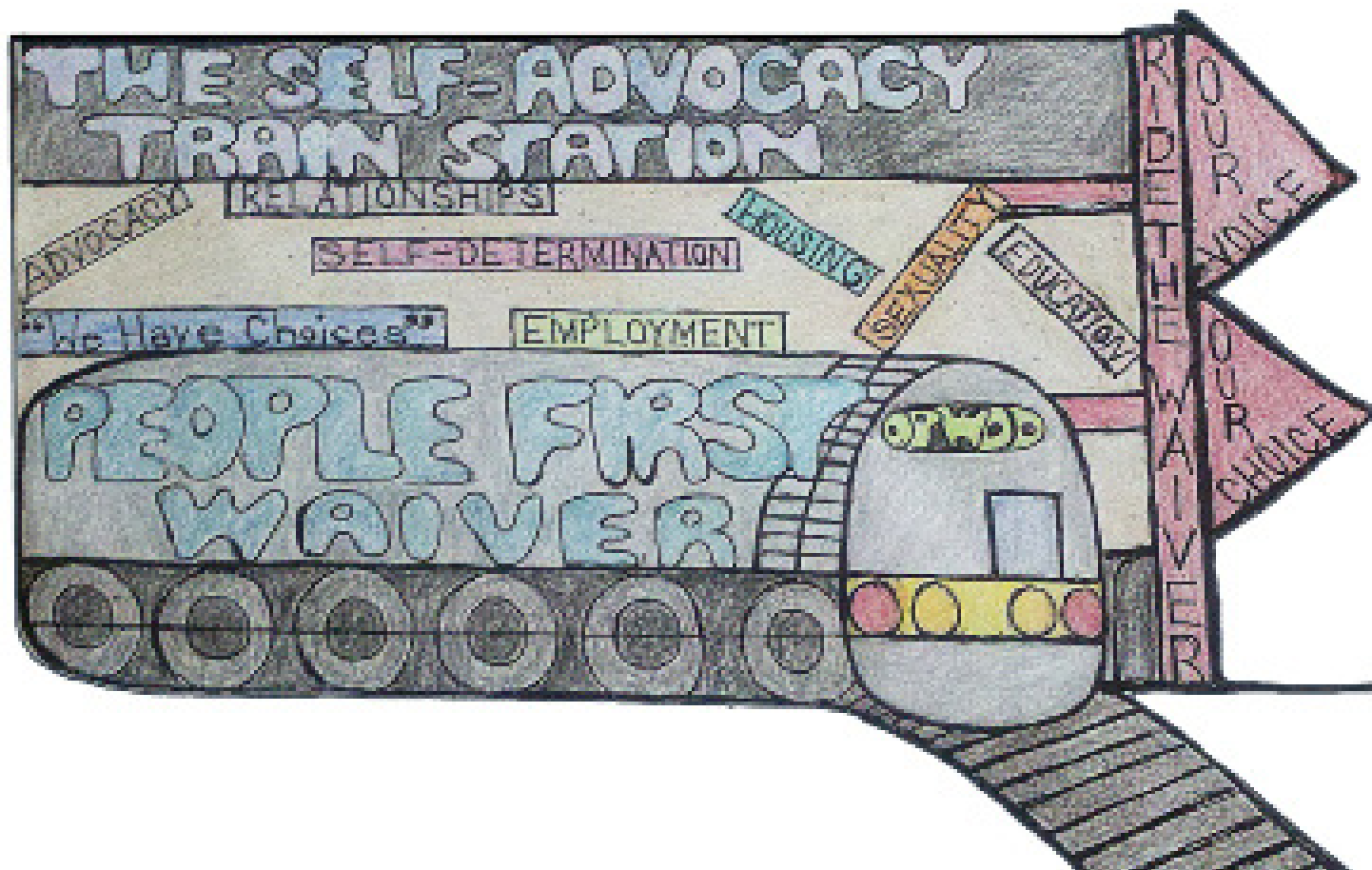


*The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State  
invites you to participate in our 23rd Annual Conference!*



## *Ride the Waiver. Our Voice, Our Choice!*

**Register by  
October 1st  
Form Enclosed!**

See Conference Highlights on Page 2 & 3

Thursday - Saturday,  
October 25, 26, 27, 2012

Albany Marriott Hotel  
189 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518) 458-8444



500 Balltown Road, Schenectady, NY 12304  
▶ (518) 382-1454 ▶ Fax: 518-382-1594  
▶ Email: [sanys@sanys.org](mailto:sanys@sanys.org) ▶ [www.sanys.org](http://www.sanys.org)


Check out our website  
[www.sanys.org](http://www.sanys.org) for updates!

