



New York Organization for Nursing Leadership
34th ANNUAL MEETING and LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Resilient Leadership in the Age of Disruption: Navigating Change, Empowering Innovation

The Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown, New York
September 27-29, 2026

Sunday, September 27

7:00 am - 1:00 pm	Poster Registration and Set up – Grand Ballroom Foyer
7:00 – 11:00 am	Vendor Sign-In and Set Up – Grand Ballroom Foyer / Grand Ballroom
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Conference Registration – Tarrytown Foyer
11:00 am - 1:30 pm	Attendee/Sponsor/Exhibitor Lunch in the Exhibit Hall - Grand Ballroom
1:30 pm	Welcome and Conference Opening - Tarrytown Ballroom <i>Robert Church, , NYONL President</i>
1:45 - 2:45 pm	Bridging the Gap, Building the Future: Academic-Practice Partnerships for Resilient Leadership <i>Dr. Debra Albert, Dr. Tia Gilmartin, Dr. Lisa Kitko, Dr. E. Kate Valcin</i> Tarrytown Ballroom
2:45-3:15 pm	Poster Session & Break – Grand Ballroom & Grand Ballroom Foyer
3:15 – 4:00 pm	AONL Update NYONL Region and Committee Reports * Tarrytown Ballroom
4:10 – 4:40 pm	Region Roundtables * Follow up on Region Issues/Plans Westchester & Tarrytown Ballrooms
4:435 – 5:15 pm	Committee Roundtables * - Follow up on Committee Issues/Plans Westchester & Tarrytown Ballrooms
5:15 – 7:30 pm	Welcome Reception with Vendors – Grand Ballroom <i>Everyone is encouraged to attend!</i>

** These sessions are part of the NYONL Annual Business and Membership Meeting; everyone is urged to attend.*

Monday, September 28

6:30 am – 1:00 pm	Conference Registration - Tarrytown Foyer	
6:30 – 7:45 am	Breakfast with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Grand Ballroom	
7:00 am	Private Sponsor Breakfast <i>By invitation</i> – Outdoor Terrace	
7:45 am	Welcome, NYONL State of the State - Tarrytown Ballroom <i>Rob Church, NYONL President</i>	
8:15– 9:15 am	Keynote: What Got Us Here Won't Get Us There! – Tarrytown Ballroom <i>Dr. Launette Woolforde</i> <i>Generously sponsored by Diamond Sponsors, RQI Partners, LLC</i>	
9:15 – 9:45 am	Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors – Grand Ballroom	
Breakout Sessions 9:45-10:20 am	Tarrytown Ballroom	Westchester Ballroom
	From Curiosity to Capability: AI for Nurse Education Leaders <i>Maria Vezina, EdD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN;</i> <i>Stephanie Guareno, MSN, MBA, RN, CPXP</i> <i>James Gold, DNP, RN, MedSurg-BC, NPD-BC</i>	An Interprofessional Model to Expand Nursing Research Capacity <i>Mary Carey, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN</i> <i>Brandon Qualls, PhD, MPA</i>
Breakout Sessions 10:30 – 11:05 am	Multilayered Mentorship: Connecting Workforce Gaps in a New Ambulatory Surgery Center <i>Ellie Jun, DNP, RN, CCRN</i> <i>Kerri Hensler, DNP, MPA, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC</i> <i>Lysra Swift, DNP, RN, CNOR</i>	Building the Pipeline: A Hospital-Based Internal Faculty Pool <i>David Klimachefsky, MDiv, BS, RN</i>
11: 05 – 11:30 am	Poster Session - Grand Ballroom Foyer	
11:30 am – 1:15 pm	Lunch with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Grand Ballroom	
12:00 -12:45 pm	Private Sponsor Lunch <i>By invitation</i> – Outdoor Terrace	
12:15 -12:45 pm	Product Showcase – Tarrytown Ballroom <i>Presented by RQI Partners</i>	
12:45 – 1:15 pm	Product Showcase – Westchester Ballroom	
1:25-2:55 pm	2026 Claire Murray Best Practices Award Presentations - Tarrytown Ballroom	
	CNYONL <i>Disruption to Re-Design: Improving RN Residency Outcomes</i> <i>Megan Coombs, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, CCRN; Saralyn Olds, BSN, RN, NPD-BC</i>	
	WNYONL <i>AI-Powered Wearables for Enhancing HWE for Nursing Teams</i> <i>Emily Winters, DNP, MS, RN, NPD-BC, NEA-BC; Denise Dunford, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, ENP-BC</i>	
	FLONL <i>An Exploration of Moral Agency in Nurse Managers and Directors</i> <i>Shelly Baker, DNP, MS, RN, CNL, CCRN, NEA-BC; Tara Sacco, PhD, RN, CCRN, ACCNS-AG;</i> <i>Kate Valcin, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CCRN, CNL, FCCM</i>	
	GNYNSONL <i>Click, Screen, Operate: Nurse-Led Virtual PAT Empowered with AI</i> <i>Suzanne, Cushnie, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC; Ashley Newman, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FNP-c, AGACNP-BC</i>	
	NORMET <i>Resilient Leadership Through Holistic Innovation</i> <i>Bree Joseph, MSN, RN, AHN-BC, RYT-200; Susan Balamaci, MSN, RN, AHN-BC, RN-BC, LMT, BCTMB;</i> <i>Faye Wright, PhD, RN, APRN-BC, FNYAM</i>	
3:00 – 3:30 pm	NENYONL <i>Caring for the Caregiver: Addressing Violence Against Nurses</i> <i>Laura Pfeifer, MS, RN, NEA-BC; Donna Kirker, MS, RN, NEA-BC</i>	
	NYONL Annual Membership and Business Meeting – Tarrytown Ballroom	
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Break – Tarrytown Foyer	
3:45 – 4:45	If You're not at the Table, You'll be on the Menu: Why Nurse Leader Advocacy Matters Bethany Hall-Long Tarrytown Ballroom	
4:50 – 6:20 pm	Platinum Sponsor Reception – Outdoor Terrace <i>Generously Sponsored by Altus Industries</i>	
6:30 – 7:30	NYONL Awards Ceremony and Reception – Westchester Ballroom	

