

Setting the Pace 2026

April 22-24, 2026
Saratoga Springs, NY



New York State Council

New York State Emergency Nurses Association
214 Kent Avenue #256 • Endwell, NY 13760
www.nysena.org

Setting the Pace 2026



Welcome to Setting the Pace 2026!

Holiday Inn | 232 Broadway | Saratoga Springs, NY | (518) 584-4550

Dear Emergency Nurse,

We are excited that we will be meeting again in Saratoga Springs, NY for our 2026 Setting the Pace conference. This in person conference gives us the opportunity to meet new people, renew old acquaintances and catch up on NYSENA activities.

On Wednesday, April 22, 2026, the 2026 NYSENA Council meeting will be held from 9am- 11am. Hear about NYSENA happenings and accomplishments & the various NYSENA committee activities..

The conference begins on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 with first sessions at 1pm. Following a packed afternoon with two presentation tracks, attendees are invited to join us at the 2026 Gala at 6pm. The formal Gala recognizes the 2026 Award Winners—those exemplary peers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, clinical skill, and dedication to the field of emergency nursing. More information can be found on page 10 of this prospectus. Following the Gala, at 8:30pm, attendees are invited to have “Drinks & Desserts” in the exhibitors hall.

On Thursday, April 23, the exhibitors will be with us for breakfast, throughout the day for breaks, and lunch in the exhibit hall. Be sure to have them sign your bingo cards when you visit them. Educational presentations will begin with the National ENA representatives providing us an update on the ENA.

Throughout the remainder of the conference, we will have regional and national speakers share their knowledge and expertise on a variety of topics. Participants can sign up for hands on sessions with Point of Care Ultra-Sound (POCUS) and enter a lottery for 1 of 18 slots for a hands on simulation session with Mercy Flight Centrals Helicopter Simulator.

Thursday evening brings us a chance to have fun at a “Emergency Lights and Western Nights” party starting at 6PM. More information on this event is on page 10 of this prospectus.

Education sessions will continue on Friday. Sessions wrap up with the annual raffle at 1pm.

Be sure to reserve your hotel accommodation early as rooms at the Holiday Inn and surrounding hotels fill quickly at this time of year. Please contact the Holiday Inn by phone at (518) 584-4550 and use the code “ENA” for reservations.

NOTE: It's important you register early to take advantage of some of the limited offerings. Check your registration carefully and make sure you indicate the events and any other sessions you wish to participate with. If you do not elect to attend an event at the time of registration, you will NOT be permitted to attend the event once on site. There are no onsite registrations and our staff does not have the availability to alter attendees once registration is closed and “counts” are provided to the hotel and our partners putting on this conference.

We look forward to seeing you there!

~The 2026 Setting the Pace Conference Committee



Schedule

Day 1: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Participants will note, there are no formal breaks scheduled between sessions. This is intentional. Sessions will run for 45 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of Q&A, and then 10 minutes will be used as a participant break while presenters are transitioning.

Time	Session / Speaker	
0900-1100	NYS ENA Council Meeting	
1100-1300	Lunch on your own.	
Time	Session / Speaker	Session / Speaker
1300-1400	Streamlining Stroke Identification: Merging BE-FAST and S-LAMS into BE-SLAMS Meagan Geyer, MSN, RN, CEN Matthew DeStefano, BSN, RN, CEN	Two people for the price of 1: What are the odds? Triage of the Obstetrical Patient in the ED. Mary Harwood MSN, RN, CEN
1400-1500	The Injured Child in a Resource-Limited Setting Adam Oplinger, BS, RN, CEN, TCRN	Optimizing Peripheral Intravenous Access in the Emergency Department to Improve Overall Outcomes: Strategies and Approaches Sophia Specht, MSN, AGACNP-BC, CEN, VA-BC, NY-SAFE
1500-1600	Everything I Know About Trauma Nursing I Learned from Watching “The Pitt” Cathlyn Robinson, MSc(A), RN, CEN, TCRN Steve Weinman, MSc, RN, CEN, TCRN, NHDP-BC	Super High Utilizers in the Emergency Department: “Are They Back Again?” ED High Utilizer Strategic Care Management Interventions Lisa Kelly MSNL, RN, CEN
1600-1700	Bizarre and spectacular aspects of EKGs Benjamin (Benny) E. Marett, EdD, MSN, RN, CEN, CCRN, COHN-S, NPD-BC, TCRN, NPD-BC, NE-BC, FAEN, FAHA	Poison Control is on the Phone... Jean Gannon, BSN, RN CSPI, CEN
1800-2030	Gala Awards Dinner	
2030-2200	Drinks and Desserts with Exhibitors	
Learn more about our presenters by visiting our website at www.NYSENA.org or using the association's APP.		