## CONFERENCE AGENDA

### Thursday, October 25th

	Registration	1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
	Open Mic	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
	Dinner & Awards	6:00 pm
	Keynote Presentations	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
	DJ Manny Jones	8:30 pm - 11:30 pm

### Friday, October 26th

	Registration	9:00 am - 6:00 pm
	Breakfast	8:00 am - 9:00 am
	Focus Groups	9:30 am - 11:15 am
	Lunch & Keynote Presentations	11:45 am - 1:45 pm
	Workshops Session I	2:15 pm - 3:30 pm
	Workshop Session II	3:45 pm - 5:00 pm
	Banquet	6:00 pm - 7:45 pm
	Awards Ceremony	7:45 pm - 9:00 pm
	DJ Chris Wiseman	9:00 pm - Midnight

### Saturday, October 27th

	Regional Breakfast	8:00 am - 9:00 am
	"We Can Never Forget" March To Wolf Road	<b>9:30 am - 11:00 am</b>

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS!

We are still finalizing the conference programs but here are the highlights of what we have planned so far.



The theme of the Conference is **Ride the Waiver. Our Voice, Our Choice.** The word ride is an action word and it speaks to actions we need to take as self-advocates to make sure that waiver provides the supports we need to live the lives we want.



### Entertainment

Thursday: Dancing to the tunes of DJ Emanuel Jones at 8:30 pm

Friday: More Dancing with DJ Chris Wiseman at 9:00 pm

We have lots more activities planned. Watch the SANYS web site for updates--[www.sanys.org](http://www.sanys.org).

### Wretches and Jabberers

We are excited to announce that Tracy Thresher and Larry Bissonette, the stars of the film *Wretches and Jabberers* will be two of our Keynote Speakers on Thursday night. *WRETCHES & JABBERERS* is the story of Tracy and Larry, two men with autism, as they embark on a global quest to change attitudes about disability and intelligence. Determined to put a new face on autism, Tracy and Larry travel to Sri Lanka, Japan and Finland, where at each stop they challenge public attitudes about autism and issue a hopeful message about people with disabilities. *Wretches and Jabberers* will be shown on Friday morning during one of the focus group sessions.



### Commissioner Burke to Speak at the Friday Luncheon.

Commissioner Courtney Burke will be one of our Keynote Speakers at the luncheon on Friday. Several other speakers will be announced soon. See our web site [www.sanys.org](http://www.sanys.org) for updates on the conference and for the final program which will be available in September.

## SANYS U

SANYS has developed a new and innovative, multi-session training curriculum called "SANYS U," that is designed to give individuals with disabilities and direct support professionals a more thorough understanding of the important subject of self-advocacy and help develop future leaders for the self-advocacy movement. SANYS U covers a variety of topics including Disability History, Leadership Qualities, Advocating for What You Want, Effective Self-Advocacy Groups and other many other important topics that every self-advocate should know. We will be highlighting some of the key parts of the course at our State Conference, so please drop by and join us for this entertaining preview of SANYS U.

**We can never forget! Willowbrook!** This year is the 40th anniversary of Geraldo Rivera and Bernard Carabello's great work exposing the conditions at Willowbrook. Bernard and Judy Moiseff will speak of their experiences and their advocacy and remind us that we can never forget how people were treated at institutions like Willowbrook.

### Saturday Morning March

We will have two themes for our Saturday morning march to Wolf Rd. As we march out to Wolf Road our theme will be "We Can Never Forget" all the people who lived in places like Willowbrook. On way the back to the Marriott our theme will be Ride the Waiver.

### Award Nominations

Let us know which self-advocate, group, advisor, direct support professional, or organization you think is the most deserving of an award. **Please take some time to fill out and send in the awards nomination form on page 7.** Call us at (518) 382-1454 if you need extra copies.

## WORKSHOPS & FOCUS GROUPS



As always, we will have a wide variety of workshops and focus groups so we can learn and share our experiences with self-advocacy.

Here's a partial list of workshops and focus groups we are working on.

- ▶ So What Is The Justice Center and How Can We Prevent Abuse?
- ▶ People First Waiver-It's About You, It's About Us
- ▶ SANYS U: You Are Going To Love It!
- ▶ Individualized Community Supports
- ▶ Quality Improvement - What Does Quality Mean To You?
- ▶ "My First Allegiance Is To The People I Support-The DSP Code of Ethics"
- ▶ Wretches and Jabberers, Stories From The Road - A Great Film
- ▶ The Commissioner's Forum
- ▶ Tell Your Story
- ▶ Speaking Up About Transportation Issues
- ▶ Everything You Need To Know About Voting
- ▶ How To Stop Bullying
- ▶ Advocating For Myself
- ▶ Let's Talk About Olmstead, The ADA and Community First Choice
- ▶ Included Community Service
- ▶ Leadership Bingo
- ▶ Relationships and Sexuality
- ▶ The Importance of Self-Advocacy In Our Lives

**Conference logo designed by  
Hanif Joseph**

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### Hotel Accommodations

You will make your own arrangements for reservations and payment of your hotel room directly with the hotel.

