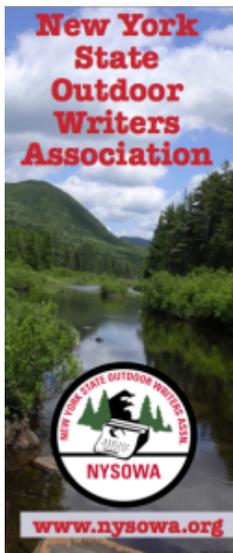


# About Us



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**The NEW YORK STATE OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION, Inc., (NYSOWA)** is a professional organization of writers, editors, artists, photographers, broadcasters, telecasters, lecturers and others dedicated to increasing public awareness, understanding and appreciation of our outdoor heritage and the use and enjoyment of our natural resources. The primary purpose of the organization is to improve knowledge and skill among its members in the art of communication.

**The Declaration of Principles of the NYSOWA was formed:**

- to improve the art and media of expression relative to the out-of-doors and its enjoyment;
- to keep the public informed on matters relating to the earth's natural resources, such as proper management, conservation, use and restoration thereof;
- to encourage the highest standard of ethics in the use

of these resources;

- to weld into every member's character a sense of independence to the end that the flow of their expression on topical matters of interest in the sphere of environmental conservation is without regard to fear of penalty, or favor, either from this association, or any other organization, or governmental unit;
- to promote integrity in its members, while permitting the freest development of their art; and to work for the intellectual, moral, and literary advancement of all members.

## **Annual Events**

### **Spring Safari**

A two- to three-day outing is held each spring, usually in May, in a different location in New York State. The Spring Safari gives the organization the opportunity to address interim business concerns and to provide story opportunities to members through activities unique and applicable to the host area.

### **Annual Fall Meeting**

A general membership meeting is held in the autumn of each year to elect officers and directors and for other administrative purposes. The three-day weekend event also includes craft improvement workshops, outdoor activities unique to the region, supporting member exhibits and demonstrations, and several social events.

## **Contests, Awards and Scholarships**

Every year NYSOWA recognizes the talents of its members through the The Excellence in Craft writing competition and Janice M. Keesler Memorial Photo Contest.

NYSOWA also awards an [scholarship](#) each year to a college

student in good academic standing and who is pursuing a course of study directly related to environmental conservation.

[Officers and Board of Directors](#)

[Past Presidents](#)