



Reemerge Reinvigorate Reimagine

**50th Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York
Monday, October 16 – Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

The Gideon Putnam Hotel
24 Gideon Putnam Road
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

For conference information please visit www.ssany.org



50th Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York

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Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to welcome you back to the 50th Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York (SSA-NY). This is our first in-person conference since the ravages of the COVID pandemic and we are thrilled that we will once again be together at our beautiful conference site in Saratoga Springs. We have an exciting conference planned for this year, under the leadership of our program committee, Janna Heyman and christian gonzález-rivera, as well as our dedicated board members.



The theme for the conference this year, “Reemerge Reinvalidate Reimagine: A New Way Forward” recognizes the opportunities that emerge as the aging network reimagines services for older adults in the future. The program promises to reinvigorate attendees as it features outstanding speakers and workshops on a range of topics focused on this year’s theme. The pandemic highlighted the needs of older adults in our communities, it also underscored opportunities for us to develop a new way to offer services for older adults, reemerging even more resilient than before. Many of these sessions will highlight the various ways the aging community has met these varied needs.

We are delighted to offer a thought-provoking Town Hall, as well as the opportunity to host a special State Master Plan on Aging Town hall event. We will also be hosting a book talk on Tuesday afternoon by *New York Times* reporter John Leland who will discuss his book, *Happiness is a Choice you Make: Lessons from a Year Among the Oldest Old*. This certainly will prove to be an inspiring two-day event. We hope that you will take advantage of the beautiful setting of the Gideon Putnam in Saratoga Springs. We look forward to forging new connections and once again meeting together in person this year.

Finally, I would like to thank the board for their hard work and commitment to SSA and to their work in the field of aging. A special thanks to our immediate past-present Melissa Lang and to this year’s award recipients, Thomas Caprio, Ruth Finkelstein, and Laura Whitehorn.

Best wishes for a wonderful conference!

Jacquelin Berman, PhD
President, 2023

Conference Schedule

Monday, October 16

8:00 - 9:30 am – Breakfast

Gallery

9:00 - 9:20 am – Welcome Remarks

Orinda

Dr. Jacquelin (Jackie) Berman, President, SSA

9:25 - 10:40 am – SESSION A

A1: Closing the Digital Divide

Blue

Aging & Technology Use: Presenting Essentials of the Smartphone in Westchester County

Colette Phipps, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

Jennifer Schwartz-Crawford, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

Andrew Crawford, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

Digital Equity for Older Adults in New York

Jake Newman, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

John Inoue, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

Ramona Gross, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

Monday, October 16 (continued)

A2: Health

Red

Taking Charge: Social Support Dynamics among Older Adults and Significant Others In COVID-19 Vaccination and Mitigation Efforts

Mark Brennan-Ing, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College

Yiyi Wu, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College

Jasmine Manalel, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College

Ruth Finkelstein, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College

Reimaging Mental Health Services

Tobi Abramson, New York City Department for the Aging

Jackie Berman, New York City Department for the Aging

Samantha Santana, New York City Department for the Aging

A3: Intergenerational

Orinda

Goodbye Nazareth, I Lived at St. John's Meadows For 3 Weeks!

David Steitz, Nazareth University

Tapping Together

Cory Michael Herman, Educational Alliance

10:45 - 12:00 pm - SESSION B

B1: Health

Blue

Telehealth Intervention Programs for Seniors (TIPS)

Colette Phipps, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

Jennifer Schwartz-Crawford, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services

Why your organization should prioritize digital accessibility and how to comply.

