



Guidelines for the UHLS Library Program of the Year Award

The Program of the Year Award was created to recognize outstanding programs in the member libraries. Two Awards will be given, one for **urban/suburban** libraries and one for **rural** libraries. It is the library's choice under which category to apply. Libraries may submit more than one nomination but should be aware that only one award will be given in each category.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to be considered, nominees must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- *Program must have been initiated during the prior calendar year.*
- *Any program - adult, outreach, young adult, children, community services or public relations is eligible.*
- *Selection is based on programs that have demonstrated creativity and innovation, involved community partners, enhanced services to the community, or reached a previously unserved constituency.*
- *The program must have pursued excellence in library services and sought to have the library make a difference in the community.*
- *The program should have taken place during a specific time period in the year and not be an ongoing library service. However, it may be a special program that enhanced or expanded a current service.*

EXAMPLES OF POTENTIAL AWARD WINNERS

- *The Geeks from Oz The Library, in partnership with the Youth Commission, worked with children ages 10-15 to create a stage production on a teen-sensitive issue. The children wrote and performed an original play about bullies and bullying. The children wrote the script in the Library, typed it on the Library's computers, and used the computers to research set design and to make posters to publicize the play. Children who rarely, if ever, went to the Library began to use it on a regular basis.*
- *Learn, Bake and Tell The program partnered children with senior citizens and involved them in oral history interviews, writing, and baking. The project culminated in a recipe book with photographs of the participants and their stories.*
- *Adult Summer Reading The program was originally intended for the parents of the children enrolled in the Youth Summer Reading Program. The parents were to serve as reading models for the children. However, the program quickly expanded, and participants included a broad spectrum of the community. The books read during this program were compiled into a summer reading bibliography and distributed on bookmarks.*
- *World War II This program was a series of discussions, films, and exhibits. The sixteen major events had an attendance of over 1,480 people. The program drew together local scholars, organizations, and veterans, and reached a new library audience.*

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

- *A program may be nominated by the library director, by a trustee or by a community member. The nomination should be accompanied by supporting materials.*
- *One of two categories must be selected under which to make the nomination: urban/suburban or rural.*
- *The UHLS Services Committee will review the nominations and select the award recipient.*
- **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: March 18, 2011**

NOMINATION REVIEW CRITERIA

- **Quality of the nomination**
 - a. *Clear, concise description of the Program*
 - b. *Effective supporting materials*
- **Program start-up**
 - a. *The Program was initiated during the prior calendar year and is not an ongoing service*
 - b. *The Program enhanced or expanded a current service*
- **Program effectiveness**
 - a. *The Program demonstrated creativity and innovation*
 - b. *The Program involved community partners*
 - c. *The Program enhanced services to the whole community and/or*
 - d. *The Program reached a previously under-served constituency*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD

- *The winner will be announced at the May UHLS Board meeting and the award will be presented at the June Annual Meeting.*
- *The award will consist of a framed certificate honoring the library's achievements.*
- *In the event that representatives from the Award-winning libraries are not present at the Annual Meeting, the certificates will be sent to the libraries' Directors for presentation at their next Board meeting.*