



Promoting all libraries in Indiana and fostering
the professional growth of our members

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

The Indiana Library Federation offers a number of awards, honors, and scholarships to recognize outstanding contributions from Indiana's libraries, librarians, library staff, supporters, volunteers, champions, and partners AND to encourage professional growth.

The nomination process opens each spring and closes June 30 for most awards. The ILF Awards, Honors and Scholarships Committee reviews nominations and makes recommendations to the ILF Board of Directors. Most awards are announced at the ILF Annual Meeting in the fall. See www.ilfonline.org for nominating information and deadlines.

Librarians

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Libraries

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Librarians

Federation Leadership Award

Honors and recognizes any person in an ongoing Indiana Library Federation leadership role, or to a member who has achieved stellar success or has performed far beyond the scope of normal expectations for a person in the member's position. This award focuses on persistent and ongoing work or service within or to the Indiana Library Federation.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation personal or trustee member for the current year as well as for the year nominated.
- Nominee has filled an ongoing role with the Federation for a minimum of five (5) years.
- The application should list specific examples of the nominee's service to the Federation.
- Submission of one (1) to two (2) letters of support from Federation members, leaders, the executive director, and/or members of the ILF Executive Board that offer concrete examples of these contributions.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Honors and recognizes a librarian who has rendered outstanding service to Indiana libraries or media centers in his or her local community, throughout his or her region, or the state. This award is intended for an individual who has served ILF for 15 years or more or who has left the library profession after 15 or more years of service. ILF membership for such individuals is not required. This award is *not* only for retirees or soon-to-be retirees. The award may also be given posthumously.

Nominee must have made substantial contributions in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Partnerships and/or networking with others for the benefit of libraries
- Voluntary service efforts
- Generation of new, expanded, and/or creative developments in library or media center services
- Mentoring and outreach to other librarians
- Leadership and performance for a number of years
- Nomination must include submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from professional colleagues, the library community, and employing library (if applicable) that give concrete examples of these contributions

Outstanding Librarian Award

Honors and recognizes excellence and innovative leadership in the development of library service and for remarkable service to the profession. This award is given for both ongoing leadership to an individual library and for development of the profession.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation personal member for the year nominated.
- Nominee must be an MLS/MLIS documented librarian.
- Nominee must exhibit sustained leadership and performance over a period of years.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from the local community, representatives of the local library or media center, and professional colleagues that concretely demonstrate these contributions.

Nominee must have made a substantial contribution in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Resource development
- Expanded, new, and/or creative developments in library services
- Responsiveness to community needs
- Financial management skills
- Mentoring and outreach to other librarians

Librarians

Outstanding New Librarian Award

Honors and recognizes a recent graduate who is making important contributions to his or her employing library and librarianship at large.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation personal member for the year nominated.
- Nominee received his or her library degree no more than three (3) years ago.
- Nominee must be working in a professional capacity.
- Nominee demonstrates a commitment to library in his or her community.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from colleagues, the local library community, and system administration that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Nominee made a substantial contribution in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Communication with library staff, administrators, and the public
- Initiation of special projects
- Contributions to his or her library's impact on its community
- Exceeding the expectations for his or her job description

Outstanding School Librarian Award

Honors and recognizes excellence and innovative leadership in the development of school library service and remarkable service to the profession. This award is given for both ongoing leadership to an individual school library and for development of the profession.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an AISLE member for the year nominated.
- Nominee must hold an Indiana certification for School Library Services or Media Services.
- Nominee must exhibit sustained leadership and performance for five (5) or more years.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from the local community, representatives of the local public library or school library, and professional colleagues showing evidence of two (2) or more areas of accomplishments in the above domain. For more information on these domains, see the AISLE School Librarian Evaluation Rubric at ILFonline.org.

Nominee must have performed at a highly effective level in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Purposeful Planning
- Effective Instruction
- Teacher Leadership
- Collaboration and Innovation
- Mentoring and Outreach to other librarians or media specialists

Outstanding New School Librarian Award

Honors and recognizes a current school librarian who is making contributions to student learning.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an AISLE member for the year nominated.
- Nominee must hold an Indiana certification for School Library Services or Media Services.
- Nominee must have worked as a school librarian for no more than five (5) years.
- Nominee demonstrates a commitment to media services in his or her school(s).
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from, the local community, representatives of the local public library or school library, and professional colleagues showing evidence of two (2) or more areas of accomplishments in the above domains. For more information, see the AISLE School Librarian Evaluation Rubric at ILFonline.org.

