

The Self-Advocacy Association of New York State

***Invites you to participate in our
Annual State Conference!***

NOTHING ABOUT US



WITHOUT US!

*Artwork
by Jessica Levesque*

“Our Voices Count: Nothing About Us Without Us”

Thursday – Saturday

September 7th – September 9th, 2017

All conference registrations and payments due by August 21, 2017

SANYS

500 Balltown Road

Building 12B

Schenectady, NY 12304

(518) 382-1454

Fax: (518) 382-1594

E-Mail: conf@sanys.org

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, September 7th:

Registration	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Mini Sessions	2:00 pm – 5:45 pm
Dinner & Awards	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Keynote	
Presentations	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
DJ Dance Party	8:30 pm – 11:30 pm

Friday, September 8th:

Registration	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Regional Breakfast Meetings	8:00 am – 9:15 am
Focus Groups	9:30 am – 11:15 am
Lunch & Keynote Presentations	11:45 am – 1:45 pm
Workshops Session I	2:30 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
Tropical Dance Party	9:00 pm - Midnight

Saturday, September 9th:

Breakfast	8:00 am – 9:00 am
Closing Ceremonies	9:00 am -10:30 am
“Golden Key” Award to Marriott Staff	



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Our theme this year is:

Our Voices Count: Nothing About Us Without Us!

There are so many changes going on, it is more important than ever that we are included in the decisions happening at the national, state, and local levels and especially in our own lives!

New This Year!

Mini Sessions: Thursday afternoon we will have mini sessions involving movement, music, meditation, games, and speak outs.

Friday Morning Regional

Breakfasts: Eat breakfast with other members from your region and make regional plans for the upcoming year.

Entertainment

Thursday - DJ & Dancing

Friday - Come Dressed to go to the...

Tropical Themed Dance Party



Wear the Hawaiian Leis, Flower print shirts and shorts, Hula skirts and all that show the you ready for a tropical dance party. Hulas and all – whatever the look or style, rock it out with our DJ and come dance with us on Friday night.

Maybe you'll win the **COSTUME PRIZE!**

SATURDAY MORNING EVENTS

Group Breakfast & Closing Ceremonies

We will eat breakfast all together with a program that includes speakers, music, and handing out the Golden Key to a Marriott staff person who has gone above and beyond. We will rally together, energized with a message to carry back home with us.

WORKSHOPS & FOCUS GROUPS

We will have a wide variety of workshops and focus groups that will provide us with great opportunities for learning and networking. **Here is a partial list of workshops and focus groups we are planning:**

- Commissioner's Forum
- Songs of Self-Advocacy
- Living a Good Life, Having Choices and Self Determination
- Mind, Body and Soul
- Empowerment- Claiming Your Story and Your Life
- Supported Decision Making
- OPWDD Transformation: MSC to Care Coordination
- Justice Center – Bullying and Abuse Prevention
- Partners in Policymaking- Leadership Opportunities
- Over the Rainbow: LGBT/IDD
- Empowerment and Independence with new Technologies
- Medicaid and SSI Advocacy
- Empowerment Through Arts
- Hollywood and Self Advocacy
- Relationships and Sexuality
- Rights

We have lots more activities planned. Watch the SANYS web site for updates – www.sanys.org.

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 8.**

SANYS REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Capital District/Northern: 518-382-1454
Cynthia Gilchrist; cgilchrist@sanys.org

Hudson Valley: 518-382-1454
Cynthia Gilchrist; cgilchrist@sanys.org

Long Island: 631-434-6936
Bridget Cariello; bcariello@sanys.org

NYC: 646-469-1875
Evan Yankey; eyankey@sanys.org

Western/Finger Lakes: 585-461-8741
Susan O'Hearn; sohearn@sanys.org

Western/Buffalo: 716-560-9307
Sophia Roberts; western@sanys.org

Central: 315-473-6927
Dan Flanigan; central@sanys.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION Hotel Accommodations

You will make your own room reservations and payments 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

HOTEL CONTACTS

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 (518) 438-0001
Western Avenue
Homewood Suites (518) 438-4300
Wolf Road

ACCESSIBLE ROOMS

Availability of Accessible Rooms Is Very Limited

The Marriott has several accessible rooms. Please see descriptions below for room selection:

Room Type 1:

Accessible room with roll in shower (the shower will accommodate a wheelchair or roll in shower): They have 4 of this type. Located on 4 floors. Each has been redone with new plumbing, grab bars, new fixtures.