Conference room rates are as follows:  
\$136 per room, per night. Up to four guests can share a room and the costs. If you would like a cot in the room there will be an additional charge of \$25 per cot, per night.



*In order to receive these special room rates be sure to tell the Marriott that you are attending the Self-Advocacy Conference.* These rates do not include tax. If you are sponsored by an agency, be sure the Marriott has a tax exempt form from your organization.

**Marriott Hotel (518) 458-8444**

#### Other hotels:

**Best Western, Wolf Road (518) 458-1000**  
**Holiday Inn, Wolf Road (518) 458-7264**  
**Hampton Inn, Wolf Road (518) 438-2822**  
**Holiday Inn, Western Avenue (518) 438-0001**  
**Homewood Suites, Wolf Road (518) 438-4300**

### Accessible Rooms

Accessible rooms are very limited. The Marriott has 19 fully-accessible rooms including 4 roll-in shower rooms. It also has some other rooms with grab bars.

#### If you need an accessible room:

**1) reserve a room at the Marriott, then 2) call SANYS directly at (518) 382-1454 and tell us your specific accessibility needs for an accessible room.** This will help ensure that everyone gets what they need!



**3) mark on your registration form that you will need an accessible room.**

SANYS has reserved the block of accessible rooms and we will distribute them based on need, as we have at past conferences. We found this to be a fair way of ensuring that everyone gets a room that meets their needs. There will be accessible rooms at other hotels. Their numbers are listed above for your reference.

## PARA-TRANSIT SERVICES OFFERED

**If you need transportation to the hotel from the train contact your SANYS Regional Coordinator to schedule. Any changes must be done no less than 48 hours in advance. If you have any other questions please call Shameka Andrews at 518-320-6621. See page 5 for Regional Coordinator's telephone numbers.**

**NOTE: The Marriott pool is now fully accessible for your use!**



### Funds For Support Staff:

We will **not** have the \$50 Scholarship this year as we have had in the past. Some funding will be available to those who live on their own and who have limited support from organizations to help their support staff attend.

Funds for support staff will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, so please do not delay! For more information please call the SA office at

**Please make sure you send in your registration for the conference as well as requesting a room at the Marriott-these are two separate processes. If you have a hotel room and are not registered for the conference you will be unable to attend.**

## SANYS REGIONAL COORDINATORS CONTACTS:

Capital Region: 518-382-1454 Cynthia Gilchrist  
Hudson Valley: 914-495-4474 Jordan Jankus  
Long Island: 631-434-7241 Bridget Cariello  
NYC: 212-627-2104 Evan Yankey  
Finger Lakes: 585-461-8776 Susan O'Hearn  
Western: 716-517-2342 Sophia Roberts  
Central: 315-473-6927 Dan Flanigan

## FULL REGISTRATION

### FULL CONFERENCE:

Take in the whole conference experience of learning, good food, and meeting new people. This includes registration for all conference activities and meals for all three days. **\$175**

## PARTIAL REGISTRATION

### THURSDAY ONLY

This plan includes registration, Thursday's banquet & entertainment: **\$ 80**

**FRIDAY ONLY** Please select from the following options:

ALL DAY FRIDAY (Lunch and Banquet) **\$120**

FRIDAY UNTIL 5 PM (Lunch Only) **\$ 90**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY **\$135**

**YOU WILL RECEIVE A  
POSTCARD TO CONFIRM  
YOUR REGISTRATION.**

***Remember to Register  
by October 1st.  
Space Is Limited!***

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORMS & PAYMENT

### Remember -

Conference registration forms may be mailed to:



Self-Advocacy Association  
of NYS, Inc.  
500 Balltown Road  
Schenectady, NY 12304

Or **faxed** to: (518) 382-1594  
*(Please call to confirm fax.)*

Make your check or money order payable to: **"SANYS" or "Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, Inc."**

Payment must be received **prior** to conference to secure your full conference registration. **Staff and aides must also pay and register.** If you need help paying these expenses, see page 4 for info about assistance from SANYS. **Please notify us of any name or other changes to registrations.** Purchase orders will be accepted, however, all the registrants names must appear on the purchase order and full payment must be made.

**Cancellation Policy:** If you need to cancel this registration, please call Jackie at (518) 382-1454. You will receive a cancellation confirmation number. All registrations must be paid for unless cancelled. Refunds will be given up to October 18th. A \$25 cancellation fee will be charged. No refunds will be issued for those who register but do not attend.

