



Leadership Empowerment Zone

Weekly email updates from CSEA President Mary E. Sullivan

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Greetings CSEA Family!

Important announcement from the Membership Department

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE USING THE CORRECT VERSION OF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS WHEN YOU ARE SIGNING UP NEW MEMBERS! The current membership applications were revised in January 2022. All other membership applications are outdated and must be thrown away! Old applications with outdated information and language should not be circulated in any CSEA offices, just get rid of them.

If you need membership applications, you can find them in English and Spanish: MyCSEA mobile app, click on “SIGNUP APPS”

For online applications on our website: cseany.org, click on “JOIN CSEA”

Region and Satellite Offices – you can call your CSEA region/satellite office to request more applications - to place an order of the hard copy Spanish-Membership Applications, please call the Membership Department: 518-257-1278 or send an email

to: annemarie.raymond@cseainc.org

Congratulations to the 2024 I Love My Union contest winners

Thanks you to everyone who participated this year. Below are the ten winners (chosen randomly) who will each receive \$50 gift cards for their entries – which can be viewed here: <https://cseany.org/i-love-my-union-contest-2024>

Shyanna Adami, Office of General Services Local 660, Capital Region 4

Melinda Chiochio, Suffolk County Educational Local 870, Long Island Region 1

Colleen Clemons, Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Local 434, Central Region 5

Mary Frances Coppola, Jefferson-Lewis Counties Retirees Local 915, Central Region 5

Jo Gray-Rizzuti, Westchester County Local 860, Southern Region 3

Jacquelyn Lam, Suffolk County Local 852, Long Island Region 1

Natalie Luciano, New York City State Judiciary Local 010, Metropolitan Region 2

Valerie Troiano, Department of Tax and Finance Local 690, Capital Region 4

Betsy Vazquez-Aradio, Erie County Local 815, Western Region 6

Bonita Whitlock, VOICE Local 100A

OPWDD/NADSP Credentialing Program for CSEA members

CSEA members who work for OPWDD are eligible for a credentialing program being offered through NADSP. This program will allow them to earn NADSP certification and receive a financial bonus for each certification level completed. Additionally successful completion of the New Employee Orientation program at OPWDD can be applied toward some of the training for the certificate program.

OPWDD members can learn more by visiting <https://cseany.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/NADSP-Credentialing-for-OPWDD-Direct-Care-Workforce.pdf>, viewing the FAQ at <https://cseany.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/FAQ-for-Credentialing-Opportunities.pdf> or emailing workforceteam@opwdd.ny.gov.

Reminder – please complete member survey

CSEA recently sent out a random survey to some of our members by email. The survey asks members questions about our union and how they interact with us. I encourage anyone who receives the survey to complete it before it closes on Feb. 19. Your feedback is very valuable!

Vote for AFSCME’s podcast to receive coveted NAACP award

AFSCME’s “I AM Story” podcast series has been nominated for an NAACP Image Award for being outstanding in its class, we need your help to bring home a win! Voting for the award is open to the public. Cast votes

here: https://vote.naacpimageawards.net/#category_903.

Voting is open until February 24. The “I AM Story” podcast recounts the struggle of the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Strike and if you haven’t already you can listen to it

here: <https://www.iamstory.com>. Please help us out by voting for “I AM Story!”

Regional News:

Suozzi wins NY’s 3rd Congressional District seat

Former U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi won this week’s Special Election in New York’s 3rd Congressional District, which includes parts of Nassau County and Queens. Suozzi, who was elected with strong support from CSEA and other unions, has had a long relationship with our union, particularly with members in Nassau County. He has always stood with CSEA members, and his work in Congress demonstrated his support for public employees.

Suozzi, who previously held the seat for three terms, replaces George Santos, who was removed from the House late last year. The race generated national attention, as the Republicans hold a very slim majority in the House. According to Politico reporter Nick Reisman - "New York is among the most unionized states in the nation, and the results on Tuesday are a sign the unions’ muscles are still in good shape this election year."