Room Type 2:

Accessible Room with low threshold shower entry (the shower in this room will not accommodate a wheelchair or roll in shower chair, but is more accessible than standard showers): There are 15 rooms of this type, with low shower entry, extra grab bars. All bathrooms have been fully renovated and have shower curtains.

Room Type 3:

Standard Room: They have 340 rooms of this type. All bathrooms are fully renovated. None have tubs. Each has sliding glass doors, with a 4 inch step over to get in the shower and no extra grab bars. Can easily accommodate shower chairs for those who require them.

*The Marriott has doubles and kings for partially accessible and standard rooms. The fully accessible rooms, are all king beds with sofa sleepers. Each wheel in shower room connects to either a king or a double standard room.

If You Need an Accessible Room:

1. Call and request a room at the Marriott.
2. Call SANYS at (518) 382-1454 and tell us what your needs are.
3. Please make sure you mark on your registration form in the box provided that you need an accessible room.

This will help ensure that everyone gets what they need!

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

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION:

Paratransit Requests (STAR):

For paratransit from the train or bus station or to get around while you are here in Albany, take the following steps:

1. Contact your local paratransit company a month or so before the conference
2. Tell them you will be attending conference in Albany
3. Give them the dates
4. They will contact CDTA with your information
5. Contact CDTA 518-437-8378 to verify that they received your information
6. To make your reservation call CDTA 518-482-2022, press 3. It is best to do this **two weeks before the conference, but at minimum 48 hours prior**
7. Changes/Cancellations should be made at least 24 hours in advance by calling 518-482-2022
8. Please make sure you contact CDTA if you are not going to be taking your trips
9. If you are riding with a guest they ride for free. **If you are not enrolled in paratransit, you may be able to ride as a guest of another conference attendee.**
10. Your trip is \$2.50 each way

If you have any questions or concerns about this process you can call Shameka at 518-898-6583

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION (CONT):

Public bus:

A single ride will cost \$1.50 and is the cheapest option to get around Albany. Use their Trip Planner to find the best route to your destination at tripplanner.cdta.org or download the CDTA iRide app on your smartphone. You can also call **518-482-8822** and a customer service representative will help you find your route.

Taxis:

This is the most expensive option. Accessible taxis are available but limited in number, so they should be requested in advance.

Capitaland Taxi: 518-453-8888

Capital City Taxi: 518-478-6994

FUNDS FOR SUPPORT STAFF

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 (518) 382-1454.

Please make sure you send in your registration for the conference **as well as** making your hotel reservation. **These are two separate processes.** If you have a hotel room and are not registered for the conference you will not be able to attend.

REGISTRATION

As attendance for our State Conference has grown, **we have had to limit the number of registration options** to either the Full Conference or All Day Friday. This will allow us to provide a more meaningful conference experience for as many guests as practical.

FULL CONFERENCE: \$175.00

Enjoy the whole conference experience of learning and networking, good food, and fun. This includes registration for all conference activities and meals for the three days.

ALL DAY FRIDAY \$120.00

Workshops & Focus Groups, Lunch and Evening Banquet

**REGISTER NOW!
SPACE IS LIMITED!**

PAYMENT POLICY

The popularity of our State Conference has continued to grow and we must ask that everyone register and pay before the Conference so that we can efficiently accommodate the large number of attendees.

WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR PAYMENT (OR PURCHASE ORDER) BY MONDAY, 8/21/17, FOR YOU TO BE REGISTERED FOR THE CONFERENCE.

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE CONFERENCE.

EVERYONE, INCLUDING SUPPORT PEOPLE MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED AND PREPAID.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

Conference registration forms including payment may be mailed to:

Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, Inc.
500 Balltown Rd, Bldg. 12B
Schenectady, NY 12304
Or Fax to: (518) 382-1594.
Please call to confirm the fax

Make your check or money order payable to "SANYS"

CANCELLATION POLICY

If you need to cancel this registration, please e-mail CONF16@SANYS.ORG or call our office at (518) 382-1454. You will receive a cancellation confirmation number.

Refunds will be given up to 8/21/17. A \$25 cancellation fee will be charged. No refunds will be issued for those who register but do not attend.

