



## **AzLA Service Awards**

Each year AzLA gives Service Awards to individuals and groups making a difference in Arizona Libraries. These awards are presented at the AzLA Awards Breakfast or Luncheon at the Annual Conference. For more information and to find the nomination form, please [see the website](#). The deadline to submit an award nomination is August 15, 2013.

### **Library Leadership Award**

Presented to an active or retired library administrator or manager (director,

manager, adult services supervisor or similar position) with an Masters of Library Science who is an AzLA member.

Criteria include significant accomplishments and leadership over the past THREE years in Arizona, in several of the following areas:

- Promoting libraries/library service in Arizona
- Legislative activity and support

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## **AzLA Conference Call for Proposals**

Deadlines are fast approaching for program proposals for the AzLA 2013 conference!

The Arizona Library Association's Annual Conference will be held November 13-15, 2013 at the Radisson Fort McDowell Resort and Conference Center in Scottsdale/Fountain Hills. This year's theme is "Libraries in the eSociety." We are seeking programs that address ways libraries can and have worked to meet the needs of an increasingly Web-based society.

The call for program proposals opened Friday, February 22, 2013. April 26, 2013 was the deadline for proposals for the half-day preconference sessions and for 60-minute program sessions. May 24, 2013 is the deadline for proposals for 60-minute poster and roundtable sessions, and for tightly-

focused 15-minute blitz sessions.

For more information, please visit [the conference page](#). You can follow AZLA's [blog](#), "Like" us on Facebook, or follow our 2013 Conference Twitter feed (hashtag #AzLA13). Online registration opens on August 26, 2013. Contact the AzLA Association Management Office for questions about registering for the conference or if you need assistance with your username and password. They can be reached at (480) 609-3999 or [admin@azla.org](mailto:admin@azla.org).

We look forward to receiving your proposals!

**[Smita Joshipura](#)**  
Conference Program Co-chair

**[Jasper Halt](#)**  
Conference Program Co-chair

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## Message from the President

### *Revitalizing AzLA for Additional Membership Value*

It's been almost six months since I took office as president of AzLA, and I think I'm finally getting used to it. It's been a pretty active six months, and I thought I'd bring you up to date on some things that are going on in the Association and talk about some plans for the next six months.

The Executive Board met on Thursday, April 25, in the Appaloosa Branch of the Scottsdale Public Library. If you haven't been up there to see it, it's a lovely building in a very natural setting and well worth the trip. We had a very full agenda, which consumed about five hours, but it was a very productive meeting. Probably the most important item on the agenda was the approval of the 2013-2014 budget which begins on July 1st. Thanks to the leadership of the past, AzLA is in a good financial position. One of the first things we did was establish a policy for a six-month operating reserve. In other words we want an amount of liquid funds, equal to six months of our operating budget, available to cover unforeseen shortfalls or emergencies, but we want to put to good use any funds available beyond that six-month amount.

The operating budget, aside from the conference budget, is about \$72,000, so our six month reserve for next year is about \$36,000. That still leaves us with a significant amount of financial flexibility. For the coming year, the Executive Board decided to approve a budget that would use about \$25,000 over our expected income. The biggest part of that, \$10,000, has been included for professional development to fund a variety of activities and programs for our members. We want these activities to be available all over the state in a variety of formats—some online and some face-to-face.

Last year's membership survey, the in-

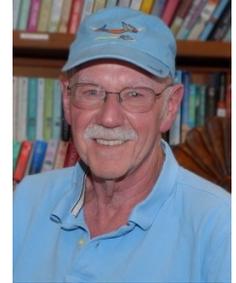
put I gathered from members around Arizona last summer, and a more recent survey by the Ad Hoc Professional Development Committee all confirm that our members want more professional development activities, so the Board placed the highest priority on that.

In other actions by the Board, the three ad hoc committees that were formed in January were converted to standing committees, so we now have a Professional Development Committee, a Governance Committee, and a Marketing and Advocacy Committee. All three of these, as ad hoc committees, have been actively engaged in an ongoing set of activities, and so these have now been given permanent charges. The Professional Development Committee will be gauging members' specific needs and planning for the use of that extra \$10,000. That committee will also be taking some responsibility for encouraging regional forums.

