



Fair Contract Now!

On Thursday, February 27, LBCTA members from across the district wore red to support our sisters and brothers in Lawrence School District. For the past nine years the Lawrence Teachers Association has fought for a fair contract against the Lawrence Board of Education's draconian demands. We are proud to say that the LBCTA stands with you in your fight.

Executive Board Minutes

March 9, 2020

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

3/23/20, 4/27/20, 5/11/20, and 6/8/20

B. Union Sick Bank

Thank you very much to all who have donated so far. Unfortunately, the bank currently has more requests than days available, leaving the bank at zero. Please consider making a donation to help fill those requests. The bank runs on our members' generosity.

C. Coronavirus- COVID-19

Please allow me to begin by quoting Governor Andrew Cuomo from a speech this weekend, "We're fighting fear more than the virus." With that said, I have been meeting with the Superintendent to discuss what our plan(s) are and will be here in Long Beach for the short-term and long-term regarding the CDC's recommendations for schools. The short-term plan, as recommended, will include cleaning surfaces more intensely, similar to how we clean during the severe Flu seasons. If you believe your classroom or workspace is not being cleaned please contact your Head Custodian and/or Principal with the specific location. If the situation is not resolved please let me know. The long-term plan involves evaluating if we are prepared to provide instruction should there be a need for social isolation or social distancing. Dr. Gallagher will be asking our Directors to reflect on what tools and resources we currently have in place that could allow for instruction or academic support, should there be a need to close schools for an extended period of time. This would obviously look much different for our elementary students versus our secondary students. I am also asking you to please reflect on your own curriculum and the resources that you have

Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice-President

Amy Leder

Vice-President for Secondary Schools

Beth Prostick

Vice-President for

Elementary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

Eileen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

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available to see what type of academic support and material you could provide to our students should there be a need to close schools for an extended period of time. Please remember that there is no immediate threat or confirmed cases here in Long Beach and that the requests above are to make sure we are prepared, should there be a need.

D. State of the Union Speech

The State of the Union Speech will be at the March 23 Executive Board meeting in the MS Library at 4:00PM.

E. Long Beach Board of Education

Mr. DeVito and various administrators have spent the last two months presenting specific components of the School Budget at the School Board meetings. There have been some subtle and not so subtle recommendations regarding staffing for a variety of programs next year. There are two more scheduled presentations before the Board's adoption of the budget on 4/7/20. The Board will then put the budget up for a vote to the community on Tuesday, May 19, 2020. The community will have the opportunity to vote on the Budget and two School Board members.

March 10th: Special Ed

March 24th: Technology, Athletics, Summer School, Nike, Security and Clubs

April 7th: Adoption

F. NYTRS Delegate Election

It is time to elect our TRS delegates. If you are interested in volunteering for the position please contact me, Keith Harvey at kharvey@lbeach.org by the close of business on Friday, March 20, 2020. We are eligible to have one delegate and one alternate delegate.

G. MOA for Summer School

The District has once again contracted Nassau BOCES to run a Regional Summer School Program in Long Beach. We have signed the MOA which is very similar to the one from last year.

H. Federal Tax Deduction for Teachers

Teachers can claim the Educator Expense Deduction regardless of whether they take the standard deduction or itemize their tax deductions. A teacher can deduct a maximum of \$250. Two married teachers filing a joint return can take a deduction of up to \$250 apiece, for a maximum of \$500.

I. NYSUT Benefits—Save on Travel!

NYSUT MEMBER BENEFITS understands the challenges the dedicated members of the NYSUT organization face when it comes to stretching their hard-earned dollars, including when booking vacations and making other travel plans. That is why they encourage all NYSUT members to look to NYSUT Member Benefits before making any purchasing decisions. Please see [appendix A](#) for more information.

J. Scholarships—Reminder

1. LBCTA Scholarships

The association will once again be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who are children of CTA members and one \$1,000 scholarship to a Long Beach High School graduate going into education. Pat Fallon has graciously volunteered to continue as the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. To be eligible for a CTA scholarship, the student must graduate from his/her high school in either January or June 2020. He/she may attend high school in any city or town. A parent must have been a dues-paying member of the CTA for at least three full years and currently paying dues unless on family or medical leave. Those interested and eligible may request an application from Pat, by email at pfallon@lbeach.org. The closing date for receipt of the completed application and all supporting documents, submitted in duplicate, is

2 PM on Friday, March 13. The evaluation of these applications will take place on Wednesday, March 18 immediately after school at the High School. Please contact Pat if you are interested in helping evaluate the applications. It would be wonderful if every building was represented.

