Thank you to all of the 2017 ILF Awards and Scholarship recipients for your dedication to excellence in Indiana libraries.

Indiana Library Federation Awards & Honors Banquet
November 14, 2017
2017 AWARDS, HONORS & SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

Dinner

Welcome
Vicki Builta, Chairperson, ILF Awards, Honors & Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Recipients

Presentation of Awards

Closing Remarks

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Other State and National Awards

• **Muncie Public Library** was awarded the 2017 Library of the Future Award by the American Library Association (ALA). The library was selected for its innovative “Digital Climbers” program that motivates and inspires children ages eight and up to experiment with technology and master skills that contribute to learning in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics.

• **Kathleen Rauth**, media specialist at Center for Inquiry School 27 in Indianapolis, was awarded Teacher of the Year in her school district and voted one of the top 10 teachers in the State by the Department of Education.

• **Monroe County Public Library** was named the 2017 winner of the ALA Excellence in Library Programming Award. MCPL was chosen for their bi-annual event “The Power of Words.” This event is presented by the Library and the Friends of the Library, features an author who writes on important topics of our time: topics that speak to the average citizen’s ability to positively change the world in which we live. The 2015 The Power of Words event featured Congressman and Civil Rights leader John Lewis, who recently had announced the publication of his graphic novel “March,” accompanied by both of the novel’s co-creators, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell, the graphic novelist, who lives and works in Bloomington.

• **Tina Baich**, Head of Resource Sharing & Delivery Services and Bibliographic & Metadata Services at IUPUI, was awarded the George W. Pinnel Award for Outstanding Service. The George Pinnel Award honors faculty members of Indiana University who are considered to be shining examples of dedication and excellence in service to others. Recipients are selected from more than 4,000 faculty members on all eight campuses.

• **Jenny Johnson**, Digital Scholarship Outreach Librarian at IUPUI, was selected as a *Library Journal* 2017 Mover & Shaker. Jenny was also leader of the Digital Scholarship team who were awarded the James J. Bradley Distinguished Service Award by the Society of Automotive Historians.

• The **Indianapolis Public Library** has been named a “Top Innovator” in 2017 by the Urban Libraries Council for its online registration tool that eliminates the face-to-face requirement to obtain a library account. IndyPL is one of 20 urban libraries nationwide to be recognized for innovation and transformation in the communities they serve.
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.

Available Awards

Librarians
• Federation Leadership
• Lifetime Achievement
• Outstanding Librarian
• Outstanding School Librarian
• Outstanding New Librarian
• Outstanding New School Librarian
• Peggy L. Pfeiffer AISLE Service

Libraries
• Blue Ribbon School Library Program
• Esther V. Burrin School Media Project
• Outstanding Library
• Programming
• Sara Laughlin Marketing Award

Library staff without MLS/MLIS credential
• Outstanding Library Staff

Library supporters and champions
• Federation Volunteer
• Hoosier Intellectual Freedom
• Library Advocacy
• Library Champion
• Outstanding Trustee
• Sena Kautz (Media Center Service) Merit

Special Situations
• Collaboration
• Partnership
• Tom Zupancic Literacy in Libraries

Continuing Education (monetary scholarships)
• David Dickey Continuing Education award for new academic librarians
• Esther Schlundt Memorial Scholarship for student in ALA-accredited degree program
• Sue Marsh Weller Memorial Scholarship for student enrolled in ALA-accredited program with specialty in children’s librarianship
• William Gresh Memorial Scholarship for students of school librarianship/school media specialist

Awards, Honors & Scholarship Committee (2017)

