



For Immediate Release: April 4, 2024

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**Media Availability & Photo Opportunity –
SUNY/Erie Canal Bicentennial Forum Series: “Accessible Recreation
on the Canalway”**

Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Time: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Monroe Community College – Brighton Campus
R. Thomas Flynn Campus Center – North Entrance
Room: Monroe A&B
1000 East Henrietta Road
Rochester, New York 14623

Event:

The New York State Canal Corporation kicks off its SUNY/Erie Canal Bicentennial Forum Series at the Brighton Campus of Monroe Community College with a focus on “Accessible Recreation on the Canalway.”

The event will include a keynote address by Kim Hill Ridley, New York State’s Chief Disability Officer, and two engaging and informative panel discussions – “*Disability, Accessibility, Inclusion,*” and “*Implementing Accessible Opportunities – Assisting Canal Providers/Municipalities.*” A full program agenda is available [here](#).

In addition, vendors will be on hand to showcase accessible/adaptive equipment, funding opportunities and information to assist businesses and municipalities from throughout the New York State Canal system corridor that are seeking to increase accessibility to the canal and Canalway Trail in their area.

The SUNY/Erie Canal Bicentennial Forum Series is part of New York State’s commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the original Erie Canal’s opening in 1825 and the waterway’s continued influence on the state. The Erie Canal’s Bicentennial celebration will culminate with the 2025 World Canals Conference in Buffalo.

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About the New York State Canal Corporation

New York's Canal system includes four canals: the Erie, Champlain, Oswego, and Cayuga – Seneca. Spanning 524 miles, the waterway links the Hudson River with the Great Lakes, the Finger Lakes and Lake Champlain. The canals form the backbone of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and connect hundreds of unique and historic communities.

The New York State Canal Corporation is a subsidiary of the New York Power Authority.

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