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Thursday, April 15, 2010

FLA Awards Recipients 2009

The Association is pleased to announce the winners of its 2009 awards. Recipients were recognized for their achievements during the Closing Session of the FLA Annual Conference Friday, May 8, 2009 at the Doubletree Hotel at the Entrance to Universal Orlando, in Orlando, Florida.

[Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

John D. Hales, Jr., Suwannee River Regional Library

Throughout his 34 years with Florida libraries, Danny has been a library leader in the state and nationally as well as in local community activities. A champion for rural libraries who leads by example, he has built or remodeled 11 facilities. A past President of FLA, he also served two terms on the ALA Council and other leadership roles in ALA, PLA and state task forces while also leading a wide range of civic efforts in Suwannee County.

[Librarian of the Year Award](#)

Doreen Gauthier, Doreen Gauthier Lighthouse Point Library

Doreen has led the Lighthouse Point Library for 30 years with the motto, "We look for ways to say YES!" which testifies to her approach to community partnerships. In his letter of support, Lighthouse Point Mayor Fred Schorr noted that the city named the library in her honor last year in tribute to her contributions to the library and the community.

[Library of the Year Award](#)

Santa Rosa County Library System, Linda Hendrix, Director

In 2006 the Santa Rosa County Library System became independent after more than 40 years as part of a regional system. In 2007-08 the new system saw significant increases in multiple measures of library service, including increases of 13% in circulation and 21% in visitors as it launched a volunteer program, renovated a branch and started new outreach programs.

[FLA Leader of the Year Award](#)

Tom W. Sloan, Executive Director, Southeast Florida Library Information Network

An active and highly engaged Director on the FLA Executive Board, Tom generously shared his expertise and resources enabling the FLA Board to use SEFLIN's online meeting software to allow remote participation, helping the Leadership Development Committee to hold a successful workshop, and making possible a survey of training interest in south Florida.

[Outstanding Citizen Award](#)

Thomas D. "Doug" McNamara, Mumford Library Books

For over 25 years Doug has befriended librarians and supported libraries in Florida and beyond. The Florida scenes depicted in posters commissioned annually for Library Day are only one aspect of his strong and ongoing support of FLA's legislative efforts. Doug's concern for libraries makes Mumford a favorite destination for hands-on book selection.

[Friends, Foundations & Boards Outstanding Member Award](#)

Lynn Pippenger, Greater Largo Library Foundation

As a board member and past President of the Greater Largo Library Foundation, Lynn used her business background to strengthen the Foundation's board and to improve its finances and investments. She has provided her time, talent and financial support to the Largo Library resulting in new programs featuring authors, artists and business leaders.

[Chavez-Hernandez Libraries Change People's Lives Award](#)

Michael G. Gunde, Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library Services

Mike is a nationally recognized advocate for library services for the print disabled. With his leadership, the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library Service has expanded its services to the Spanish community through recordings, forms available in large type and access to a Spanish-speaking reader advisor. In her letter of support, Kathy Mayo, the 2008 winner of this award, said, "Mike is a unique resource for Florida and has helped to make the state's libraries vital and accessible for people with disabilities."

[Public Library Web Site Award](#)

St. Johns County Public Library, Debra Rhodes Gibson, Director

St. Johns County Library Advisory Board nominated the library's web site for its attention to patron satisfaction and use of Web 2.0 tools, social bookmarking utilities and patron book reviews.

[Academic Library Web Site Award](#)

Gulf Coast Community Library, V. Sue Hatfield, Director

Design and usability are key features of the Gulf Coast Community Library web site. The site includes an easy-to-use Interlibrary Loan form and the use of EZproxy to increase student access to content. The site is also ADA compliant, including access to course videos and the catalog.

[Betty Davis Miller Youth Services Award](#)

Seminole Community Library, Michael Bryan, Director

The "Techno Pop Teen Summer Reading Program - Teen Thursdays" at Seminole Community Library offered youth in grades 6-12 an array of exciting programs including Duct Tape Mania, Fear Factor, DIY Henna Tattoos and Hemp Jewelry, Anime Cafe', Get Your Game On! and a Tech Show 'n' Tell. Kimberly Goonis is Youth Services Supervisor. The Betty Davis Miller Award is presented by FLA's Youth Services Member Group.

Friends, Foundations & Boards Member Group Awards

Presented at the May 8, 2009 Luncheon

[Newsletter of the Year](#)

Friends of South County Regional Library (Lee County)

Their "Friends-To-Friends" newsletter supports and promotes South County Regional Library. This very colorful and professional newsletter is available in print and via their web site. The layout invites the reader. The subject and journalistic approach maintains interest. The in-depth coverage makes this much more than just a membership communication tool.

[Special Projects Award](#)

Friends of the Fort Lauderdale (Broward County) Libraries

A project to increase visibility to create more interest in the Friends, use the Book Fair to attract members and to make the organization better recognized within the community. A new eye catching Logo was designed. Updated brochures, new signs for the book fair, banner to hang in the library and a bookmark were developed around the new logo. The community outreach provided donated books to the American Heart Association to sell and "Books on the Menu" was inaugurated with Meals on Wheels, with all books having a special "donated by" label inside. An extra benefit realized

was the reenergizing of the people involved in the project.

[Outstanding Program Award](#)

Friends of the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (Broward County)

The goal of the Season of Excellence cultural series is to cultivate and showcase the organization as a creditable event presenter and help local artists to better utilize the high-quality resources available at AARLCC. This yearly project showcases local talent and introduces the community to a structured presentation of diverse activities through workshops, performances and presentations. Held in the auditorium at the center, the hope is that many attendees will return to take advantage of other programs and services at the library.

[Friends Web Site Award](#)

Friends of South County Regional Library (Lee County)

The web site is seen as a primary vehicle for providing awareness of the jewel in the community that the South County Library represents and to assist the Friends in meeting their mission. The colorful, well designed web site is appealing, easy to navigate and includes information on Friends, the Library and links to other pertinent groups. The self purging calendar of events is a great feature which means that no outdated events remain on the site. Activity on the site continues to grow each year.

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