Vicki Builta, Chair
South Whitley Community Public Library

Tara White, Past Chair
Elkhart Community Schools

Susie Highley
Indiana Middle Level Education Association

June Kruer
Charlestown Clark County Public Library

Phyllis Nelson
Porter County Public Library System

Marna Hostetler
University of Southern Indiana

Darren Mills - At-large
Ball State University

Monicah Fratena - At-large
La Porte County Public Library

William Helling, Ex-officio
IUPUI School of Informatics and Computing

Dr. David Peter, Ex-officio

Lucinda Nord, Ex-officio

Tisa Davis, Ex-officio
Legislative Advocacy Award
Dr. Tim Brown

Outstanding Library Staff Award
Linda Meid

Outstanding New Librarian Award
Katherine Huddle

Outstanding New School Librarian
Stacey Kern

Outstanding Librarian Award
Nancy Newport

Outstanding Library Award
Lake County Public Library

Programming Award
Vigo County Public Library

Sara Laughlin Marketing Award
Monroe County Public Library

Federation Volunteer Award
Debbie Rzepczynski

Lifetime Achievement Award
Peggy L. Pfeiffer Service Award
Susie Highley

Congratulations to the 2017 Award & Scholarship Recipients!
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FEDERATION VOLUNTEER AWARD

The 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.

Debbie Rzepczynski: grew up in the Lake County Public Library (LCPL) system. Over the past 30 years, she has held numerous positions throughout the library’s branch locations, as well as the Audio Visual Department, Reference Department and Administration. In 2012, Debbie became LCPL’s first Library Skills Trainer - a position she still holds today.

Debbie joined the Indiana Library Federation before 1990 when there weren’t many Audio Visual program offerings and discovered her niche in helping to set up overhead projectors in the conference meeting rooms. Making the transition to LCD projectors and computers, Debbie continues to set up conference rooms at each Indiana Library Federation Annual Conference.

Debbie’s undergraduate background is from Purdue University where she majored in Radio/TV/Film and followed with a Master of Library Science from Indiana University. Quiet time is spent taking photographs of her therapy dog, her drag racing husband and their friends.

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We at Indiana Library Federation (ILF) are proud of this year’s scholarship recipients and hope to see them involved with future volunteer opportunities at ILF during the course of their exciting careers!

The Sue Marsh Weller Memorial Scholarship Fund

This memorial fund provides funding for at least one scholarship in children’s librarianship.

Jennifer Wilson is currently enrolled as a graduate student in the Master of Library Science program at IUPUI. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology/history/pre-law from Purdue University in 2006. Since completing her degree, she has worked in social services as a youth counselor, as well as an educator working with children with special needs in her local school corporation. Four years ago she was offered a job at the Delphi Public Library and says it changed her life. Her work at the library combines the best of both worlds, education and social services, and it has set her on the path to continuing her education to better serve the youth in her community. With her degree, Jennifer hopes to gain more confidence and improved leadership skills that will help her to continue to add value to her library and community.

Esther Schlundt Memorial Scholarship Award

This memorial fund provides funding for two types of scholarships: an applicant entering or currently enrolled in an ALA accredited graduate degree program in library and information sciences; or someone who is entering or currently enrolled in an Indiana State Library-approved library certification program.

Jason Habegger obtained his Bachelors of Science from Purdue University at Fort Wayne in 2000 with a major in biology and an Associate of Science with a major in chemical methods. He has spent time working as a Public Health Inspector at the county and state level, and as a lab technician at a chemical laboratory. Jason began his library adventure by volunteering in the Wells County Public Library Indiana Room in 2010. In 2012, a position in the reference department was offered and he was honored to accept. In public librarianship Jason has found his true calling. It gives him the opportunity to take his passion for lifelong learning and use it to assist his patrons with their information needs. Jason is currently pursuing his Master of Library Science through IUPUI and deeply appreciates ILF awarding him this scholarship.
LIBRARY ADVOCACY AWARD

The 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.

Dr. Tim Brown, State Representative, serves House District 41, which includes portions of Montgomery, Boone and Tippecanoe counties. He was elected as a state representative in 1994. He has served the Legislature in a variety of ways including being appointed as Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Statutory Committee on Ethics. He has served on multiple committees: Education, Rules and Legislative Procedures, Family, Children, and Human Affairs and the Statutory Committee on Interstate and International Cooperation.