2. AFT Robert G. Porter Scholars Program

This program offers four 4-year, \$8,000 post-secondary scholarships to students who are dependents of AFT members, as well as 10 one-time \$1,000 grants to AFT members to assist with their continuing education. [Click here.](#)

3. 2020 Long Island Teachers Benevolent Fund, Len Motisi Memorial Scholarship

Children of in service members of NYSUT locals, who are high school seniors, graduating this year, and who will be attending a post-secondary institution on a full time basis, are eligible. If you would like an application please contact Keith Harvey.

K. FLEX Spending—Reminder

Flexible Benefits may be used for unreimbursed medical or dental expenses or dependent care. The District has opted for a 2.5 month extension plan. Participants may incur expenses through March 15th of the calendar year following the year of the election; all requests for reimbursement must be submitted to the plan administrator (Preferred Group) no later than March 30th.

L. Study Money Dates—Reminder

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Money Program: Summer—May 8, 2020. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. The application is available online at Request for Participation in [Study Program - Group A.](#)

M. Coach Pay Dates

Middle School Winter II: 3/13

High School Spring: 4/8 and 5/8

Middle School Spring: 4/24 and 6/25

II. Committees

A. Grievance Committee—Karen Bloom

1. There are no grievances to report at this time.
2. Please contact me if you have any issues that you feel are a violation of our contract.

B. Negotiation Committee—Chief Negotiator’s Report—Keith Harvey

Your opinion matters!

On 3/9/20, the committee made a formal request to the Long Beach Board of Education to open negotiations. We look forward to hearing a response from the board and scheduling a date. Our strength is less about us sitting at the table, and more about the support we get from you. We look forward to representing you as a group and hope we can count on you, should we need to take collective action. We are stronger together!

C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola

1. The Spring New Member/Buddy party will be on Friday, March 27th after school at EGP Land and Sea in Island Park. Please let one of us know if you have not received an email inviting you. We look forward to seeing you all there.
2. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org. **Please contact us if you don’t have a buddy or mentor.** Please ask questions. There are **many** people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee—Jennifer Garrett

1. Thank you to everyone who wore red and submitted photos from their buildings to show their support for the Lawrence Teachers Association! We had a great turn out and strong show of solidarity. The LTA is extremely appreciative! Nine years without a contract is nine too many! LBCTA Stands with Lawrence!
2. We are in the final stages of preparing a full list of personal email addresses for all members. A list of missing emails was sent to each Senior Building Representative. Please return the completed list if you have not done so already. Thank you for your help with this process.
3. The 2020 Census officially starts on April 1, 2020. Look for information regarding completing the survey on-line beginning mid-March. Please encourage everyone to fill out their questionnaires. The 2020 Census is the basis for NYS federal funding and determines the number of seats NYS holds in the U.S. House of Representatives. It's our voice. Make it count. Please see nysutcounts.org for additional information.
4. If you haven't already, please download the NYSUT MAC (Member Action Center) app to your phone. You can find it at the following link:
<https://mac.nysut.org/get-the-nysut-macsmartphone-app>
5. Our next PAC meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12th, at 3:45 in the MS Library. All LBCTA members are welcome to attend!

E. Public Relations—Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. LBCTA 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser



There are not enough words or thank you's that would justify how wonderful our members are. Our Bowling Event was a true team effort that allowed us to raise \$6100 to be donated to Sunrise Day Camps. It was an amazing sight to see RVC Lanes packed with our members. The sportsmanship and camaraderie was incredible. We loved the dedication and spirit with each teams personally created team shirt. To every single member who attended, thank you for your time and dedication to our cause. The event was only a success because of you. To our outstanding building reps, what would we do without you? Thank you for



making this event a priority with your building. The raffle baskets have been a huge success with our fundraiser. A personal thank you to Jennifer Garrett, Karen Bloom, Jim Fiola, Keith Harvey, and Ali Katulka for being the best PR team around. We are truly appreciative that you volunteered your time to organize such an amazing event. A special shout out to Patty Van Loon who was our behind the scene woman making sure everything went smoothly.



2. Congratulations to Caitlin King and the 4th grade LARC program for raising \$1,180 for the United Cerebral Palsy of Nassau for the CP Nassau Trivia Challenger Fundraiser. Great job!

F. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

We are getting ready to send out the invite for our May 20th celebration at Bridgeview Yacht Club. At this time we have 9 retirees. We are looking forward to celebrating the careers of our fellow colleagues.

G. Teacher Center—John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is still waiting to hear from State Ed if we are approved as a DASA advisor.