The Executive Board spent a considerable amount of time reviewing a proposed revision of the Association's bylaws. Over the years the bylaws have been revised several times, but in order for AzLA to operate smoothly and transparently, it seemed appropriate to do a comprehensive rewriting of the entire document. The Board approved most of the proposal but is still working on some wording related to two important sections. It is expected that the new bylaws will be on the ballot in the fall for your approval.

In yet another action, the Board approved a reorganization of the Communications Committee. In place of that committee, there will be two new committees, the Web and Social Computing Committee and the Newsletter Editorial Committee. While there will continue to

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**Tom Wilding**  
AzLA President

**“One of the first things we did was establish a policy for a six-month operating reserve.”**

## President's Message (cont.)

be individuals responsible for the brunt of the work related to the web, social computing, and the newsletter, there will now be larger groups that both advise on policy and participate in the activities related to these important communication tools.

Later this spring and through the summer, our website will be migrating to a new host that will provide added functionality, so getting the Web and Social Computing Committee populated to help guide this migration and improve the content and currency of the website becomes urgent. You will have already seen messages seeking volunteers for these by the time you read this.

Much of the activity described above is focused on making our Association a more valuable entity for our members.

Our members have a right to expect value for their dues, and we have an obligation to provide that value. Our annual conference is outstanding, but it alone shouldn't be seen as the value we bring members. Most people don't know that almost a quarter of our operating budget goes to fund our lobbyist, who has been particularly active this year getting some important and relevant legislation through the process. Members have a right to expect in addition an attractive, information laden website, responsive governance, an active advocacy program, and timely and accessible professional development opportunities. We want your membership dollars to bring you double or triple what you pay in value.

**Tom Wilding**  
AzLA President

## AzLA Conference Survey

This year, your 2013 Annual Conference Committee would like to invite you to let us know which programs you would most like to attend at the [2013 AzLA Annual Conference](#), to be held November 13-15 at Radisson Fort McDowell Resort and Conference Center, Scottsdale/Fountain Hills, AZ. The theme of this year's conference is "Libraries in the eSociety."

The survey is accessible [online](#), and must be submitted by 5pm on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Please note that you have a total of ten votes. Please check 'Yes' to the 10 pro-

grams you'd most like to see selected for the conference. If you have questions or comments, please contact the Program Subcommittee Co-Chairs below.

Online registration for the conference will open on August 26. We look forward to see you at the conference!

[Smita Joshipura](#)  
(480) 965-5431  
[Jasper Halt](#)  
(520) 868-8311  
2013 AzLA Conference Program Subcommittee Co-chairs

**"The survey is accessible online, and must be submitted by 5pm on Tuesday, May 22nd."**



**Libraries  
in the eSociety**

## AzLA Service Awards (cont.)

- Mentoring—own institution, statewide, or regionally
- Staff development—own institution, statewide, or regionally
- Professional publications
- Contributions to the future of the profession
- Raising the profile of the profession
- Raising the profile of the library—in their own institution or libraries in Arizona
- Significant participation in a special project relating to libraries or library service
- Significant participation in a special project relating to libraries or library service

This award differs from the Rosenzweig Award in the length of service considered, the area of effectiveness—it can be limited to the person's institution, rather than to the region.

### Newton & Betty Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award

Presented to an active or retired layperson or librarian who is a member of AzLA. Emphasis is placed on effectiveness regionally or statewide, rather than limited to the institution where the individual worked. An MLS is not required. Sponsored by Newton & Betty Rosenzweig.

Criteria include significant accomplishments and leadership over the past TEN years in Arizona, in several of the following areas:

- 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

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 that the individual is not required to have an MLS.

### Outstanding Library Service Award

This award is presented to an individual currently working in libraries, with or without an MLS, who has professional responsibilities to the end user in areas like reference, programming, cataloging, bibliographic or database instruction, collection development, or a combination of these and other professional responsibilities. This award is intended for those who serve primarily adults or college age students. Service during the past ONE TO THREE years should be considered. Emphasis will be placed on activities that go beyond the standard requirements of good library service.

Criteria include one or several of the following:

- Service or project effectiveness beyond own institution
- Potential impact or benefit to other libraries
- Benefit to local community
- Accomplishment as potential model for other libraries of similar size
- Nominee's investment of personal time
- Limitation of resources (staff, time, funds)

Intended to give equal opportunity to people who provide service directly to patrons or who may have limited resources or clerical assistance and who serve primarily adults and college age students.