Polar Plunge for Special Olympics with Team CSEA Region 3

Time is running out to take part in the Fishkill Polar Plunge for Special Olympics New York, which this year will be held Saturday, February 17, 2024! Sign up for Team CSEA Region 3 or make a tax-deductible donation to the team by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/FishkillPlunge2024>. Each year, CSEA participates in plunge events across the state to help raise funds for the athletes of Special Olympics. Team CSEA Region 3 has been jumping for over 15 years. Come join in the fun and help us support Special Olympics!

Exhibit honoring 60th anniversary of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 at NYS Capitol

Gov. Kathy Hochul has announced that the 2024 Black History Month exhibit “1964: New Yorkers Who Shaped History” is free and open in the New York State Capitol through February 29, 2024. The exhibit celebrates the 60th anniversary of the passage of The Civil Rights Act and many of its leading activists including Ella Baker, A. Philip Randolph, Dorothy Height and Bayard Rustin. For more information visit: <https://empirestateplaza.ny.gov/1964-new-yorkers-who-shaped-history>

Join CSEA at the Binghamton St. Patrick’s Day Parade

CSEA Region 5 Community Outreach invites you to join the annual Binghamton St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 2! Food and festivities at the Rumble Ponies parking lot starting 10-10:30 a.m. with the parade lineup at 12:45 p.m. Let's show our strength in numbers! For any questions, please contact Andrew Maroney (andrewmaroney5@gmail.com) or Jenna Layton (jma2181@yahoo.com).

CSEA 2024 statewide college scholarship applications available Applications for our union’s statewide college scholarships are now available! Graduating high school seniors who are eligible dependents of CSEA active members are eligible to apply for and receive a scholarship. CSEA awards 18 \$1,000 scholarships under the Irving Flaumenbaum Memorial Scholarship program, three in each region. Pearl Insurance and MetLife each sponsor a one-time \$2,500 award. Application deadline is May 1, 2024. PLEASE NOTE: Old applications could disqualify potential candidates. Please do not use applications from previous years – applications were recently revised. To download the application, visit: <https://cseany.org/>.
*You will need your member ID to login.

Member Benefits Spotlight: Fine Olin and Anderman

Fine Olin and Anderman is proud to be CSEA’s only statewide endorsed provider of legal services for representation in Workers’ Compensation, Social Security Disability, Veterans Disability and Personal Injury matters. With 10 offices throughout New York State, FOA is readily available to assist CSEA members and their families. To learn more about FOA, visit their website: <https://www.foalaw.com/csea-members/>

Required Union Representation **IN-PERSON Trainings:**

State Government Grievance – Fallsburg (Region 3)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

State Government Discipline and Interrogation – Oneonta (Region 5)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (315) 433-0050 to register.

Local Government Grievance Representation – Commack (Region 1)**

Tuesday, March 19, and Wednesday, March 20, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (631) 462-0030 to register.

*****This is a 2-part training, participants must complete both sessions to receive credit for completion.***

Required Union Representation **VIRTUAL Trainings:**

Private Sector Discipline and Interrogation

Saturday, February 24, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1240>

Discipline & Interrogations Recertification

Monday, February 26, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1241>

Grievance Representation Recertification

Wednesday, February 28, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1244>

For a full list and description of workshops offered by the Education & Training Department go to: <https://cseany.org/training-workshops>

Required Officer Trainings:

Contact your region to register.

Region 1 – (631) 462-0030 Region 4 – (518) 782-4400

Region 2 – (212) 406-2156 Region 5 – (800) 559-7975

Region 3 – (845) 831-1000 Region 6 – (716) 691-6555

*****There are no scheduled officer trainings at this time.***

What do you want to read about?

I'm asking for your feedback on any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions of this weekly leadership update. If you have ideas, please take the time to fill out our quick online survey at: <https://forms.office.com/r/seCVpFhVaG>.

I appreciate your response.

In Solidarity,



Mary E. Sullivan
President

Information is **Power!**



Share this information with **all CSEA members** in your Local or Unit!