2. The center is purchasing additional equipment to begin lending a Cricut Maker to build things that would like to use it. Please contact the director at LBTC@lbeach.org if you would like to borrow it.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. Please be sure to remain actively engaged in the APPR process. Be sure to discuss your targets with your lead evaluator. Remember, you should not see opinions from your evaluation team when classroom observations take place. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.
2. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
3. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. Temperature Issues—We are still experiencing issues with temperature regulation in many buildings. Although we know that buildings and grounds is trying to resolve these issues, they remain a problem; some extremely hot and others extremely cold. Hopefully this can be straightened out ASAP.
2. We are hoping to receive an update on the traffic reconfiguration at both the High School and Lido complex at the next meeting.
3. In addition, we are hoping that student ID's will be discussed at our next meeting, since it was not addressed at our last few.
4. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3/12 at 11:00 am in the MS Library Multipurpose room. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the Building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. District Safety Team

1. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3/12 at 11:00 am in the MS Library Multipurpose room. If you have any Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

D. Other

1. Thank you to everyone who attended the Bowling Fundraiser! Once again it was an extremely successful event! A big thank you to Amy and Beth for organizing the event!
2. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
3. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank now that the bank is at zero. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools' Report—Beth Prostick

- A. I would like to thank Dr. Gallagher for keeping the staff and parents up-to date on the latest coronavirus developments.
- B. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on March 16 at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank now that the bank is at zero.
- D. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Leder

- A. With flu season (and Corona concerns) at its peak, the cleanliness of our buildings are of great concern. Please continue to keep me updated and informed about the cleanliness issues still of concern in your building.
- B. Please continue to communicate with your building reps regarding any new, old, or current concerns in your building.
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank now that the bank is at zero.

VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

A. February Financial Results

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$15,444	Union Dues	\$40,816
AFT	9,473	Retiree Dues	171
Taxes and Insurance	401	Bowling Event Fundraiser	5,470
Meeting Expenses	56	Total	\$40,685
Total	<u>\$56,163</u>		

- B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank now that the bank is at zero and try to attend an upcoming School Board Meeting. Thank you for reading the minutes and please encourage your fellow members to do the same.

This year's Bowling Event Fundraiser was again a huge success. Thank you to all who supported the effort in anyway.

If you have any changes to your personal file (address, name, etc.), please email them to me at jfiola@lbeach.org.

- C. Union dues for 2019/2020 for full-time members will be \$1,017.96. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$234.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$101.80 will be taken from your first check of the month (except September when it will be taken out of the second check on Sept 27th) and will show up under the column "MDED-03." We are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.

2019 union dues for tax purposes for full time members was \$1,016.56.

VII. Building Reports

A. West School



1. Thank you to everyone who donated and participated in the Annual Bowling Fundraiser. The night was a huge success. We raised \$6,100 for Sunshine Day Camp. A big thank you to Amy Leder and Beth Prostick who lead us once again to our goal.

2. Thank you to all who wore red in support of Lawrence School District.

3. Congratulations to all students who participated in Odyssey of the Mind and their coaches Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell. This past weekend they participated in Region 2 Odyssey of the Mind Competition and Long Beach Elementary's two teams both won first place! All our students qualified for the State Tournament in Binghamton. Congratulations to West School's participants: Gordi Perez, Ben Levinson, Sebastian Tracola, and Dustin Basnyet! Job well done!

4. The kick off to PARP was a great success. The PTA invited *Squeaky Clean* to come and sing along with some songs to encourage children to read.

5. Save the date for the End of the Year Celebration, Wednesday, May 20, 2020. Consider joining us to celebrate the retirees.

6. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank now that the bank is at zero.

B. Lindell School

1. Congratulations to all who participated in Odyssey of the Mind. Two Long Beach teams led by coaches Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell, came in first place at the regional level and

will be going up to Binghamton University to compete at the state level in May.

2. Congratulations to Danielle Lopez on the birth of her daughter, Olivia Hayden.

3. Congratulations to Iris Resnick on the birth of her grandson, Crew.

4. Thank you Lindell PTA for Brain Show, an educational game show assembly challenging students and staff. It was a great kickoff to our Winter Recess.

5. Save the Date for the LBCTA Year End Celebration! Our party will be at Bridgeview on Wednesday, May 20th.

6. Thank you to our thorough and wonderful custodial staff for working tirelessly to keep us healthy and safe.

7. Thank you to all who contributed to the bowling fundraiser. Our teams were creative, colorful and enthusiastic. Together we raised \$6,100 for Sunrise Day Camp. A good time was had by all!

8. The new heating system continues to be a problem; some rooms are too hot, others are too cold.

9. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank now that the bank is at zero.

