

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
Conference Call
March 5, 2009

Topic: Teen Service Award Proposal

Background: YALSA's Board charged the Youth Participation Committee with developing a proposal for a teen service award. Their proposal is provided below.

Action Required: Action

Teen Services Award Proposal

Proposed name of the award ideas:

Teen Library Service Award

Definition, purpose:

The Teen Library Service Award recognizes a teen sponsored by a YALSA member who through recognized library service has contributed significantly to the local library community. A teen group may receive the award in place of an individual teen. Award-recipients shall be judged on the measurable impact of their service to the local community, the demonstrated dedication and creativity of that service, and its integration into the goals and objectives of the local library in which service was rendered.

Criteria:

Teen between 12-18 years of age

Must be a volunteer, employee, or other affiliate of any library related organization

Teen must have a library sponsor who is also a YALSA member

Sponsor will complete recommendation form that demonstrates significant contribution to library services including but not limited to: documentation of services rendered to library, essays (essays must be no longer than one page typed, double spaced and no more than three essays may be submitted per application), recommendations by Teachers and other members of the surrounding community.

Rationale:

The Youth Participation committee's function as stated is "To establish guidelines and/or procedures to involve young adults in the decision-making process which directly affects their

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access to information and library service at local, state and national levels and providing continuing education and public professional awareness of youth participation.”

YALSA’s Vision Statement includes recognition that “young adults are actively involved in the library decision-making process.” YALSA’s Strategic Plan envisions a future in which “all teens are library users and advocates,” and “teens are contributing to the development of their library services.” In light of this vision, the Youth Participation Committee wishes to provide initiatives to teens who are already exemplifying these behaviors. Additionally, the committee recognizes the efforts made by youth librarians to foster participation for this award.

Sponsor ideas: Comcast, Microsoft, Apple, Baker and Taylor, Gale, Brodart, Gaylord, Ingram, etc.

Catalog description of Award:

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Evaluation of award program:

A task force made up of YALSA members will reevaluate the award after the first 2 years in regard to: any changes that need to be made, whether it will continue and if so how often, how to better market and promote the award, if the process for identifying successful candidates is working, and the status of sponsor involvement.