As the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Brown has advocated for funding and library-supportive tax policies over many sessions. During the 2017 session, not only did he make sure that library funding is sustained; but also, Chairman Brown fought for additional new funding for internet connection for schools and libraries. ALA even highlighted his efforts and quoted him in a recent article: “Legislators already understand that access to rural broadband is an issue in our state. The Indiana Library Federation helped us understand how many of our children and adults rely on publicly supported internet at libraries in order to complete homework, apply for jobs and interact with government.”

Prior to serving in the Indiana House of Representatives, Rep. Brown was the treasurer for the State Medical Association for four years. He has also been a board member of the Franklin Methodist Retirement Community since September 2005. Rep. Brown recently retired as an Emergency Room Doctor for St. Elizabeth Hospital in Crawfordsville. Rep. Brown is also a member of Indiana State Medical Association.

Rep. Brown has been an advocate and supporter of libraries throughout his personal and professional life. Long ago, he even drove the bookmobile as one of his first jobs.


PROGRAMMING AWARD

The ILF 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 their community’s needs.

The Vigo County Public Library’s (VCPL) mission is to stimulate positive change in the community by creating an environment rich in opportunity in which people can explore, expand their perspectives and transform their own lives and the lives of future generations. The concept of the VCPL’s mission statement includes serving as a community convener for organizations and groups to generate discourse and ideas for improving and increasing sustainability in the community. VCPL strives to be a cornerstone for family, cultural and civic life and to create an environment for exploration, innovation and creativity.

Vigo County Public Library is a leader in innovative and diverse programs that are responsive to the community needs—meeting residents where they are. In addition to traditional programs like Summer Reading, Little Free Library and The Big Read, VCPL partners with agencies to integrate the library across the community. With Parks and Recreation, the library offers Outdoor Explorer Week, Pop Up at the Park, Plug into Nature and Movies and the Park. With a local art museum, VCPL installs displays to extend their exhibition to library patrons, connecting it to literature. With other partners, programs range from HIV testing to Dia Festivals of Nations, from Beekeeping to Art Hacks, from cardio boxing to wearable tech. For each one-time or ongoing program, VCPL designs professional and attractive promotional materials that encourage active participation.

VCPL offers a dedicated space with state-of-the-art technologies and innovative tools. Residents of all ages are able to develop design skills and to manipulate the physical and digital worlds. Responding to the needs of its community, VCPL generates programs and services to help businesses succeed and people find jobs.
OUTSTANDING LIBRARY STAFF AWARD

Linda Meid serves as the “library teacher” at Raymond Park Middle School and Intermediate Academy in Warren Township. Having completed a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education at Central Michigan University, she went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts in Music Performance from University of Iowa where she worked closely with the Music School Librarian. After moving to Indiana from the East Coast, Linda became employed as a Media Clerk with Warren Township Schools and had the privilege of working for 16 years with Susie Highley at Creston Middle School.

Linda and her husband, Jeff, have three grown children who themselves have all been employed during their college careers in school libraries. In her spare time, Linda works for Indianapolis Public Library as a clerk, serves on the Young Hoosier Award Committee and is an avid crafter.

SARA LAUGHLIN MARKETING AWARD

The 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.

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the children’s classic Where the Wild Things Are, Monroe County Public Library and the Friends of the Library presented The Art of Maurice Sendak, featuring 50 original works by Sendak and programs for all ages. The exhibition was part of a national tour that began in 2013, the 50th anniversary of Where the Wild Things Are’s original publication. It included works in a variety of media, and offered highlights of Sendak’s career and the diverse art forms in which he is renowned.

Monroe County Public Library was founded in 1820 and now serves a population of over 140,000 residents through its Main Library in Bloomington, Ellettsville Branch and Bookmobile in service since 1929. Local residents rely on MCPL for its award-winning services and staff, as well as daily access to its collections, computers, meeting spaces and innovative new services like video and sound studios. Monroe County Public Library is led by director Marilyn Wood and is supported by a team of 170 part-time and full-time staff and an active Friends of the Library group.

OUTSTANDING NEW LIBRARIAN AWARD

Outstanding New Librarian Award honors and recognizes a recent graduate who is making important contributions to his or her employing library or media center and librarianship at large.

Katherine Huddle serves as the Computer Training and Support Specialist in the IT Department at the Carmel Clay Public Library. Katherine began her library career as a volunteer in her high school library before attending Herron School of Art and Design, where she was a Chancellor’s Scholar. Katherine began working at the Carmel Clay Public Library while working on her undergraduate degree in Art History. She received her Master of Library Science from IUPUI in 2015 and has been with the library for five years.

Katherine has presented at the Indiana Library Federation Annual Conference since 2014. She is the former Chair of the INSIRSI Users Group and is a member of Indiana University Alumni Association, the Public Libraries Association, the American Library Association and the Indiana Library Federation.
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OUTSTANDING NEW SCHOOL LIBRARIAN AWARD

The Outstanding New School Librarian Award honors and recognizes a current school librarian who is making contributions to student learning.

**Stacey Kern** has been the school librarian media specialist at Clark-Pleasant Middle School (CPMS) since 2014. This is her 20th year working with students. Mrs. Kern is a certified school librarian (grades K-12) holding a Masters Degree in Library Science and a Bachelor’s Degree in Secondary Education, both from Indiana University.

Before coming to CPMS, she was a middle school social studies and English teacher. Mrs. Kern loves being a librarian and talking to students about fantastic books, experiencing makerspace activities with students, and collaborating with Clark-Pleasant staff to ensure positive educational experiences for students.

Stacey is a member of the American Library Association, the Indiana Library Federation, Board Member for the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services and Young Hoosier Book Award Committee member.

OUTSTANDING LIBRARIAN AWARD

The Outstanding Librarian Award honors and recognizes excellence and innovative leadership in the development of library service and for remarkable service to the profession.

**Nancy Newport** serves as the Assistant Director for the Carmel Clay Public Library (CCPL) and in 2015 and 2016 served as the Interim Director for CCPL. She has also served as the Interim Business Manager at various times between 2003 and 2012 and is the manager of the Mobile Library. After receiving her Master of Library Science from Indiana University, Bloomington, Nancy started her career as the OCLC Cataloging Supervisor and original cataloger at Purdue University in West Lafayette.

Nancy is a Lifetime member of the American Library Association and has served on numerous ALA Committees. Nancy has been an active member of the Indiana Library Federation serving on many committees including chair of the Membership Committee and Technical Services Division.

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OUTSTANDING LIBRARY

The 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.

The Lake County Public Library (LCPL) system was established in 1952 thanks to the Public Library Law of 1947. As a fledgling library, LCPL contracted with Gary Public Library for many services until 1959, when LCPL became a fully independent system. The first library headquarters was located in Merrillville, and the system employed 24 staff members. Over the years LCPL added many locations throughout Lake County, including a Carnegie library in Hobart.

Today, LCPL is Indiana’s third largest library, comprising nine locations serving 13 communities. The library system serves a diverse community and is known for its free English as a Second Language and Citizenship courses. LCPL also offers extensive online resources, including research tools for students and businesses, streaming movies, music, eBooks and audiobooks.

For this award, ILF received many letters where patrons, community members, collaborative partners and neighboring libraries described their own examples of Lake County Public Library’s outstanding service. For example, neighboring library directors praised LCPL’s collaborative leadership in its marketing campaign, “How do you Library?” and its Digital Access Cards for students. Recently, LCPL expanded access to these resources by issuing 44,000 digital access cards throughout the library’s school districts, ensuring that students and teachers have a simple way to use some of the best online tools available for education.

LCPL’s attention to its staff and staff morale was noted by partners, citing numerous examples of ways LCPL staff are encouraged to collaborate in the community.

LCPL is led by director Ingrid Norris and is supported by 207 staff members, a very active Board of Trustees, the Lake County Public Library Foundation, and the Friends of Lake County Public Library.