

2023 Service Awards & Descriptions

Emerging Leader Award.....	2
Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.....	2
Excellence in Special Libraries Award	3
Excellence in Tribal Libraries Award	3
Extraordinary Program Award	3
Follett School Librarian of the Year Award	4
Innovator Award	4
Library Leadership Award	4
Library Volunteer of the Year Award	5
Newton & Betty Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award.....	5
Outreach Services Award.....	5
Outstanding Adult Services Award	6
Outstanding Volunteer Coordinator Award.....	6
Outstanding Young Adult Services Award	6
Outstanding Youth Services Award.....	6
Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician Award.....	7

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Emerging Leader Award	This award is open to any person working in a library who shows exceptional promise as a leader in the field. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals with strong leadership potential in order to encourage them to take on roles of increasing responsibility in library work.	<p>Criteria for the award include one or more of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creation of innovative programs or services; • creating a positive vision, communicating it to others, and inspiring and guiding others to achieve it; • making exceptional use of local, state, or national library resources including grants; • actively participating in professional library organizations on a local, state, regional, or national level; • showing a commitment and belief in the vitality, flexibility and future of library service; and / or • having two (2) full years of full-time library service in Arizona prior to nomination and no more than five (5) years work history.
Excellence in Academic Libraries Award	This award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to academic librarianship or library development in their community college, college, or university library. This individual has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service within the library community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominees must work in a community college, college, or university library. • Has made a significant contribution by any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrating the value of academic libraries ○ Enhancing the image of academic librarians and/or academic libraries ○ Promoting an accessible and positive climate in the library ○ Advancing community relations ○ Initiating a new library service or program • This award will be given to an academic librarian or an individual working to support academic libraries.

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Excellence in Special Libraries Award	<p>This award is given to an individual who has significantly contributed to special librarianship or development in their special library. This individual has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service within the library community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nominees must work in a special library; medical, law, museum, archive, etc. ● Has made a significant contribution by any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrating the value of special libraries ○ Enhancing the image of special librarians and/or special libraries ○ Promoting an accessible and positive climate in the library ○ Advancing community relations ○ Initiating a new library service or program ● This award will be given to a special librarian or an individual working to support special libraries.
Excellence in Tribal Libraries Award	<p>This award is given to an individual who has significantly contributed to tribal libraries. This individual has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service within the library community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nominees must work in a tribal library. ● Has made a significant contribution by any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Demonstrating the value of tribal libraries ○ Enhancing the image of tribal librarians and/or tribal libraries ○ Promoting an accessible and positive climate in the library ○ Advancing community relations ○ Initiating a new library service or program ● This award will be given to a tribal librarian or an individual working to support tribal libraries.
Extraordinary Program Award	<p>This award is given to the library, librarian, or library-related group who presented an innovative program demonstrating creativity, quality, and positive community impact. This award is open to all library types.</p>	<p>Programs must have been offered and completed within the current or prior year, and can be an ongoing program or event. The program must positively impact the local community and the library. Programs should exemplify values of education or information, equity, diversity, and inclusion, and community engagement. Applicants need to show evidence of a positive public relations benefit occurring as a result of the program.</p>

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Follett School Librarian of the Year Award	This award is given to an individual who serves as a model for implementing the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Standards. Follett School Library Resources sponsors this award. Will gift a \$500 Titlewave voucher to the Arizona Teacher Librarian award recipient.	Nominees must be certified school library media specialists (with or without MLIS) in Arizona who demonstrate notable or outstanding performance in the areas of collaboration with classroom teachers, educational leadership, technology, and advocacy for school libraries.
Innovator Award	This award recognizes librarians or project teams who have made an outstanding recent contribution to advance a library's mission through an innovative project, program or service.	Projects, programs, or services should demonstrate creativity, quality, and innovation within the context of an institution. Innovation is doing something in a new way. Innovation can be a brand new idea or refining something that's always been done with great results. Innovation will be considered very broadly and is not limited to technology.
Library Leadership Award	This award is presented to an active or retired library administrator or manager (as defined by his / her institution and may include director, adult services supervisor or similar position) with an MLS or its equivalent, and/or the equivalent degree in Archives or Museum Studies.	<p>Criteria include significant accomplishments and leadership over the past three (3) years in Arizona in several of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting libraries/library service in Arizona; • Legislative activity and support; • Mentoring-own institution, state-wide, or regionally; • Staff development: own institution, state-wide, or regionally; • Professional publications; • Contributions to the future of the profession; • Raising the profile of the profession; • Raising the profile of the library: own institution or libraries in Arizona or the MPLA region; and/or • Significant participation in a special project relating to libraries or library service. <p>Explanatory Note: This award differs from the Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award in the length of service being considered and the area of effectiveness; i.e., it could be limited to one's own institution rather than to the region. Also, a professional degree is required.</p>