Questions can be forwarded to the Conference Committee at conferencechair@nysena.org

Schedule



Day 2: Thursday, April 23, 2026

Time	Session / Speaker	MFC Sim Lab	POCUS	
0700-0845	Vendor Hall Open / Breakfast with Exhibitors			
0845-0900	Conference Opening / Remarks Eileen Breckenbridge, NYS ENA President Susan Chalupa-Breese, Conference Chair			
0900-1000	National ENA Update Chris Parker, MSN, RN, CNL, CEN, CFRN, CPEN, TCRN		POCUS #1	
1000-1100	Precision in the Pressure: Redesigning Code Sepsis Emily Leboff, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN Colleen Clifford, BSN, RN	Optimizing Healthcare Operations: Informatics and AI Robin Dolan, MSN, RN	POCUS #2	
1100-1200	Clinical Myth Busting Jean Proehl, MN, RN, CEN, CPEN, TCRN, FAEN, FAAN		POCUS #3	
1200-1330	Lunch with Vendors			
1330-1430	A few patients with chest pain... common presentation, and different outcomes Benjamin Marrett Edd, MSN, CEN, CCRN, COHN, NPD-C, NE-BC, TCRN, FAEN, FAHA	The Rhythm of Readiness: In-Situ Mock Codes in Emergency Care Chelsea Howard MSN, RN Erica Luedke MSN, RN Mackenzie Mitchell BSN, RN Muriel White BSN, RN	MFC SIM #1	POCUS #4
1430-1530	Ballistics: Penetrating the Mystery of Gunshot Injuries Steve Weinman, MSc, RN, CEN, TCRN, NHDP-BC	Myth busters, Triage Edition Deena Brecher, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CEN, CPEN, FAEN	MFC SIM #2	POCUS #5
1530-1630	Do No Harm: Diagnostic Errors Kathy Robinson, RN, FAEN	Unlocking the Lethal Trauma Diamond: Polishing Trauma Care with the Power of Calcium Joyce Foresman Capuzzi, DNP	MFC SIM #3	POCUS #6
1630-1730	Emergency Nursing: The Sacred and the Profane Terry Foster RN, MSN, FAEN, CCRN, CPEN, TCRN, CEN			POCUS #7
1800-2300	Emergency Lights and Western Nights Party			



Schedule

Day 3: Friday, April 24, 2026

Time	Session / Speaker	MFC Sim Lab	POCUS
0800-0900	PANEL Discussion - Leadership: Insight, Experience, and Influence @ Breakfast Karyn Treval, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC, CEN		
0900-1000	Ray Briggs Memorial Lecture - Channel your Inner Ray - How to be the Best Part of their Worst Day Catherine Emo Castle, BS, RN	MFC SIM #4	POCUS #8
1000-1100	Rest Assured: Tackling Nurse Fatigue to Improve Safety and Wellness Jean A. Proehl, MN, RN, CEN, CPEN, TCRN, FAEN, FAAN Kathy Robinson, RN, FAEN	AI, a Friend or Foe? What would happen if we could predict admissions from triage? Jonathan Nover, MBA RN	MFC SIM #5
1100-1200	Tiny and Trafficked Joyce Foresman-Capuzzi DNP	The 5 What's Framework: Standardizing Preceptor-Orienteer Interactions in Emergency Nursing Christie Falcone, BSN, RN, CEN	MFC SIM #6
1200-1300	AI In Healthcare: How to Use the Newest IT Tool Compliantly Gina L. Campanella, Esq., FACHE		POCUS #10
1300-1330	Raffle - Closing of Conference		

Learn more about our presenters by visiting our website at www.NYSENA.org or using the association's APP.

