

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia
January 11-16, 2008

Topic: State Conference Stipends Guidelines

Background: At the 2007 Midwinter Meeting the Board voted to set aside \$1,000 each year to provide for small stipends for members to present an official YALSA program at a state or regional conference. An ad-hoc group of Board members was established to work on this. At the Annual 2007 conference three additional questions were developed regarding the stipend and its application process and new members were assigned to the Board ad-hoc committee. The proposed guidelines are provided below.

Action Required: Action

Topic: Guidelines for Conference Stipends
Submitted by: Amy Alessio, Nick Buron, Erin Heimrich

1. Accept the guidelines and application
2. Develop either a jury or Board sub group to review the applications beginning in 2008, for the first batch turned in by the June 1 deadline.

Questions from Annual 2007:

1. How do we feel about the person receiving any other payment from other source for this same conference? Should this enter into final selection?

The committee feels that it is fine to offer payment to a person who is receiving some supplement from their work funds or another source. We feel that it will inspire possible applicants to promote YALSA through their presentation. We feel that the applicant should devote a significant portion of their presentation to YALSA initiatives and that when accepting this stipend would sign an agreement indicating that certain points would be covered and materials handed out. For example, a presentation on gaming would mention relevant YALSA publications and committees, and have membership and topic-relevant materials as program handouts.

2. Does the person need to have been directly tied in with the presentation, as in a member of a committee or Board member or any other string?

We do not feel that this is a requirement for receiving the stipend, as long as the presentation is organized, well executed and containing relevant YALSA highlights. One example brought up was that a past member of TRW might be a good person to give that year's program presentation even though they were not currently on the committee.

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We do feel that committee members and Board members may have weighted applications to encourage them to make presentations at their local conferences. This would be mentioned in the publicity and to the Board or jury appointed to review the applications. When the stipend is approved, special mention of it could be promoted on YALSACOM and at Leadership Development meetings.

We also felt that it was necessary to inquire about experience in presentations for applicants. Also, we were interested in whether or not the presenter was invited to speak, as that is often an indication of a good reputation or expertise in a topic.

3. Are some conferences more acceptable/favorable than others? Is there an estimated size of audience that would weigh in someone's favor? Conference recognition – as in Texas Library Association is better known than Delaware Library Association?

At Annual, the Board suggested application processes with December and June 1 deadlines, so that more conferences could be reached through the stipends. We also discussed the benefits of having smaller honorariums, with more representation at more conferences would be preferred - over setting a base \$ amount and only accepting "x" # of presentations a year etc.

The committee feels that the applicants should be awarded where possible to targeted areas and conferences rather than simply to the best programs and presenters. For example, many SUS trainers live in NY, where there is already a high number of YALSA members. Several applicants from NY may meet the criteria for stipends but a targeted approach will help the stipend reach more new potential members and markets.

We feel that either the jury or Board members reviewing the applications will need information from the Virtual Regional Advisory Board and office twice a year to determine a. which areas have the lowest YALSA membership and b. which conferences or events are likely to draw the largest number of attendees. 11 Tw 1ocur.t od and owwould

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(Changes since Annual 2007 are starred.)

Name:

Address (to which check should be sent):

YALSA member YES_**_____ NO_____ ALA Membership Number

**Committee feels it should be YALSA members only who would be vested in the organization and able to best discuss benefits of joining but that ALA membership number should still be requested for verification.

Conference at which presenting:

Date: _____ Location: _____

**How often does this conference occur? (rather than: Is this an annual event and if not please explain)

Topic and Details of Presentation:

**Which YALSA themes, events, projects or committees work does this most closely match?

Please describe your related experience(s) to this topic, either through YALSA, your work or your personal interests:

**Please list presentation or other relevant experiences: