



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## Love Your Library: Vote for Your Favorite Local Library, Librarian

PATTY RITCHIE February 13, 2015

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### **New Awards From Senator Ritchie Aim to Recognize Area Libraries, Librarians**

In advance of Valentine’s Day, State Senator Patty Ritchie is inviting the public to "love their library," by casting their votes for two new awards aimed at recognizing area librarians and libraries for the invaluable service they provide to communities across Central and Northern New York.

**[CLICK HERE TO VOTE NOW!](#)**

“In the past several years, I’ve had the opportunity to visit dozens of libraries throughout Jefferson, Oswego and St. Lawrence Counties and at each, I’ve been so impressed with not only the resources and entertainment offerings, but also with the dedicated librarians who go above and beyond to meet the educational and cultural needs of our communities,” said Senator Ritchie.

“As a member of the Senate Select Committee on Libraries and someone who enjoys visiting my local library, I know what an invaluable resource they provide. I’m thrilled to announce these new awards, which will help our libraries and librarians receive the recognition they deserve.”

The public is invited to cast their votes for the “Best Library of the Year” and outstanding librarians by [clicking here](#). Those without access to a computer can call her Watertown office at (315) 782-3418. The deadline to participate is March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

As a member of the State Senate Select Committee on Libraries, Senator Ritchie been working to make sure libraries can continue to provide educational opportunities, family-friendly entertainment, job-searching tools, books and technology.

Since 2011, Senator Ritchie and her colleagues have led the fight to support public libraries and have been successful in including \$15 million in restorations and increased budget funding for libraries across the state. In addition, to date, Senator Ritchie has secured more than \$250,000 in special funding to help enhance services at libraries across our region. As a result of this support, more than 50 libraries and two library networks have received the aid they need keep up with demand and improve their offerings and programs for patrons.