Call for Award Nominations



Each year NYSENA presents awards at the annual conference. Our time to shine is fast approaching! Do you have a colleague who is an exemplary Emergency Nurse? Nominate them for a NYSENA Recognition Award and let the NYSENA community know how they shine.

Nominations for the 2026 conference awards are now open and must be submitted on or **before Monday, March 16th, 2026**. Nomination forms and criteria can be found on the NYSENA website under the Forms Tab, or by [clicking here](#).

Check out the criteria in the Forms column under Awards:

ANITA DORR AWARD

Anita M. Dorr, RN, began in January, 1970, to meet formally with emergency nurses in the Buffalo, New York area to provide in-service education, support, and advocacy to Emergency Nurses. This award, named after one of ENA's co-founders, honors a member of New York State ENA, who has consistently demonstrated excellence in emergency nursing, and has made significant contributions to the profession and reflects the integrity and commitment to New York State ENA, honoring the memory of its' founder, Anita Dorr

ANNE RYAN PEDIATRIC AWARD

Throughout her professional life, Anne Ryan displayed an unwavering commitment to education and patient care with a special place in her heart for pediatric patients. She was instrumental in bringing ENPC to New York. This award recognizes excellence in pediatric clinical practice and advocacy for pediatric Emergency Nursing.

GINNY HENS EMS AWARD

Virginia "Ginny" Hens was an early advocate of Emergency Nursing and EMS collaboration in New York. This award is given to a New York Emergency Nurse who promotes collaboration and professionalism between first responders and Emergency Nurses.

NURSING EDUCATION AWARD

Recognizes an New York State emergency nurse who has made significant contributions to the education of colleagues, nursing students, EMS personnel, patients, families or the community through the publication of articles, formal or informal courses or the development of a specific emergency nursing program or curriculum.

RISING STAR

This award is given to a nurse who has been a Member of New York ENA for less than 5 years and demonstrates commitment to the professional practice of Emergency Nursing.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Recognizes an individual who has demonstrated commitment to Emergency Nursing. This person is an advocate who is often seen but not heard, and who donates countless hours to nurses in achieving excellence in Emergency Nursing.



Call for Poster Submissions

Present your best practice and research projects addressing the many challenges today's Emergency Department nurses, manager, leaders, researchers and healthcare providers are facing every day at the 2026 Conference.

Poster Abstract Categories

- Research Posters should include information about the process and results of a study aimed at generating new knowledge relative to a specific research question to advance clinical practice.
- Evidence-based practice Posters should include information about the process and results of identifying and implementing evidence guiding practice change that is aimed at advancing clinical practice.

Poster Presentation Guidelines

- Poster presentations will be most effective if they are organized into clearly defined sections such as title, author, author affiliation, abstract, background, methodology, data, results, conclusion, and references.
- Design graphs, charts, and tables to show results. Avoid presenting too many variables on a single graph or chart.
- A scavenger hunt type game is being developed based on the information presented in your posters. A prize will be awarded for those conference attendees who can answer questions presented on your work.

A full list of guidelines and requirements can be found on our website at nysena.org/poster_presentation.html

For additional information, please contact: posters@nysena.org

Deadline: April 12, 2026. More information at nysena.org/poster_presentation.html

NYS Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 22th | 9AM – 11AM | Holiday Inn

Are you coming to Saratoga Springs on the 22nd early to be here in time for the conference? Join us for the **NYSENA Council meeting on Wednesday, April 22nd from 9 AM – 11 AM** at the Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn.

