Capital Area Library Assistants (CALA) is an Interest Group of the Capital District Library Council. CALA’s mission is to promote professional development for library assistants in the capital region, under the goals and objectives of CDLC. In 2014, CALA proudly marks our 25th year of serving library assistants throughout the Capital District.

For the 2013/2014 year, the CALA Coordinating Committee membership consisted of Jean Guyon, University at Albany, SUNY (Co-Chair); Nicole Rushford Johnson, Sage Colleges Libraries (Co-Chair); Kathy Corbett, CDLC (Treasurer/Membership Coordinator); Giovannine Finn, Schaffer Library, Albany Law School (Secretary); Mary Cay Snyder (Albany Memorial/Northeast Health Sciences Libraries)

We are pleased to report that we have a total of 140 members representing a variety of area libraries.

This year the Capital Area Library Assistants Coordinating Committee worked to further the goals of our organization, our members and our community in a variety of ways:

- We continued to offer a wide variety of professional development workshops for our members (see below).
- We continued to make use of email surveys and printed evaluation form to solicit feedback from our members on topics of interest to them.
- We focused our attention on giving back to our community through fundraising efforts related to two designated charities, donating to the Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County (November 2013 workshop) and the Capital Region New York Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (April and June 2014 workshops).

Here is a summary of our workshops and related activities:

**Lunch and Learn Workshop / June 2013**


15 people attended this workshop.

**Lunch and Learn Workshop / November 2013**


16 people attended and CALA members raised $55.00 for the LVoRC program at this workshop.

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Half Day Workshop / April 2014


Hosted a half day workshop consisting of two presentations:

*Interlibrary Relationships: Merging Roles of Librarians and Library Assistants*, presented by Regina Vertone, Assistant Professor, Access Services Librarian, The Sage Colleges

*iPads, Kindles and Nooks, Oh My!*, presented by Jo-Ann Benedetti, Manager of Information and Outreach Services, Upper Hudson Library System.

26 people attended and CALA members raised $100 for the Capital Region New York Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention program at this workshop.

Lunch and Learn Workshop / June 9, 2014


12 people attended and CALA members raised $50 for the Capital Region New York Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention program at this workshop.

**CALA Outstanding Service Award**

In recognition of CALA’s 25th Anniversary, the Coordinating Committee was pleased to announce the creation of a new annual award for outstanding service by a CALA member. The award announcement, application form and criteria were posted to the CALA website and we look forward to presenting our first award before the end of 2014.