Tuesday September 29

6:30 – 8:00 am	Conference Registration -Tarrytown Foyer	
7:00 – 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast – The Atrium	
Breakout Sessions 8:00 – 8:35 am	Tarrytown Ballroom	Westchester Ballroom
	Achieving 30% CLABSI Reduction Through Leadership <i>Raquel Swarton, DNP, RN, CNL, NEA-BC</i> <i>William Podaras, MSOD, RN</i> <i>Melba Garcia, MS, RN</i>	Improving Orthopaedic Clinic Efficiency via “Grab and Go” <i>Keri Berger, MS, RN, CNL</i> <i>Justin Asenato, MS, RN</i> <i>Andrea Petraglia, MS, RN</i>
Breakout Sessions 8:45 – 9:20 am	Utilizing AI Chat-Bots to Enhance APRN Education <i>Kathryn Ledwin, PhD, RN, FNP-C</i> <i>Eric Ledwin, DNP, CRNA, RN, ACNP</i>	Using a Portfolio Model to Ignite Scientific Inquiry <i>Althea Mighten, EdD, DNP, APRN-BC, NPJ-BC, MEDSURG-BC</i> <i>Kurt Pinto, DNP, RN, OCN, PMHNP-BC</i> <i>Kathryn Evanovich Zavotsky, PhD, RN, CCRN, FAEN, FCNS</i>
9:20-10:00	Break – The Atrium	
10:05-10:40 am	Coaching for Impact: Building Confident Nurse Leaders <i>Benjamin Lindsay, MS, RN, CCRN-CMC, PCCN, NPJ-BC, NEA-BC, FADLN</i> <i>Chris Burleigh, BSN, RN, CCRN</i> <i>Shelly Baker, DNP, MS, RN, CNL, CCRN, NEA-BC</i> <i>Brandon Qualls, PhD, MPA</i>	Resilient Leadership Reduces HAPI Using SSKIN Bundle <i>Raquel Swarton, DNP, RN, CNL, NEA-BC</i>
10:45am – 11:45 am	Closing Plenary: Opportunity Over Plan: Say “Yes” to the Detour Orlando Rivera Tarrytown Ballroom	
11:45 am	Conference Closing -Tarrytown Ballroom <i>Rob Church, NYONL President</i>	

This conference is jointly provided by NYONL and the University of Rochester Center for Nursing Professional Development. The University of Rochester Center for Nursing Professional Development is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This offering provides 12.0 nursing contact hours to attendees at the full session.