Meet your board members and learn about state & national emergency nursing news.

Hear about various NYSENA committee accomplishments.

Questions can be forwarded to the
Conference Committee at conferencechair@nysena.org

Conference Hotel



2026 Setting the Pace Conference Committee

Sue Chalupa-Breese

Conference Chair

Jonathan Green

Speaker Chair

Vepuka Kauari

Speaker Co-Chair

Mary Ellen "Mel" Wilson

Educational Incentive Program Chair

Jinessa Rosado

Educational Incentive Program Co-Chair

Lilia Hageman-Sheehan

Registration Chair

Linda Yonkin

CNE Chair

Louise McEvoy

Welcome Wagon Chair

Maryanne Portoro

Exhibitor Chair

Jonathan Sangas

Exhibitor Co-Chair

Mary Harwood

Poster Chair

Marina Grennan

Poster Co-Chair

Mickey Forness

Raffle Chair

Lisa Kelly

Raffle Co-Chair

Dawn MacMullen

Party Chair

Sue Kossowsky

Party Co-Chair

Grey Goose Graphics, LLC

Conference Logistics / AV Support

Conference Hotel

Holiday Inn

232 Broadway
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
(518) 584-4550

Call the property directly to make a reservation.
Discounted registration of \$149.00 a night available through
April 1, 2026, by using the code "ENA".

Educational Incentive Program

Each year the NYS ENA provides educational incentives to first time RN attendees and Nursing students. This year over 25 incentives were awarded to the attendees wearing pink lanyards. Please extend a warm welcome to them and congratulate them on their award.

More information can be found at nysena.org/scholarships.html



NYSENA Board Members

Eileen Breckenridge
President

Vepuka Kauari
President-Elect

Wendy Allen-Thompson
Immediate Past President

Dawna Scheich / Sue Breese
Treasurer / Treasurer-Elect

Christopher Sorrentino / Carolyn Dixon
Secretary / Secretary-Elect

Tammy Omiecinski Aiken & Mickey Forness
Directors at Large

Comfort & Courtesy Policy/Health and Safety Policies

NYSENA is excited to welcome attendees, drill participants, exhibitors, sponsors, and staff to Saratoga, NY in April 2026 for the Setting the Pace Conference. With COVID, Monkey Pox, Polio, and other health concerns in the media each day, several inquiries have been made regarding how NYSENA is handling these concerns regarding the conference. Our position is as follows:

1. NYSENA encourages all who are not feeling well use common sense. Self-quarantine, stay home, consult your primary physician, etc. Do not expose your fellow colleagues to your illness at Setting the Pace.
2. Your vaccination status is your personal decision and your own business. We will not be requiring proof to attend our event.
3. Masks are not required by NYS, Saratoga County, or the venue. You may elect to wear one, but we are not requiring it.
4. Everything is subject to change. Should NYS, Saratoga County, or the venue make changes to their policies or requirements, we will notify registered attendees using the email address provided at the time of registration. This notification will be made as soon as possible.

Seating Policy

We make every effort to accommodate attendees at the session of their choice. Seating is based on a first come, first served basis and must be occupied at the start of the session. Fire regulations prohibit standing or sitting in the aisles or on the floor.

Videography & Photography

Attendance at the conference constitutes your permission/consent for video and photographs taken and used by NYSENA for future promotional efforts. These photos are for NYSENA use only.

Questions can be forwarded to the
Conference Committee at conferencechair@nysena.org

Special Events



2026 Gala

A Night of Red Carpet Splendor Step into the spotlight and experience the glamour of the 2026 ENA Gala! We invite you to trade your scrubs for evening wear and join us for an unforgettable night of elegance and sophistication. The evening begins on the red carpet, where the energy of the conference transforms into a celebration of style and professional pride. It's more than just a dinner; it's a premier social event designed to give our hardworking emergency nurses the star treatment they truly deserve.