Nominee made a substantial contribution in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Purposeful Planning
- Effective Instruction
- Teacher Leadership
- Collaboration and Innovation

Librarians

Peggy L. Pfeiffer (AISLE) Service Award

Honors and recognizes outstanding service to the Indiana Library Federation Association for Indiana School Librarian Educators (AISLE) and to school library programs within Indiana. This award differs from other awards in that the award's focus is work or service within or for AISLE.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation and Association for Indiana School Library Educators (AISLE) personal member for the current year as well as for the previous four (4) years.
- Nominee must have filled his or her role with AISLE for a minimum of three (3) years, served in multiple roles for a minimum of two (2) years, or both.
- Award application must list specific examples of the nominee's benefits to AISLE.
- Application submission must include one (1) or two (2) letters of support from AISLE leaders and board members that demonstrate the nominee's contributions to the group.

Library Staff

Outstanding Library Staff Award

Honors and recognizes a non-MLS certified staff person who has contributed to his or her employing library or media center and librarianship in Indiana.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee exceeds the limits of his or her job description.
- Nominee makes significant contributions to library or media center services and programs.
- Nominee understands and promotes the goals of the library or media center.
- Nominee communicates well with library or media center staff, administrators, and the public.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from colleagues, administration, and the local library community that give concrete examples of these contributions.
- Nominee may be a full- or part-time employee of an Indiana library.

Libraries

Blue Ribbon (School Library) Program Award

Honors and recognizes exemplary school library programs in the state of Indiana. Any school accredited by the Indiana Department of Education may attain this award in a three-year cycle. Individual buildings will qualify for this award. It is not a district award.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- All media specialists applying for this award must be Association for Indiana School Librarian Educators (AISLE) members.
- The application must be submitted by a School Librarian Educator employed full-time in the school that is applying for the award.
- The school must spend a minimum of \$12 per student in general fund money for digital and print resources from the previous one-year funding cycle.
- Documentation must be included to show that the media program meets a majority of the exemplary criteria in each category of the American Association of School Librarians rubric, which is found in *A Planning Guide for Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning (1999)*.
 - o 5 out of 8 must be exemplary for Section A: Teaching and Learning
 - o 4 out of 7 must be exemplary for Section B: Information Access and Delivery
 - o 6 out of 10 must be exemplary for Section C: Program Administration

Libraries

Esther V. Burrin (School Media Project) Award

Honors and recognizes an exemplary project in an Indiana school library program, or a project that impacts or supports school library programs throughout Indiana. Exemplary projects reflect the involvement of students, parents, teachers, and administrators and other educational stakeholders and call attention to the indispensable role of professional staff in providing school library service.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation and AISLE (Association of Indiana School Library Educators) member for the year nominated.
- Award application must include a portfolio of at least six (6) items of documentation for the project. These should include program materials, letters of support, publicity, in-house publications, web-based products, and other pertinent items. (Ideally, the submission will be in electronic form.)

Documentation for the award application should:

- Describe the nominated program;
- Incorporate a statement of rationale for the program;
- Indicate the level of involvement of students, parents, teachers, and administrators or other educational stakeholders;
- Indicate how the program brings attention to the indispensable role of professional staff in providing school library services;
- Include statistical data, if appropriate.

Outstanding Library Award

Honors and recognizes either outstanding library service which consistently exceeds the expectations of the users and serves as an exemplary model for other libraries, or notable expansion or improvement of service based on cooperation with other libraries or community organizations.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation institutional member or its governing body must be a member of the ILF Indiana Library Trustee Association (ILTA).
- Submission of five (5) to ten (10) letters of support from patrons, local community leaders, partnering libraries, and professional librarians that give concrete examples of these contributions and demonstrate that they are an essential service for their community.

Nominee must have made substantial contributions in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Cooperation/partnerships with other libraries and/or community organizations
- Notable service and programming
- Contributions to staff development
- Physical facilities
- Active involvement of Trustees with planning and library development
- Expansion of service

Programming Award

Honors and recognizes a library system or branch of a library system that has successfully provided ongoing, innovative, and diverse programming designed to meet its community's needs.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation institutional member or its governing body must be a member of the ILF Indiana Library Trustee Association (ILTA).

Documentation and supporting information should:

- Incorporate a statement of need/rationale for type of programming;
- Indicate a broad range of programming;
- Represent all departments and areas of the library;
- Include statistical data;
- Provide a portfolio of no more than twenty (20) items of documentation comprised of letters of support, publicity, and in-house publications that give concrete examples of these contributions.
- Awards to branch libraries must indicate that the programming is independent of the system.

