

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

**Topic:** Student Scholarship Proposal

**Background:** At the 2007 Midwinter Meeting, the Board voted to establish a task force to “develop a proposal, including funding elements, for a student member conference scholarship, as requested per Item 20 on the Board Agenda, and to report back to the Board by Annual 2007.” The Taskforce is providing its award proposal below.

**Action Required:** Action

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Student Scholarship Task Force Final Report  
December 6, 2007

Task Force Members: Carleen Huxley, Cathi MacRae, Judy Sasges, Jami Schwarzwaldler, Cheryl Ward, Terry Beck (chair)

The Student Scholarship Task Force has been meeting through email throughout 2007 and a majority of the members were able to meet at Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June. Our discussions (online and in-person) were very productive and we benefited from a member’s experience with the Baker & Taylor Scholarship.

1. Library staff is Proposed name of award  
**Corporate Sponsor Name Student Scholarship**
2. Definition & purpose of award  
**The student scholarship award will be created to recruit library school students into the field of Teen Librarianship by introducing them to the programs, committees, and meetings that take place during the ALA Annual Conference.**
3. Rationale for award  
**As we welcome a new generation of young adult/teen librarians, we need to assist them with conference attendance. Most of these students are using financial aid to fund their education and do not have the discretionary income to pay for airfares, hotels, and conference registration fees. This scholarship’s assistance will not be limited to the financial aspect of it, rather, it will include a mentoring process so that the conference attendance is a worthwhile experience.**
4. Number & frequency of award (how many winners & how often awarded?)  
**One winner, annually**

5. Administration of the award (jury structure & charge)  
**A 3 person jury/committee will be formed and will work virtually—no in person meeting is necessary since the applications can be submitted electronically.**  
  
**The committee's charge is to select an applicant who demonstrates genuine interest in pursuing a career as a librarian serving teens.**  
  
**One of the committee members must attend the conference and act as a mentor to the scholarship winner. The mentor will work with the winner to coordinate a schedule that will give the winner a complete ALA experience.**
6. Screening of nominations (eligibility, award criteria, nomination process, voting procedures)  
**Any student currently enrolled in an ALA Accredited Masters program who has demonstrated interest in Young Adult/Teen librarianship may apply.**  
  
**The application forms will be similar to the Baker & Taylor award form and will include a list of relevant coursework, involvement, recommendations from other librarians, and a short essay. Questions to direct the short essay:**
  - a. What do you hope to learn or experience at ALA Annual?
  - b. Describe your vision for library service to teens over the next 3-5 years.
  - c. Tell us about your experience working with teens, either professionally or as a volunteer.**The committee will meet virtually and discuss each application. A simple majority will decide the winner.**
7. Presentation of award (given when, by whom & how)  
**Announce at Midwinter Meeting, present check and certificate at Annual Membership Meeting.**
8. Form &/or type of award (cash, plaque, etc)  
**Up to \$2000 to cover the cost of travel, housing, registration, and some events**
9. Funding, expenses, revenues (from endowment, sponsor, etc.)  
**Recommend a corporate sponsor be found for this scholarship, to be determined by YALSA.**
10. Catalog description of award (how you want it to read in the ALA Handbook)  
**To select annually one student in an ALA Accredited Masters program who has demonstrated interest in Young Adult/Teen librarianship to receive the XXXX/YALSA Student Scholarship. Term: from the end of Annual Conference through the following Annual. Jury size: 3.**
11. Evaluation of award program (formal process for measuring its success).

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