Donna Greene, SUNY Oswego

Monday, October 16 (continued)

B2: Fighting Discrimination

Red

Protection, Purpose, and Power: Experiences of Older African American Women in New York State Coping with Racism, Sexism and Ageism

Derek Tice-Brown, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

La'Shay Crayton, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

Chloe King (Student Presenter), Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

Janna Heyman, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

Henry Davis, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

Linda White-Ryan, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

Tessie Beaubrun (Student Presenter), Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service

The Impact of Stigma and Discrimination on LGBTQ+ Older Adults in Healthcare

Jennifer Reeder, The Alzheimer's Foundation of America

B3: Trends in Aging

Orinda

Keeping Pace with an Aging New York State

Jonathan Bowles, Center for an Urban Future

Eli Dvorkin, Center for an Urban Future

Reimagining the *Why* and *How* of Integrating Life Course and Aging Concepts into Undergraduate Curriculums

Mary Pagan, SUNY Oswego

Minjung Seo, SUNY Oswego

WALTER M. BEATTIE, JR. SYMPOSIUM
Buffet Lunch and Presentation

**Transformation Toward an Age-Friendly Health System
Through Interprofessional Collaboration**

Thomas Caprio

University of Rochester Medical Center/Finger Lakes Geriatric
Education Center
2023 Beattie Award Winner

Teresa Halbert

University of Rochester Medical Center/Strong Memorial Hospital

Arany Szilvia

University of Rochester Medical Center/Eastman Institute for Oral
Health

Annette Medina-Walpole

University of Rochester Medical Center/UR Aging Institute

Walter M. Beattie, Jr., received his M.A. in sociology from the University of Chicago. Through his outstanding contributions and commitment to SSA, he was influential in broadening the conceptualization of aging. The Symposium recognizes these contributions by highlighting the work of SSA members in the field of aging.

Monday, October 16 (continued)

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Geyser

**NEW YORK STATE'S MASTER PLAN ON AGING
(NYSMPA) TOWN HALL**

Nora Obrien Suric, PhD

President, Health Foundation of Western and Central NY
and NYSMPA Coalition

Robert Blancato, MPA

President, Matz Blancato and Coordinator of NYSMPA
Coalition

4:15 – 5:15 pm – Session D

D1: Age Friendly Health Systems

Red

Medicare Trends and Recommendations: An Analysis of 2022 Call Data from the
Medicare Rights Center's National Consumer Helpline

Sarah Murdoch, Medicare Rights Center

Julie Carter, Medicare Rights Center

Lindsey Copeland, Medicare Rights Center

Bundled Payment Incentives Improves Uptake of Prescribed Post-Acute Home
Health Care for White and Black Patients Undergoing Joint Replacement Surgery

Jun Li, Syracuse University

Lacey Loomer, University of Minnesota Duluth

Monday, October 16 (continued)

D2: Care Needs

Orinda

Care needs and support resources of older woman living with HIV

Jasmine Manalel, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College,
CUNY

Mark Brennan-Ing, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College,
CUNY

The Next Generation of Palliative Care

Mary Beth Morrissey, Yeshiva University

D3: Aging in Place

Estate

Aging in Place: Universal Design, Accessibility and Home Safety

Beverly Horowitz, Care Specialists: Supporting Aging with Dignity

Helping Older Adult Guardians and Their Pets Age in Place Together

Robin Strashun, Search and Care

Carrie Nydick, PAWS NY

D4: Housing

Geyser

Supporting Aging through Housing: Challenges and Opportunities in New York
State

Nancy Berlinger, The Hastings Center

Annalyse Komoroske Denio, LeadingAge New York

Elana Kieffer, Center for Healthy Aging, The New York Academy of
Medicine (NYAM)

Karen Lipson, LeadingAge New York

**RECEPTION, POSTER SESSION, DINNER, AWARDS,
AND SILENT AUCTION**

President's Award

Dr. Ruth K. Finkelstein
Executive Director

Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY

Presented by

christian gonzález-rivera

Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY

Walter M. Beattie Award

Dr. Thomas V. Caprio

Medical Director, University of Rochester Medical Center
Director, Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center

Presented by

Dr. Beverly Horowitz

Care Specialists: Supporting Aging with Dignity

Advocate for Older Adults Award

Laura Whitehorn

Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)