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**“We are seeking programs that address ways libraries can and have worked to meet these needs and how we can further adapt to this exciting new social, cultural, and educational environment.”**

## AzLA Service Awards (cont.)

### **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. Membership in AzLA is not required. Two full years of full-time library service in Arizona prior to nomination and no more than five years work history is required.

Criteria for the award include one or more of the following:

- 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 or national level

### **Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician Award**

Presented to an individual who symbolizes the important role that the paraprofessional plays in providing quality library service and who has exemplified the integral part that the paraprofessional performs as a library staff member. Participation in other noteworthy community activities will also be considered. Nominee must have been a member of AzLA for one year prior to nomination. The winner will receive a free membership to AzLA for the year following the award.

Nominees will be judged on the basis of:

- Demonstrated on-the-job excellence, as noted by their supervisors
- Support and enhancement of 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

### **Outreach Services Award**

Sponsored by the Little Chapel of All Nations in Tucson, this recognition includes a monetary award to the library, librarian, or library related group or person who provides exemplary library outreach services to underserved or minority populations. Membership in AzLA is not required, nor is an MLS required.

### **Outstanding Decision Maker Award**

This award is given in recognition of an Arizona decision-maker exhibiting significant support for librarians and libraries. This person is an administrator (city, county, academic, school) or elected/appointed official (city council, board of supervisors, school board) who has made a difference for libraries. This person's demonstrated support may be a critical issue (intellectual freedom, fiscal advocacy, development or a new program, etc.) or continuous support over a period of time.

### **AzLA Outstanding Youth Services Librarian Award**

The AzLA Outstanding Youth Services Librarian Award recognizes an individual who serves as a model for the important role Youth Services plays in public libraries. Nominees may be children's, young adult, or youth services librarians, or other librarians who serve youth in those capacities, in any Arizona public library. Nominees will demonstrate notable and outstanding performance in producing, developing and promoting programs, services, collections, and reading activities for children and/or teenagers in their libraries and communities. Nominees must have TWO years of continuous membership in AzLA to be considered for this award.

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## AzLA Service Awards (cont.)

### **Follett School Librarian of the Year Award**

This cash award is sponsored by Follett School Library Resources and is given to an individual who serves as a model for implementing the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Standards. The nominee must be a certified teacher-librarian in Arizona who demonstrates notable or outstanding performance in the areas of collaboration with classroom teachers, educational leadership, technology, and advocacy for school libraries. Nominees must have TWO years of continuous membership in AzLA to be considered for this award.

### **Outstanding Library Board**

Given to a library board or equivalent management/advocacy group under whose guidance a library or group of libraries has been substantially improved. The board's policies, its success in promoting library service to and for its constituency, and its relationship to the community are taken into consideration.

### **Library Support Staff Scholarship Award**

The Library Support Staff Scholarship Award is a monetary award of \$500, given once annually to provide continuing education via community college, university, or national conference, to any non-M.L.S. degreed library staff member employed by any library within the State of Arizona. The recipient must currently be enrolled in a college or university program; submit official records showing a grade point average of 3.0 or above; be actively pursuing an A.A.S degree in Library Technology, a B.A. or B.S. degree in any major with the goal of pursuing, upon graduation, a Master's Degree in Library Science; or actively pursuing a Master's Degree in Library Science. Membership in AzLA is required.

The nominee must submit a 500 word essay that includes the following:

- Name of school for which scholarship will be used.
- If currently working in a library setting, any accomplishments made.
- What goals you have after you graduate and how the scholarship will help in achieving those goals?
- How you plan to use your education in promoting library services and AzLA?

### **Louise A. Stephens Memorial Scholarship**

This award is given to support students enrolled in the University of Arizona's School of Information Resources and Library Science M.A. program.

Criteria for the award include one or more of the following :

- Arizona Resident
- Student in good standing enrolled or admitted to the SIRLS M.A. program for a minimum of 6 credit hours in a semester
- Current Member of AzLA at any level (student, full, etc.)

Recipient receives a plaque from AzLA and a monetary award from the [Louise A. Stephens Scholarship Fund](#). This award is presented by a different committee, so please contact [Cheryl Kennedy](#) with any questions. The deadline for this award is May 31, 2013.