### CONFERENCE HOTLINE

If you have questions or need help, call us



at: (518) 382-1454

or email us at:  
sanys@sanys.org

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Cut along dotted line.

-----  
Your First Name

-----  
Your Last Name

-----  
Your Home Address

-----  
City

-----  
State

-----  
Zip

-----  
Your E-mail Address

-----  
Your Telephone #

-----  
Contact Person/Telephone#

-----  
Payment Contact Person/Telephone#

-----  
Local SA Group (if any)

-----  
Agency Group Connection (if any)

It would help with our mailing list to know if you are a:

- Self-Advocate       Family Member       Supporter       Support Person or Agency Staff Member

**Please select the option below & RETURN FORM WITH PAYMENT OR PURCHASE ORDER. All payments are due by October 18th . (See page 5 for info): Staff and aides must also pay and register.**

- FULL CONFERENCE**      All events and meals      \$175  
(does not include hotel)

We hope that most people will register for the whole conference.

**Make Checks or Money Orders payable to "SANYS" or  
the Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, Inc."**

- THURSDAY ONLY**      Thursday events and dinner      \$80
- FRIDAY ONLY**
- All Day      Friday events, lunch & banquet      \$120
- Until 5 PM      Friday, lunch only      \$ 90
- FRIDAY & SATURDAY**      \$135

Please indicate any special services you need:

- Sign Language Interpreter
- Braille or Large Print
- Vegetarian Meals
- Special Diet  
(Please attach note with specific needs)

**Payment**

Please include payment or purchase order for your conference fee along with this registration form.

All Payments are due by October 18th. **Sorry no credit cards accepted!**

For more payment information, see Page 5

**I NEED AN ACCESSIBLE ROOM. Please check box and describe request on separate sheet.**



**SANYS STATEWIDE CONFERENCE AWARD  
NOMINATIONS**

**Self-Advocate of the Year:** An individual that has worked hard to speak up for themselves and others and has done something that has improved the lives of other people with developmental disabilities or others in their community.

**Self-Advocacy Group of the Year:** A group that has done something in the past year to improve the lives of others people with developmental disabilities or others in their community

**Agency of the Year:** An organization that has helped support Self-Advocacy and group or groups within their organization to speak up for themselves and others.

**Direct Support Professional of the Year:** DSP that has worked hard to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and has gone beyond the call of duty to help them reach their goals.

**Media Award:** A person or team of people that have done a great story about a person or persons with developmental disabilities.

**DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 11, 2012**

Name of The Person Making The  
Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Award Category \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person nominated \_\_\_\_\_

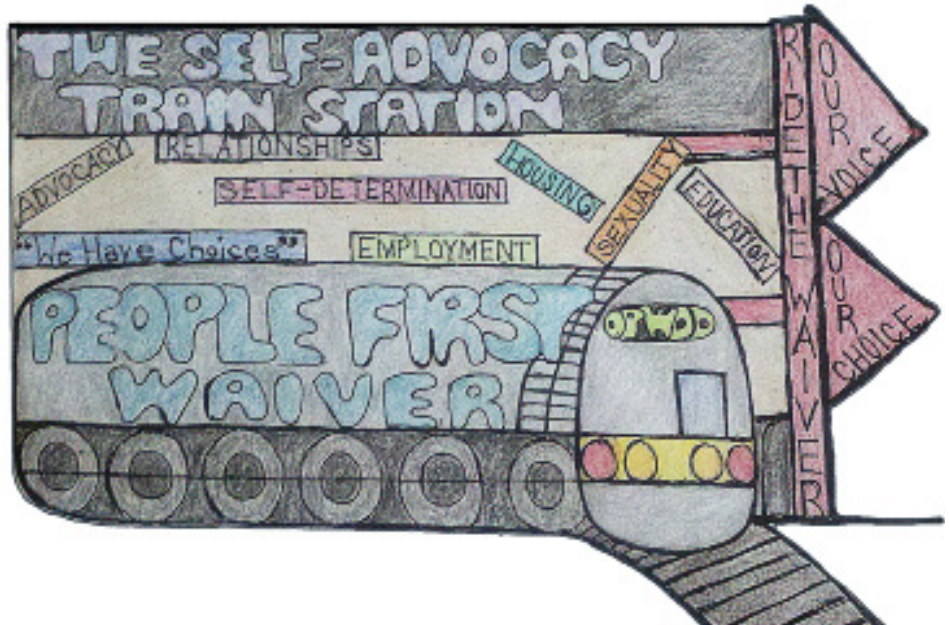
Title of Person nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Email of Nominee:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Fax: 518-382-1594  
sanys@sanys.org  
<http://www.sanys.org>

Please send us your e-mail address so we can include you in our email distribution list. Send to:  
[keplite@sanys.org](mailto:keplite@sanys.org). Thank you.