Presented by

James O'Neal

New York State President, AARP

Raffle Announcement

Monday, October 16 (continued)

Posters

Arches

Psychological Trauma in the LGBT Older Adult Population

Pat Precin, Columbia University

Phyllis Simon, Columbia University

Geriatric Scholars Virtual Learning Community: An Educational Modality to Bridge the Gap Between Rural Providers and Geriatric Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Fred Ko, James J. Peters VA Medical Center; Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Eugenia Dorisca, James J. Peters VA Medical Center

Shichijo Yuka, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Judy Howe, James J. Peters VA Medical Center; Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Tuesday, October 17

7:45 – 8:30 am – Join us for a morning hike!

8:30 am – 9:30 am - Breakfast

8:45 - 9:45 am – SESSION E

E1: Caregiving

Blue

Stress-Reduction for Caregivers of Veterans with Dementia

Nicholas Koufacos, Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center;

James J. Peters VA Medical Center

Eugenia Dorisca, Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center; James J.

Peters VA Medical Center

Judith Howe, Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center; James J.

Peters VA Medical Center and Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Firearm Safety for Individuals Living with Dementia and their Caregivers

Susan Craine, Lifespan of Greater Rochester

E2: Social Services Programs

Estate

Innovations in Aging in New York

Becky Preve, Association on Aging in New York

Greg Olsen, New York State Office for the Aging

Syracuse Northeast Community Center New American Livability Program

Brian Fay, Syracuse Northeast Community Center

Patty Sullivan, Syracuse Northeast Community Center

E3: Critical issues for Nonprofits

Red

Aging is Every Funder's Business...Now We Just Have to Tell Them That
Cindy Morris, American Society on Aging

Provision of Direct Services to Older Adults: Work Climate and Health Matters
for Employees

Janna Heyman, Fordham University

Henry Davis, Fordham University

Linda White-Ryan, Fordham University

Dana Marlowe, Fordham University

10:00 - 11:30 am

Orinda

TOWN HALL DISCUSSION

Hear from legislators and state officials about their work to serve a growing, increasingly diverse older adult population. We will also learn about critical legislative issues facing older adults in New York State.

Moderator

James O'Neal

New York State President, AARP

Panelists

Senator Cordell Cleare

Chair, New York State Senate Committee on Aging

Assemblymember Ron Kim

Chair, NYS Assembly Committee on Aging

Greg Olsen

Acting Director, New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)

KERMIT SCHOOLER SYMPOSIUM

Panel Discussion

New York's Aging Community Crosses Prison Walls

Moderator

Alan Cohen

Chief Program Officer, JASA

Panelists

José Saldana

Director, RAPP Campaign

Laura Whitehorn

Co-Founder, Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)

2023 SSA Advocate for Older Adults Recipient

Other panelists to be announced.

Student Presentation

Challenges and obstacles faced by older adults on the sex offender registry, while considered to be the most feared

Justyna Rzewinski

Yeshiva University, Revcore Recovery Center of Manhattan

Micah Sanguyu

Revcore Recovery Center of Manhattan

Dr. Schooler was Professor and Dean of the School of Social Work at Syracuse University for two decades. A social psychologist, he was recognized nationally and internationally for his research and theory development in aging, particularly in the area of environment, stress and coping, and morale. Just before his death in 1991, the Executive Board of SSA established the Kermit Schooler Symposium at the Annual Meeting to honor his lifetime contributions to the field of gerontology.

