

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

This award is designed to assist WLA members in pursuing educational and professional development activities that will contribute to or enhance their performance in a library career. WLA reserves the right to give the award to one or more recipients with a combined amount of \$1000.

Examples of educational and professional development activities include, but are not limited to:

- * taking a course from an accredited MLS program
- * attending NYLA, PLA, and ALA conferences
- * attending the International Reading Association Conference
- * taking a Children's Literature Course offered at a local College/University
- * participating in a correspondence/virtual on-line university course on any topic that is relevant to your job duties

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for the WLA Professional Development Award an applicant must:

- * be a member in good standing of WLA and not serve on the WLA Board or WLA Scholarship Committee.
- * have not won the scholarship in the past three years.

TERMS OF AWARD:

The recipient shall:

- * use the award monies within 12 months of being selected as the recipient.
- * prepare a one page report for the Board on the class or workshop after its completion. The report should contain feedback concerning how well the course or workshop met the expectations described in the application essay.
- * receive payment of the award monies only upon proof of successful completion of the course, workshop, conference, or program, and presentation of receipts.

WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED TO THE PUBLIC AT THE WLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

If the recipient is unable to complete the terms of the award, he/she must notify the WLA Awards Committee and will forfeit the award.

APPLICATIONS:

[Please click here for the application form](#) The application should include:

* an essay of 1000 words or less, (2-3 pages, double-spaced) describing your professional involvement with library service and stating the purpose/benefits of your taking the course/workshop, or attending the conference/program. MLS students may instead describe their reasons for pursuing a career in libraries, and how the course will help them reach their goals. Include significant library experiences and your activities with any professional associations. Discuss how you see yourself as an active member of WLA now and in the future

* two letters of professional reference.

* an outline/professional description of the course, workshop, conference or program you wish to participate in.

SELECTION PROCESS:

The recipient(s) of the award shall be selected by the WLA Professional Development Committee.

* The WLA Professional Development Committee shall decide if an award is given. The decision will be made by May 1st, 2010, and all applicants will be notified. The Professional Development Award Winner(s) will be announced to the public at the 2010 Annual conference during the general membership meeting.

Deadline for applications:

Applications must be received by April 17, 2010 and may be sent by mail or email to:

Melissa Iamonic, Chair
WLA Professional Development Committee
Chappaqua Library
195 South Greeley Ave
Chappaqua, NY
wlaprofdev@gmail.com