Celebrating Excellence in Emergency Nursing The heart of the evening lies in honoring the extraordinary talent within our community. As we sit down for a curated gourmet dinner, we will pause to recognize the 2026 Award Winners—those exemplary peers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, clinical skill, and dedication to the field of emergency nursing. This is your opportunity to cheer on your colleagues, be inspired by their achievements, and celebrate the collective impact the New York State ENA has on healthcare excellence.

Connection, Community, and Celebration Beyond the accolades, the 2026 Gala is a night for building lasting bonds. Surrounded by the best and brightest in the profession, you'll have the chance to network in a relaxed, beautiful setting, sharing stories and making memories that extend far beyond the clinical environment. Whether you are reconnecting with old friends or meeting new mentors, this evening of food, friendship, and recognition is the crowning jewel of the conference. A fully stocked cash bar will also be available.

Dress to Impress

We invite you to dress for the red carpet.

2026 Emergency Lights and Western Nights

Dust Off Your Cowboy Boots for a Night to Remember!

After a high-intensity day of learning and clinical excellence, it's time to trade your stethoscopes for spurs! Join your fellow emergency nursing colleagues for Emergency Lights and Country Nights, the premier social event of this year's ENA conference. From 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM on Thursday, April 23, 2026, we're transforming the ballroom into the ultimate honky-tonk for a night of relaxation, connection, and high-energy fun. Whether you're a city slicker or a country soul, this is the perfect opportunity to let loose and celebrate the hardworking spirit of the emergency department.

Sing, Dance, and Feast

Get ready to kick up some dust with a full lineup of classic country entertainment. We'll have a professional instructor and caller leading line dancing sets—don't worry if you have two left feet; we're all in this together! If you're feeling bold, step up to the mic for country karaoke and belt out your favorite anthems from Dolly, Garth, or Shania. To keep your energy up, we'll be serving a delicious spread of themed comfort food alongside a fully stocked cash bar featuring signature cocktails and cold brews.

Dress to Impress in Your Western Best

The dress code is simple: Country Casual. We want to see your best denim, plaid flannels, Stetson hats, and, of course, those favorite worn-in cowboy boots. It's all about comfort and character as we swap stories from the floor and build lasting bonds outside the hospital walls. Secure your spot now for an unforgettable evening of rhythm and reassurance—because no one knows how to work hard and play hard quite like an emergency nurse. We'll see you on the dance floor!

Conference and Event Attire



Registration Rates

2026 Setting the Pace Conference Rates.

Registration Type	Early Bird (until 3/19)	Regular Rate
ENA Member	\$250.00	\$325.00
Non-ENA Member	\$275.00	\$350.00
Extra Ticket - Gala Dinner	\$50.00	\$50.00
Extra Ticket - Emergency Lights and Western Nights	\$50.00	\$50.00

Registration Information / Deadline

All registrations must be completed online by noon on April 10, 2026.

NOTE: It's important you register early to take advantage of some of the limited offerings. Check your registration carefully and make sure you indicate the events and any other sessions you wish to participate with. If you do not elect to attend an event at the time of registration, you will NOT be permitted to attend the event once on site. There are no onsite registrations and our staff does not have the availability to alter attendees once registration is closed and "counts" are provided to the hotel and our partners putting on this conference.

REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL FULL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED.

To facilitate receiving confirmation, conference information and CE post conference information, online registration is strongly recommended from your personal e-mail address, not your work/business address.

Cancellation Policy Refund requests must be received in writing.

After March 18, 2026—75%

After April 1, 2026—50%

After April 10, 2026—No REFUND

If you require special materials or services as covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify the hotel registration team and the conference coordinator using the address below. Notices must be received in writing by April 10, 2026.

To Register Online: Go to nysena.org/conference.html

Questions about registration? Please contact: conferencechair@nysena.org

Questions can be forwarded to the
Conference Committee at conference@nysena.org