C. East School

1. Congratulations to Christina Siraco on the birth of her daughter Cassandra Grace Siraco.

2. Condolences to Heather Ricardo, our school nurse, on the passing of her mother, Tena Fayden.

3. Thank you to the East School PTA for putting together a fun PARP week. The children and staff loved participating.

4. Leah Spinner was selected to represent East School in the Long Island String Festival Orchestra. This is an amazing achievement. Congratulations to Leah and Mrs. Bennett.

5. We have lots of wonderful student artwork around town for the month of March which is Youth Art Month. Student artwork is on display at the Rec Center this month. Also, there is artwork on display at City Hall for "Love Is..." exhibit.

6. Congratulations to all students who participated in Odyssey of the Mind and their coaches Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell. This past weekend they participated in Region 2 Odyssey of the Mind Competition and Long Beach Elementary's two teams both won first place! All our students qualified for the State Tournament in Binghamton during the weekend of April 4th.

7. Thank you to our custodial staff for sanitizing our school in order to keep our staff and students safe.

8. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank now that the balance is zero.

D. Lido School

1. Condolences to Revi Spinks on the loss of her mother.

2. Condolences to Jeanne Golia on the loss of her father.

3. Students and staff enjoyed celebrating P.S. I Love You Day through activities that promote kindness and social-emotional learning.

4. Thank you to all the teachers who wore red on February 27th.

5. Congratulations to Dr. Caitlin King and the 4th grade LARC students for raising \$1,180 for CP Nassau.

6. Congratulations to Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell and the Odyssey of the Mind teams and their accomplishments in the Region 2 Odyssey of the Mind competition.

7. Please consider joining us at the LBCTA End of Year Celebration on May 20th at Bridgeview Yacht Club in Island Park.



8. Please consider attending the CTA Spring Buddy Party on March 27th EGP Land & Sea in Island Park.

9. Now that the sick bank is at zero, we are in need of days for the LBCTA Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. Our sincerest condolences to Revi Spinks on the loss of her mother and Jeanne Golia on the loss of her father.

2. We had a wonderful time at the LBCTA bowling event. Thank you to all who ran it!!

3. Thank you to the teachers that helped with the Pre-K open house.

4. Thank you to the Pre-K PTA for Kerboom Kidz, the students really enjoyed it! It would be helpful to have it at a different time than Yoga and Parent Teacher conferences/assessments.

5. Thank you to the custodial staff for the extra sanitation of our classrooms. The plan to keep our classrooms clean is greatly appreciated.

6. Our laptops that are connected to the Smart Board are outdated and some are missing buttons. It makes it a challenge to utilize the SmartBoard when it is not working.

7. We are still experiencing transportation delays during the arrival of the PM students and the dismissal of the AM students. The unstructured time that the students are waiting creates challenges for the students and the staff.

8. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank, as the bank is currently stands empty.

F. Middle School

1. In light of recent events, we are appreciative of the extra steps and precautions being taken to sanitize the buildings.

2. A very special thank you to everyone that helped to organize or participated in our month long celebration for Black History Month and culminating musical assembly.

3. Congratulations to our Odyssey of the Minds teams led by coaches Christina Kile and Susan Kasper for taking both 1st and 2nd place!

4. Kudos to our World Language Department. In honor of Foreign Language Week, they hosted a variety of cultural celebrations.

5. Congratulations to Coach Lindsay Pichichero and the LBHS Cheerleading squad for taking 5th place in Nassau County! Congratulations on a great season.

6. Welcome back to Leah Buffalino.

7. Congratulations to Mike Vasikauskas on his recent marriage to Bryn.

8. Welcome Virginia Gillespie to our PE Dept.

9. Congratulations to Peter Russo on receiving tenure.

10. Thank you to our PTA for the delicious treats to celebrate the 100th day of school.

11. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. The bank is currently in need of days to continue to help others. Please consider donating, if you have not done so already.

G. High School

1. Congratulations to Jeff Myers on being recommended for tenure at the March 10th Board of Education Meeting.

2. Congratulations to Kerri Fallon being recommended for tenure at the March 10th Board of Education Meeting.





3. Thank You to all who wore red in support of the Lawrence Teachers Union on February 27th.

4. Thank you to Kristin Susko, Serena Whitfield, Paige Ankudovych and all of the teachers involved with the fundraiser for Masha.

5. Congratulations and thank you to Dr. Morand, class advisors and students for the recent Class Olympics.

6. Congratulations to Joe Brand, Dickie Chimenti, and Keith Casey and all of the players on the LB Hockey Team on winning the NY State Championship.