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Library Volunteer of the Year Award	<p>This award is open to any individual or group serving in a volunteer capacity in any library. Nominees should exemplify exceptional library service. Emphasis will be placed on activities that go beyond the standard requirements of good library service and the nominee's investment of personal time.</p>	<p>Nominees must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● activities that go beyond the standard requirements ● investment of personal time
Newton & Betty Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award	<p>This award is presented to an active or retired layperson or librarian. Emphasis is placed on effectiveness regionally or state-wide, rather than limited to the institution where the individual worked.</p>	<p>Criteria include significant accomplishments and leadership over the past ten (10) years in Arizona in several of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of libraries and library services in Arizona; • Active support of AzLA; • Legislative activity and support; • Mentoring; • Staff development; • Professional publications; • Contributions to the future of librarianship and information science as a profession; • Raising the profile of work in libraries; • Raising the profile of the library in Arizona; and / or • Significant participation in a special project relating to libraries or library service. <p>Explanatory Note: This award differs from the Library Leadership Award in the length of time the individual served the Arizona library community, the effect of the accomplishments throughout the state, and because the individual is not required to have an M.L.S.</p>
Outreach Services Award	<p>The Little Chapel of All Nations, Tucson, provides a monetary award to the library, librarian, library staff, or library related group or person that provides exemplary library outreach services to unserved, underserved, or minority populations.</p>	<p>Nominees must demonstrate notable and outstanding performance in producing, developing and promoting programs, services, collections, and reading activities for the unserved, underserved, or minority populations of their community.</p>

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Outstanding Adult Services Award	The Outstanding Adult Services Award is given to an individual who provides exemplary services, programs, collections, and events to the adult community.	Nominees must demonstrate notable and outstanding performance in producing, developing and promoting programs, services, collections, and reading activities for adults in their libraries and communities.
Outstanding Volunteer Coordinator Award	This award is given to an individual who demonstrates excellence and service in promoting, coordinating, and directing library volunteers.	Individuals nominated for this award must have recruited, engaged, and/or managed volunteers from January 2022-present. Criteria includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● exhibited exemplary professional and positive attitude among staff and volunteers ● promotes involvement and cooperation among all volunteers ● demonstrates measurable positive impact for the organization
Outstanding Young Adult Services Award	The Outstanding Young Adult Services Award is given to an individual who serves as a model for the important role Teen Services (ages 12-18) plays in public libraries. Nominees may be Teen librarians or support staff who service teens in those capacities in any Arizona public Library.	Nominees must demonstrate notable and outstanding performance in producing, developing and promoting programs, services, collections, and reading activities for teenagers in their libraries and communities.
Outstanding Youth Services Award	The Outstanding Youth Services Librarian Award is given to an individual who serves as a model for the important role Youth Services (ages 0-11) plays in public libraries. Nominees may be Children's, Young Adult, or Youth Services librarians, or support staff who serve youth in those capacities, in any Arizona public library.	Nominees must demonstrate notable and outstanding performance in producing, developing and promoting programs, services, collections, and reading activities for children and/or preteens in their libraries and communities.

Award	Description	Recipient Requirements
Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician Award	This award is given to an individual who has served as a model of the important role that the paraprofessional plays in providing quality library service and has exemplified an integral part of the paraprofessional performs as a library staff member.	Nominees will be judged on the basis of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated on-the-job excellence, as noted by their supervisors; • Support and enhancement the services of the library where they work; • Evidence of interest in continuing education and other learning opportunities; • Service to AzLA and other library organizations; and /or • Participation in other noteworthy community activities will also be considered.