



Canal  
Corporation

Department  
of State



Monroe Community College  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## **Accessible Recreation on the Canalway**

*SUNY/Erie Canal Bicentennial Forum Series*

### **Monroe Community College**

R. Thomas Flynn Campus Center – North Entrance

Room: Monroe A&B

1000 East Henrietta Road

Rochester, New York 14623

**Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:30am—1:45pm**

### **OPENING SESSION**

**10:30 – 11:00**

**Welcome to Monroe CC:** President Dr. Deanna R. Burt-Nanna

**Introduction of Opening Comments:** Brian Stratton, Director, NYS Canal Corporation

**Opening Comments:** Julie Cataldo, Community Member

**Introduction of Keynote:** Nancy Harvey, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, NYPA

**Keynote:** Kim Hill, Chief Disability Officer, Governor Kathy Hochul

### **PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

**11:00 – 12:00**

**Panel I: Disability, Accessibility, Inclusion**

*Moderated by **Kim Hill**, Chief Disability Officer*

- **John Robinson, CEO** - *Our Ability*
- **Anita O'Brien, Founder & Executive Director** - *Rochester Accessible Adventures*
- **Jonathan White, Director of Design Consulting** - *Center for Inclusive Design & Enviro Access, University of Buffalo*
- **Todd Vaarwerk, Director of Advocacy & Public Policy** - *Western NY Independent Living Center*

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**\*\*\* Brief Break \*\*\***  
**12:00 – 12:15** (Lunch available)

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**12:15 – 1:15**

**Panel II: Implementing Accessible Opportunities – Assisting Canal Providers/Municipalities**

*Moderated by John Robinson, Our Ability*

- **Anita O’Brien, Founder & Executive Director** - *Rochester Accessible Adventures*
- **Peter Abele, President** - *Erie Canal Boat Company*
- **Peyton Sefick, Project Coordinator**, *Fitness Inclusion Network*
- **Sara Emmert, Sr. Director, Tourism, Policy & Operations**, *NYS Division of Tourism, Empire State Development*
- **Jean Mackay, Director of Communications & Outreach** - *Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor*

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**QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

**1:15 – 1:30** *Moderated by Kim Hill & John Robinson*

**1:30 Closing Remarks:** *Angelyn Chandler, VP Planning – Reimagine the Canals*

*Networking Reception and Equipment Expo immediately following*

***Registration is required:***

**<https://AccessibleRecreationontheCanalway.eventbrite.com>**