### **Library Volunteer of the Year Award**

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.

## Library Spotlight

### Salt River Project A/V Services

**Do you have a library to suggest? It can be an academic library, public library, school library, or special library, even an online-only library, as long as it's managed within/related specifically to Arizona! Email your suggestions to [Virginia.Pannabecker@asu.edu](mailto:Virginia.Pannabecker@asu.edu).**

As I walked through the Salt River Project (SRP) Audiovisual (A/V) Services office (Phoenix, AZ), a display of equipment caught my eye. Noah Richman, Media Librarian and his colleague, Todd Dempsey, Senior A/V Coordinator, told me more about it. SRP has been involved in creating and archiving audiovisual materials (photos, films, sound recordings, ephemera such as brochures, posters, and pamphlets, and more) related to energy resources since it was founded in 1903. The historical A/V equipment display includes the first digital teleprompter used in SRP related media recordings. Prior to digital, teleprompters were comprised of vellum rolls that were cranked through a machine that used a 2-way mirror to display the text on the roll to the speaker. This created a challenge for sound technicians of that age: finding the best placement to catch the speaker's voice without also recording the crinkling of the vellum as it rolled through the teleprompter. SRP's archive includes a vellum teleprompter roll autographed by Ronald Reagan when he was recorded in Studio City, Los Angeles, California, during a presentation of the "Spirit of America Lifetime Achieve-

ment Award to Ronald Reagan" on August 29th, 1989. The display also includes the 35 mm time lapse camera that was used to shoot the construction of the Roosevelt Dam.

SRP A/V Services Department manages audiovisual resources for SRP's internal and external publication and documentation needs. SRP itself supplies electricity and water to a large area of Arizona residents and business communities. SRP's "[About](#)" page states, "as one of the nation's largest public power utilities, SRP provides reliable, reasonably priced electricity and water to more than 2 million people in Central Arizona." SRP "was established in 1903 as the nation's first multipurpose reclamation project authorized under the National Reclamation Act. Today, SRP is the nation's third-largest public power utility and one of Arizona's largest water suppliers." Learn more about [SRP's history](#).

SRP A/V Services includes staff that perform a variety of functions. Noah is the Media Librarian: he works as a reference librarian for internal photo requests as well as creating, updating,

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*The bottom shelf of this exhibit case holds the blue camera used for time lapse filming of the Roosevelt Dam construction. The first digital TelePrompter can be seen on top of the case.*

**“SRP has been involved in creating and archiving audiovisual materials (photos, films, sound recordings, ephemera such as brochures, posters, and pamphlets, and more) related to energy resources since it was founded in 1903.”**

## Library Spotlight (cont.)

and maintaining an in-house taxonomy (keyword system) to organize the digital photo collection. He also assists with photo shoots, digitizes older film material, and makes photo prints. Norma Galvan and Michael McNamara are SRP's photographers. The photographers document a variety of subjects related to SRP's business needs including dams, canals, power plants, and company sponsored events.



*Audiovisual editing and demonstration suite at SRP.*

Cole Guthery maintains the 'physical' digital library: the servers that hold all the organized, fully metadata enhanced digital materials. SRP A/V Services use 5 Apple Xserves with a total of 250 Terabytes (TB) of storage. These function as one volume, one access point, and allow for an average file read/write time of 500 MB/second. One additional function of the servers and Cole's work, is to constantly record up to 8 separate broadcast channels at all times. The caption data of this content is searched with an algorithm that picks up on keywords of

## Library Staff Spotlight

### Noah Richman

Noah Richman is the Media Librarian for the Salt River Project (SRP) Audiovisual (A/V) Services. Noah works as a reference librarian for internal photo requests within SRP as well as creating, updating, and maintaining an in-house taxonomy (keyword system) to organize the digital photo collection. He also assists with photo shoots, digitizes older film materials, and makes photo prints.

importance to SRP, such as: water, solar, ditch, flooding, energy, and more. When one of these keywords comes up, it triggers a message to be sent to Daren Gulsvig who reviews the content and archives it, forwards it to an SRP employee, and/or deletes it. In addition to photos, SRP also has videographers, like Christie Roshau, who create videos and other materials for SRP projects and internal and external communication.