GROUP REGISTRATION

If you are from a provider agency and you are registering a group of self-advocates, please make copies of the registration forms (pages 7 & 8) **AND COMPLETE A SET FOR EACH SELF-ADVOCATE AND SUPPORT STAFF ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.** We are building a sophisticated database and this information will really help us with our outreach efforts. Thank you for your cooperation.

- IF YOU DO NOT YET KNOW WHICH SUPPORT STAFF WILL BE COMING, PLEASE INDICATE "STAFF" FOR FIRST NAME & AGENCY FOR LAST NAME (for example: Staff - Arc of Orange County). For additional staff, just put "staff 2 as first name and agency name for last name (for example: Staff 2 - Arc of Orange County).

QUESTIONS?

- If you have any questions or need help, please send an e-mail to: CONF@SANYS.org
or call our office at (518) 382-1454



SANYS STATE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Mr. Ms. (please circle)	First Name		Last Name	
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Address	
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City		State		Zip	
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E-Mail Address

Home Phone	
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Cell Phone	
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FAX	
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What is your SANYS Region? Regions are listed below with the name of their Regional Coordinators. <p style="text-align: center;">(circle one)</p>	NYC Evan Yankey	Long Island Bridget Cariello	Hudson Valley Cynthia GilChrist	Capital District/ Northern Cynthia Gilchrist
	Central Dan Flannigan	Western/Bufalo Sophia Roberts	Western/Finger Lakes Sue O’Hearn	I DON’T KNOW

Please circle the category that best describes you			
	Self-Advocate	Family Member	Provider Agency
	Association Staff	OPWDD	SANYS Employee or SANYS Board Member
	Other		

If you receive supports from an agency (example: Arc of Westchester, Living Resources, etc.), or are employed by an agency, please list it here. You can also list your Self Advocacy Group affiliation.	
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PLEASE SELECT YOUR CONFERENCE OPTION & RETURN IT TO US WITH REGISTRATION FORMS (Pages 7 & 8) AND YOUR PAYMENT (CHECK, MONEY ORDER OR PURCHASE ORDER) BY AUGUST 21, 2017.

As attendance for our State Conference has grown, we have had to limit the number of registration options to either the **Full Conference** or **All Day Friday**. This will allow us to provide a more meaningful and informative conference experience for as many guests as practical.

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL CONFERENCE: Enjoy the whole conference experience of learning and networking, good food and fun. This includes registration for all conference activities and meals for the three days.	\$175.00
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<input type="checkbox"/> ALL DAY FRIDAY (LUNCH & EVENING BANQUET)	\$120.00
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PLEASE INDICATE ANY ACCOMMODATIONS YOU NEED:	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE ROOM <input type="checkbox"/> SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER <input type="checkbox"/> BRAILLE OR LARGE PRINT <input type="checkbox"/> VEGETARIAN MEALS <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL DIET (PLEASE CONTACT SANYS WITH DETAILS)
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Conference registration forms including payment may be mailed to:

Self-Advocacy Association of NYS, Inc.
500 Balltown Rd, Bldg. 12B
Schenectady, NY 12304

Or Fax to: (518) 382-1594.

Please call to confirm your fax was received!

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



2017 SANYS STATEWIDE CONFERENCE AWARD NOMINATIONS



Check the circle for the box for category your nomination is for.

- **Self-Advocate of Year** A person who has worked hard to speak up for themselves and others and has done something that has improved the community for other people with developmental disabilities.
- **Self-Advocacy Group of the Year** A group that has done something in the past to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities.
- **Advisor of the Year** A self-advocacy group advisor who helped to make your group stronger.
- **Direct Support Professional of the Year** A DSP that has worked hard to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and has done something to support self-advocacy.
- **Agency of the Year** An organization that really knows how support self-advocacy.
- **Media Award** A person or team that has done a great story on people with developmental disabilities or self-advocacy.
- **Steve Holmes Lifetime Achievement Award:** For someone who has done great work for self-advocacy for more than 20 years.

Name of the Person Making the
Nomination_____

Phone Number/Email_____

Award Category_____

Name of Person Nominated_____

Title of Person Nominated_____

Organization_____

Phone Number/Email _____

On a separate sheet of paper or on the back of this page, write a description of why you feel this person, group or organization deserves the award. **SEND YOUR NOMINATION TO YOUR SANYS REGIONAL COORDINATOR BY AUGUST 14, 2017.**