

2008 SSLA Bursary and Awards

Saskatchewan School Library Association

This year's SSLA Bursary and Award Ceremony was held on May 14, 2008 at the Saskatoon Club during the conference luncheon. Each year, the SSLA honours individuals who have demonstrated leadership and distinguished service to school libraries in Saskatchewan. The bursary and awards are named after individuals who were dedicated to school libraries and made significant contributions to the profession of teacher-librarianship. The SSLA offers four possible awards and is pleased to announce three were awarded this year. For more information on the SSLA awards, please visit http://www.ssla.ca/awards/awards.htm

Dr. Alixie Hambleton Bursary

The Saskatchewan School Library Association offers annually a bursary valued at \$500 to a student registered at a recognized Canadian university in an undergraduate or graduate program in Education with the award to be used for a course in school librarianship. The award is based on academic achievement and financial need.

Applications must include a letter of intent, letter of reference and transcript of marks.

This year's recipient is Erin Walton. Erin is a teacher-librarian with the Regina Public School Board. She is currently taking classes in teacher-librarianship through the University of Alberta.

Connie Acton Award of Merit

The Connie Acton Award is presented to an individual who has:

- Made a significant contribution to school library programs to benefit students.
- Had an influential role in developing school and division libraries.
- Worked toward making the association an effective agency for the promotion of sound school library development and practice.
- Supported the planning, implementation and maintenance of library services at all levels.

This year's recipient is Lucille Dubé. Lucille is a teacher-librarian at Walter Murray Collegiate in the Saskatoon Public School Division. As indicated in her nomination, "Lucille is highly regarded for her tireless work of promoting and enhancing the professional image of the teacher-librarian." Her many accomplishments include:

- Developing an online program "Navigating the Research Highway," based on the progression of information literacy skills for K-8 and built to suit the middle and secondary school learner.
- Continuously working to encourage secondary teacher-librarians to develop an informal professional growth network.
- Instrumental in involving high school students in the Literacy Conference Committee.
- Co-presenter at Showcase 2008 on the topic of "Prescription for Authentic Engaging, Student Assignments.
- Co-presenter at the Beginning Teachers Conference on the topic of "Resource Based Learning."

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John G. Wright Distinguished Service Award

The John G. Wright Distinguished Service Award is presented to an individual who has:

- Provided leadership in formulating, instituting, and implementing school library policies and practices which have resulted in the improvement of teaching and learning.
- Effectively interpreted school library services to students, teacher and/or the community.
- Provided outstanding contributions to school library development at the provincial level.

This year's recipient is Carlene Walter. Carlene is a teacher-librarian at Osler School. In the fall of 2008, she will begin a new position as a Learning Support Facilitator with Prairie Spirit School Division. As indicated in her nomination, Carlene exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and resource based learning. Her many accomplishments include:

- Co-facilitating "Meet the Stars," an online course of Web 2.0 tools and their applications.
- Mentoring with the American Library Association's New Member Round Table Career Mentoring Program.
- Member of the SYRCA's Shining Willows committee.
- Collaborating on units involving inquiry-based learning through the use of information literacy skills, story enjoyment and technology tools.
- Maintaining several blogs and wikis designed to provide technology assistance and professional development opportunities related to teacher-librarianship.
- Webmaster and editor for the Saskatchewan School Library Association.
- Recipient of the 2008 Canadian Library Association's Angela Thacker Memorial Award.

Congratulations once again!

Please consider nominating worthy individuals for next year's award ceremony.