Tuesday, October 17 (continued)

12:10 - 1:40 pm

Geyser

PAST PRESIDENTS' SYMPOSIUM AND LUNCHEON

Book Talk

*Happiness is a Choice You Make: Lessons from a Year
Among the Oldest Old*

John Leland

Reporter, *New York Times*
Author, *Happiness is a Choice You Make: Lessons from a Year
Among the Oldest Old*

2:00 - 3:00 pm - SESSION G

G1: Caregiving

Blue

Access to Quality and Reliable Home Care: A Case for Fair Pay for Home Care
Workers

Joseph Dibenedetto, Search and Care

Nursing Home Residents' Rights and Debunking the Myth that Pressure Ulcers
and Falls are "Unavoidable" in Nursing Homes

Deborah Truhowsky, Law Firm of D. T. Truhowsky

Tuesday, October 17 (continued)

G2: Social Support and Connections

Red

Designing Programs to Foster Meaningful Social Connections

Lisa Sutz, DOROT

Jackie Pykon, DOROT

Ali Hodin Baier, DOROT

Becky Preve, Association on Aging in New York

Embracing Each Gray Strand With Intention and Meaning

Shira Siltan, Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University

Expanding Knowledge And Practice Surrounding Reproductive Health Rights
for Older Adults

Sharon Turnage (Student Presenter), Yeshiva University

G3: Financial and Legal Support

Estate

A New Collaboration: Community Support for Older Adult Financial
Independence

Scott Fairchild, Lifespan of Greater Rochester

Kathy Kanaley, Center for Elder Law & Justice

The Importance of Legal-Community Partnerships

Bria Lewis, Center for Elder Law & Justice

Elizabeth Dolata, Center for Elder Law & Justice

Erin Killian, Center for Elder Law & Justice

3:00 - 4:00 pm - SSA Annual Membership Meeting

Geyser

4:00 - 4:15 pm - Closing Remarks

Geyser

christian gonzález-rivera, Co-Chair, Program Committee, SSA

6:00pm - onwards

Dine Around: Sign-up sheets

Award Recipients

President's Award

Dr. Ruth K. Finkelstein **Executive Director, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College**

The President's Award recognizes a leader in the field for his/her outstanding service. This year's Award is presented to Dr. Ruth Finkelstein, ScD.

Ruth is the Executive Director of the Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging at Hunter College and a professor in both Public Health and Public Policy. She leads CUNY's aging research and policy center, devoted to making it possible for everyone to age as well as anyone can.



Ruth has directed award-winning aging initiatives, including the Age Smart Employer Awards, promoting the success of employers of multigenerational workforces; Exceeding Expectations, a digital narrative following New Yorkers over 80; and Age-Friendly New York City, winner of the "Best Age Friendly Initiative in the World" prize. She has won individual recognition, including the 2019 Maggie Kuhn Award, Next Avenue's "Influencer in Aging" in 2016, City and State's "Outstanding Women" in 2020, and Metropolis Magazine's "Game Changer" in 2012. She has advised more than 50 NGO and government entities around the world on adopting an "age in everything" approach to planning.

Before transitioning to aging, Ruth conducted policy-relevant HIV research, with particular focus on drug users and medication adherence. She has a doctorate in health policy from the Johns Hopkins school of public health, a MA in medical anthropology from Case Western Reserve, and a BA from the University of Michigan.

Previous President's Award Recipients

Helen Hamlin
Neal Lane
Msgr. Charles Fahey
T. Franklin Williams
Patricia Bomba
Mary Beth Morrissey

Michael Friedman
Carter Catlett Williams
Mae Carpenter
Bob Blancato
Ann Marie Cook
Lilliam Barrios-Paoli

Carol Levine
Susan Perlstein
Karl Pillemer
Mark S. Lachs
Beth Finkel

Walter M. Beattie Award

Thomas V. Caprio, MD

**Medical Director, Univ. of Rochester Medical Center
and Director, Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center**

The purpose of the Walter M. Beattie Jr. award is to honor a distinguished member of SSA for outstanding contributions to the work of SSA and for commitment to the goals of the State Society. This year's Award is presented to Dr. Tom Caprio.



Dr. Thomas Caprio is a geriatrician and Professor of Medicine, Psychiatry, Dentistry, Clinical Nursing, and Public Health Sciences at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). He serves in multiple leadership roles at URMC including the Chief Medical Officer for UR Medicine Home Care, Hospice Medical Director, Director of the Finger Lakes Geriatric Education Center, and medical director of the University of Rochester Geriatric Assessment Clinic.