Libraries

Sara Laughlin Marketing Award

Honors and recognizes a library for its successful, creative, and contemporary marketing efforts. The award is presented to an institution or part of an institution, e.g., a department, program, or initiative that met the criteria for excellence in its marketing efforts during the year and may include a monetary award. Individuals may not apply. The monetary award (\$1,000) may be given for an exemplary marketing program that:

- Makes creative use of current marketing approaches that focus on two-way communication with library customers and potential customers
- Calls attention to the indispensable role of the library in the community and demonstrates results

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must be an Indiana Library Federation institutional member for the year of presentation
- Submission of five (5) and ten (10) items of documentation comprised of planning and program materials, data, evaluation, letters of support, and in-house publications that give concrete examples of:
 - o How ongoing communication with library customers helped determine needs and measure satisfaction with service;
 - o How data about and from customers was used in making decisions about library services;
 - o How creative use of resources helped carry out the marketing program and meet customer needs;
 - o How the marketing effort resulted in positive outcomes, including creative use, users, or support.

If a monetary award is provided, the receiving library must submit a report about how the funds were used. While there is no formal expectation for use of the award, the donor's intent is to incentivize continued innovation and success.

Library Supporters and Champions

Federation Volunteer Award

Honors and recognizes an individual who has rendered outstanding service to the Indiana Library Federation and has made significant contributions toward furthering the goals of the Indiana Library Federation.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee has made substantial contributions in areas such as (but not limited to):
 - o Creative thinking in problem-solving
 - o Communication with staff, other volunteers and the public

Submission of two (2) letters of support (one from the ILF office and one from an ILF member)

Hoosier Intellectual Freedom Award

Honors and recognizes an individual, organization, or group for promoting, supporting, or encouraging intellectual freedom in Indiana. Any ILF member may forward a recommendation to the ILF Awards & Honors Committee, which may consult with other committees for review. (In 2017, the Danny Gunnells Intellectual Freedom and SIRS awards were combined with this award.)

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must not be an Indiana Library Federation personal, institutional, or trustee member
- Nominee must have made substantial contributions in areas such as (but not limited to):
 - o active promotion of intellectual freedom in sphere of influence and beyond
 - o exemplifying the spirit of intellectual freedom
 - o producing a visible effect of their efforts to promote intellectual freedom and challenge censorship

Library Advocacy Award

Honors and recognizes a state or federal legislator or an individual who has promoted and supported legislative efforts which promote Indiana libraries, media centers, or librarianship. The ILF Legislative Committee forwards a recommendation to the ILF Awards & Honors Committee. The ILF Executive Board votes to ratify this recommendation. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required.

Library Supporters and Champions

Library Champion Award

Honors and recognizes an individual, corporate entity, or group who has rendered outstanding service to Indiana libraries or media centers in their local community, throughout their region, or the state. This award is intended for someone other than a library employee, board member, or trustee who has provided support for Indiana libraries or media centers. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required.

- Nominees must have made substantial contributions such as (but not limited to):
 - physical buildings
 - library collections
 - endowment gifts
 - voluntary service efforts
 - other forms of fiscal support
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from the community that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Outstanding Trustee Award

Honors and recognizes a public library board member for constructive accomplishments toward developing sound library policies and effective service, serving as a liaison between the library and the community, and advancing library service on a community, regional, or statewide level.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must have performed beyond the scope of his or her duties
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from other board members, members of his or her community, and system administration that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Must have made substantial contribution in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Sound fiscal management
- Promotion and participation in local, regional and/or state trustee training sessions
- Development of cohesiveness (team leader) for his or her board
- Understanding and promoting the goals of the library
- Developing and maintaining good relationships with library staff members, library administration, and the community he or she serves

Sena Kautz (Media Center Service) Merit Award

Honors and recognizes a non-media professional in the education field (including school board members and administrators) for exceptional contributions or services which strengthen media center services in a school, community, or across the state. The nominee does not have to be an Indiana Library Federation member, however, a nominee who is an ILF personal or trustee would receive additional consideration.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee's contributions must be of an extraordinary nature with unprecedented benefits to media center service.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Special Situations

Collaboration Award

Honors and recognizes a corporation, organization, individual library, or a group of libraries, that has made significant contributions in the efforts of promoting library services in a community, region, or at the statewide level. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required.

