NYLA's Online Advocacy Center](#) will look up your elected officials, and provide you with a pre-drafted thank you message.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send a message, make a phone call, visited a district office, or attended NYLA's Library Advocacy Day in Albany.

Your efforts made a difference and together we have improved funding for New York's libraries.

We can always use your support - You can make a secure donation online to [NYLA's Advocacy Fund](#).

---

Jeremy Johannesen  
Executive Director  
New York Library Association  
6021 State Farm Road  
Guilderland, NY 12084  
518-432-6952 Ext. 101  
518-427-1697 FAX  
[director@nyla.org](mailto:director@nyla.org)