

excellence.

Recognizing excellence in writing will encourage future members to write and submit articles to *YALS*, and these articles will inform and educate members so that they can continue to be effective in their work. Additionally, increased submissions to *YALS* can help ensure that the journal retains a reputation for authority and quality.

By establishing the first YALSA award that recognizes excellence in writing, the Division is creating another venue for acknowledging the contributions of its Members, as well as creating additional value for a YALSA membership.

IV. Number and Frequency of Award

There will be two awards for each volume: one for a winner, one for honorable mention.

V. Selection of Jury to Administer the Award

The jury for this award will consist of the *YALS* Editorial Advisory Board and the editor-in-chief.

VI. Deadline for Nomination of Candidates

After the Summer issue is published each year (in July), the Editorial Advisory Board and the YALS Editor-in-Chief will review articles from the previous volume, based on the criteria stated below. The final decision will be made by the end of the Midwinter Meeting of the following calendar year.

VII. Selection of Award

Criteria for eligibility are:

Author(s) must be a personal YALSA member(s) at the time the manuscript is submitted.

Articles must have been published in *Young Adult Library Services* the previous volume.

Articles must be feature length (1,500-8000 words).

Selection is based upon the quality and appropriateness of the submitted manuscripts. Manuscripts will be selected based on the following criteria: applicability to a variety of library settings, originality of ideas, persuasiveness of arguments, quality of writing, clarity of presentation, and contribution to the YALSA membership.

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The winner will receive \$500 and a plaque; honorable mention will receive \$200 and a plaque. If there are co-authors for an article, they will share the cash prize equally and each of them will receive a plaque.

X. Funding

The award will be funded in its first year through *YALS* subscription revenues. In subsequent years, it would be strategic to have a sponsor for this award.

Potential sponsors include ALA Editions, Baker & Taylor (Baker & Taylor’s YBP subsidiary funds LLAMA’s writing award; B&T also owns Blackwell’s, which sponsors ALCTS’ writing award), Ex Libris (funds LITA’s writing award), or H.W. Wilson (H.W. Wilson advertises in *YALS* and funds other ALA awards).

YALS Writing Award	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015
Cash award for honoree	700	700	700	700
Creation of plaque for honorees	160	160	160	160
Administrative costs/PR/staff time	140	140	140	140
TOTAL EXPENSES	1000	1000	1000	1000

XI. Catalog description of Award

The Young Adult Library Services Writing Award recognizes the contribution of a YALSA member who has written an article for the association’s journal that is timely, original, relevant to YALSA members, and well-written. The purpose of the cash award will be to encourage and engage members by rewarding their work and to encourage members to contribute to their professional journal.

XII. Evaluation of the Award Program

At the end of the first two years, the award will be reevaluated by a task force appointed by the President and composed of YALSA members. Reevaluation is to include: discussion of any changes needed in policies, procedures, and criteria; determination of continuation of the award; determination of need to expand the award to include the research journal or other YALSA publications.