Nominee must have made substantial collaboration efforts in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Promotion of library services in a community, region, or statewide level
- Exhibition of a broad range of collaboration in areas such as programming, technical services, library collections, or other cooperative ventures
- Sound fiscal management (include relevant statistical data, if available)
- Creation or expansion of creative developments in library or school media services
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support from the community that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Partnership Award

Honors and recognizes a corporation, organization, or group that has made significant contributions toward furthering the goals of the Indiana Library Federation and helping the Federation in meeting its mission to support Indiana libraries and media centers and their services. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required. Business contributors and vendors may be considered for this award.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Cooperative collaboration with the Indiana Library Federation to meet one or more goals of the Indiana Library Federation.
- Three (3) to five (5) letters of support from Federation leadership and the community served by the partnership that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Tom Zupancic *Literacy In Libraries* Award

Honors and recognizes community advocacy of literacy in libraries by an individual or organization in cooperation with a library. This award is created to acknowledge outstanding efforts by an individual or an organization in advocating the importance of libraries and literacy programs in a community. The nominee does not have to be an Indiana Library Federation member, however, a nominee who is an ILF personal, trustee, or institutional member would receive additional consideration.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee's contributions must be of an extraordinary nature in advocating the importance of libraries and literacy programs in a community.
- Submission of three (3) to five (5) letters of support that give concrete examples of these contributions.

Continuing Education

The Indiana Library Federation maintains certain funds to support library education and training. Award amounts may vary from year to year, depending upon fund availability. Monetary awards and scholarships are managed and awarded based on donor intent and include specific criteria and expectations for reporting outcomes to ILF.

Scholarship for Professional Development

David Dickey Continuing Education Award

Awarded to individuals who are new to the academic library profession and seeking support for continuing his or her education. An award of up to \$250 may be provided each year to attend a professional conference, such as the ILF annual conference, or to obtain additional training. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required. Previous recipients of this award may reapply. Deadline: June 30.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must have received his or her library degree no more than five (5) years ago
- Nominee must be working in a professional capacity
- Provide documentation and supporting information that describes the continuing education experience sought and its potential benefits to the recipient and institution.

Scholarships for Higher Education

The Esther Schlundt Memorial Scholarship Fund is named in honor of an outstanding reference librarian at Purdue University. This scholarship provides scholarship funding for one or more applicants entering or currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and information science or seeking a Library Technical Assistant Associate Degree. This scholarship is typically awarded in the amount of up to \$1,000 for students pursuing the graduate degree and up to \$750 for students seeking the Library Assistant Associate degree.

The Sue Marsh Weller Memorial Scholarship Fund provides funding for at least one scholarship for applicants entering or currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited program of graduate study specializing in children's librarianship with plans to work with children or youth. This scholarship is typically awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

The William Gresh Memorial Scholarship provides funding for at least one scholarship applicant entering or currently enrolled in a program to receive educational certification in the field of Library Media Services. A scholarship of up to \$1,000 is awarded to use toward an MLS.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:1) Applicant is currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate certification program for Library Media Services.

2) Applicant's program of study must meet the current criteria as set by the Indiana Professional Standards Board.

Scholarships for Higher Education, continued

Guidelines for Scholarship Applicants

All scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of:

- (1) Interest in librarianship as a profession
- (2) Personality and Character
- (3) Academic record
- (4) Economic need, and
- (5) References and/or a personal interview.

Applicants must be legal residents of Indiana. Each must accept employment in an Indiana library within one year after completing his or her library education and must continue to work in an Indiana library for at least one year after accepting employment. If a recipient does not comply with these conditions, the scholarship must be repaid as a loan.

Applicants are responsible for making sure that the materials requested in the scholarship application are received by the Indiana Library Federation office by the posted deadline of June 30.

The following items are necessary for an application to be considered:

- Three (3) letters of recommendation are required. At least one recommendation must be from a librarian. All letters of recommendation should be of a professional nature. References from current or previous employers or supervisors, library trustees, current or previous teachers or professors, or others who comment on your potential as a library professional are acceptable. The letters should comment on one or more of the following:
 - potential in the library profession;
 - employment performance;
 - participation in volunteer and community activities;
 - academic performance.
- For master's candidates:
 - a transcript or copy of official grade report for any library science courses already completed;
 - transcripts of all undergraduate education;
 - transcripts from other graduate work may be included, but are not required.
- For public library certification candidates:
 - a copy of the approved public library certification program;
 - transcripts from undergraduate education and/or high school;
 - transcript or copy of official grade report for any course already taken toward library certification.
- For school library media candidates:
 - a transcript for any education and/or library science courses already completed;
 - a transcript for all undergraduate or graduate work completed.
- For library assistant candidates:
 - a transcript for any education and/or library science courses already completed, including completion of at least 30 of the 60 required credits;
 - a transcript for all undergraduate or graduate work completed;
 - must demonstrate a C or better GPA at the end of their most recent semester.
- A short essay. Essay question is located on the scholarship application.

Questions? Contact the ILF office at (317) 257-2040 or e-mail askus@ifonline.org.