7. Thank you to Central Administration for agreeing to discuss and adjust the removal of the January Regents Exam Week.

8. Staff would like to see the District and Building Administration move towards requiring students to wear their ID cards throughout the building so that security and staff can properly identify if an individual belongs in the building.

9. Please remember that the doors are alarmed. Do not exit out of the alarmed doors. It is distracting to the nearby classes.

10. The staff is concerned about the condition of the back roadway. There are potholes that are dangerous and difficult to see in inclement conditions.

11. Many of the classroom and department office computers in the HS are very old and are in need of updating.

12. Temperatures of classrooms vary greatly throughout the building.

13. Please consider serving on a district committee.

14. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank now that the bank has been depleted.



At 5:30pm, a motion was made by Stacey Mason to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alison Katulka.

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot

Lindell: Lisa Rundo, Susan Simons

East: Jennifer Diamond, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dana Monti, Dorothy Lopez, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Molly Drake

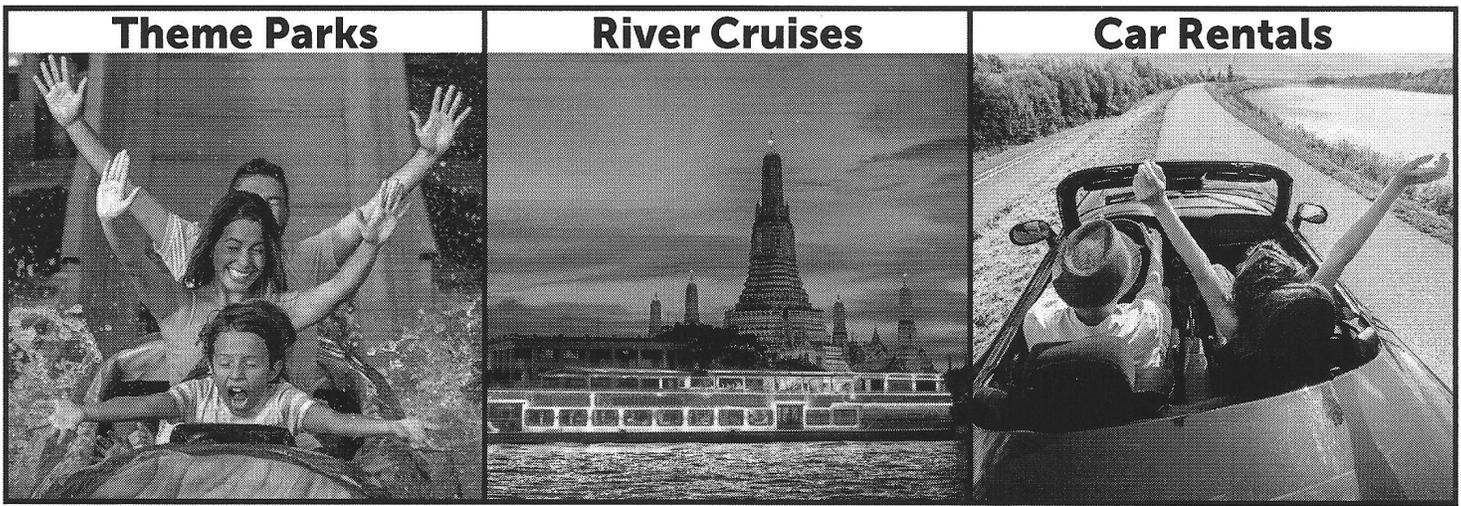
LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Stacey Mason, Kaitlin Smith

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Lisa Casey, Jay Spitz

Retiree: Frank Volpe

Officers: Keith Harvey, Karen Bloom, Beth Prostick, Amy Leder, Patricia Van Loon, Elleen Parks, Jim Fiola

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.



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Save up to 30% on Orlando, FL excursions with our endorsed **Orlando Employee Discounts** program. Enjoy discounted tickets to Disney World, Universal Studios, Sea World and several other Orlando area attractions. Orlando Employee Discounts also offers up to 60% off rack rate at select hotels close to or on theme park property; hotel and theme park ticket travel packages; and a free 75-page *Disney World Guide*.

Our endorsed **Grand Circle Travel** program offers NYSUT members special pricing on a variety of international river cruises, tours and destinations around the world. Save \$100 per person on published tours simply for being a NYSUT member, and enjoy other discounts and savings opportunities available for specific tours. Discovery opportunities, activities and discussions are included with each trip.

Whether traveling for business or leisure, NYSUT members can save up to 25% on car rentals with our endorsed **car rental companies**. Browse rates from Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz or National.



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memberbenefits.nysut.org
 or calling **800-626-8101**.



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