He is the Past-President of the National Association of Geriatric Education Centers, Past-President of the National Association for Geriatric Education, as well as the Past-President of the State Society on Aging of New York. Dr. Caprio received his medical degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, completed residency, fellowship, and post-doctoral studies at the University of Rochester, and earned both a Master's of Public Health and a Master's in Health Professions Education from the University of Rochester. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians, Fellow of the American Geriatrics Society, Fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America.

Previous Walter M. Beattie Award Recipients

Ruth Bennett
Msgr. Charles Fahey
Neal Bellos
Sheldon Tobin
Evan Calkins
Rose Dobrof
Susan Sherman
Marjorie Cantor
Pasquale Gilberto
Cynthia Stuen
Barbara Silverstone
T. Franklin Williams

Theodora G. Jackson
Janet Sainer
William Lane
M. Beatty, Jr.
Anna "Honey" Zimmer
Lou Glasse
Patricia Pine
John Krout
Joanna Mellor
Helen Hamlin
Terry Fulmer
Michael Burgess

Jurgis Karuza
Marcus Harazin
Judith L. Howe
Robert J. Maiden
Patricia Brownell
Janna C. Heyman
James O'Neal
Mark Brennan-Ing
Mary Ann Erickson
Beverly Horowitz

Advocate for Older Adults Award

Laura Whitehorn

Co-founder, Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP)

The Advocate for Older Adults Award recognizes a record of planning, policy development and advocacy work. This year's award is presented to Laura Whitehorn.

RAPP is one of the founders of Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP) along with the late Mujahid Farid, who died November 20, 2018; the late Kathy Boudin, who died May 1, 2022; and advocate and civil rights attorney, Soffiyah Elijah.

Full bio to come.



Previous Advocate for Older Adults Award Recipients

James Collins
Rosie Marie Fagan
William Dionne
Evelyn Laureano

Bobbie Sackman
James O'Neal
Alejandro Garcia
Greg Olsen

Robert Blancato
Bill Thomas
Donna Corrado
Maria Álvarez

Hotel and Registration Information

The State Society on Aging of New York's 50th Annual Conference will be held at the beautiful, historic Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa in Saratoga Springs, NY. The hotel is located on the grounds of the Saratoga Spa State Park, which is also home to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and the historic Roosevelt Baths.

The conference will begin at 9:00 am on Monday, October 16 and end at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. The Gideon Putnam Hotel is located at 24 Gideon Putnam Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

SSA is providing a limited number of rooms at the discounted rate (see below) plus tax. Block rate rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Guests should use [this link to receive the discounted rate](#). Deadline for the hotel discount is September 15, 2023.

Requests received after that date will be accepted only based on room and rate availability. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night's room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. If calling, use 519-226-4700 and mention that your reservation is part of the State Society on Aging of New York Annual Conference.

Please register for the conference www.ssany.org.

CONFERENCE FEES	Received by October 6	After October 6
Full Conference Registration		
Professional SSA member	\$250	\$300
Non-member	\$325	\$375
Full-time student (SSA Member)	\$80	\$100
Full-time student (non SSA Member)	\$110	\$130
One-day conference registration:		
Professional SSA member	\$140	\$190
Non-member	\$175	\$225
Full-time student (SSA member)	\$60	\$75
Full-time student (Non-SSA member)	\$75	\$95

Become a Member!

Membership in the State Society on Aging of New York entitles you to reduced member rates on registration fees and access to the information sent through our mailing list. Join by accessing the Membership section of our website, www.ssany.org. Membership rates are \$40.00 for professionals, \$15.00 for students/seniors, and \$75 for organizations.

Thank You to Our Sponsors and Exhibitors!

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Hunter College, CUNY

Past Presidents of the State Society on Aging of New York

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AARP

Alzheimer's Association, New York State Coalition

And more to come!