SRP sometimes works with community organizations to create educational displays and programs. Are you working on something related to energy resources at your library? Would you like to inquire about partnering with SRP? If so, you can contact [Rosemary Gannon](#), Manager of the Community Outreach Department at SRP to look into available options.

**Ginny Pannabecker**

Noah came to SRP with an interest in a position focused on audiovisual materials. His MA in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona's SIRLS program had a technology focus and he had experience in audiovisual services gained from an internship with Channel 12. When I asked Noah what most surprised him

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**Apple Xserve storage environment for AVPhoto resources.**

## Library Staff Spotlight (cont.)

about working at SRP Audiovisual Services, he said that it was the existence of a fully staffed audiovisual services department within a utility company like SRP. This department's work clearly demonstrates how much SRP values the audiovisual materials its employees create and their long-term value for the company, as well as their value as community history.



*Noah Richman, Media Librarian, SRP Audiovisual Services Department.*

With consistent organization of digitized and born digital materials as his primary responsibility, Noah came into SRP needing to create a system to accomplish this goal. SRP A/V had developed an in-house program called 'In-Load,' where photographers (or others with materials to classify) upload files from a flash drive, memory card, or other device through the software. This software automatically adds certain types of metadata to all the files via pop-up windows that ask for information such as the job number and the photographer's name. Inload then numbers each file, and places them all in a set. After this process, the photographer uses photo browsing software to apply preconstructed terms from the controlled vocabulary list as well as typing in any unique terms for that particular job. The controlled vocabulary list is the organization keyword system (taxonomy) that Noah created for SRP A/V - this metadata includes information such as location and topic. Once the content creator has uploaded the materials and added initial

metadata, they color code the files to indicate that these steps have been taken. The last step is for Noah to review the files, adjust/add metadata as needed, perhaps update the keyword list if there is a new location or topic, for example, and then

color code all the files to show they are complete. One additional type of metadata used is a system of asterisks that indicate the most used, most popular images. This process makes adding metadata to

files part of the everyday workflow in SRP's A/V department - allowing for multiple ways to locate and retrieve files again later.

Noah is a previous Chair of the Special Libraries Division with AzLA, Past President (2011) of the Arizona Chapter of SLA (Special Library Association), and continues to be active in the profession, such as presenting at the Visual Resources Association conference on, "Taxonomy for Photo at Salt River Project: Digital Archiving in a Production Environment." Outside of work, Noah is also a contributor on the XM-Sirius satellite radio show, "Slice of Sci-Fi" (<http://www.sliceofscifi.com/> and <http://www.sliceofscifi.tv/>).

Contact:

[Noah Richman](#)

Media Librarian, SRP Audiovisual Services

Ginny Pannabecker

**“When I asked Noah what most surprised him about working at SRP Audiovisual Services, he said that it was the existence of a fully staffed audiovisual services department within a utility company like SRP.”**

## YA Corner

### *Developing Programs around Teen Development*

Reading the title of this piece makes it sound like a serious professional development training seminar. And true, many training sessions delve into the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets. Many library programs fulfill developmental assets, so I thought I'd highlight a program that has been mentioned on YALSA listservs to show how to think them through when selling programming to boards and administration.

#### **My Little Bronies**

This fan-based program brings together fans of the TV show, My Little Pony Friendship is Magic. If you haven't heard of the Bronies, take a moment, Google it—they're all over the place. Go on, I'll wait for you.

**Other Adult Relationships.** As the librarian in the program, you build a fundamental relationship with teens

**Community Values Youth.** Maybe you don't understand the fandom of the Bronies, but by hosting a program you are showing that the community cares about the teens' interest.

**Youth as Resources.** If you have a Bronie fan help plan the program, they will see that you understand their expertise in the subject.

**Safety.** The library must feel like a safe environment, which is why it is so important to stop any bullying in your presence.

**Adult Role Models.** By modeling positive behaviors, you are showing teens how to act as adults in the future.

**High Expectations.** By setting up and enforcing your expectations, teens know

what they need to do to succeed in a library program.

**Youth Programs.** The most obvious reason is that teens should spend three or more hours a week doing extracurricular programs like sports and clubs at school or community organizations.

**Reading for Pleasure.** Connect your programs to books as much as possible. Create bookmarks, booktalk while you chat with the teens in the programs, have books available in the program for them to browse and take home with them.

**Interpersonal Competence.** Friendship and playing well with others are necessary skills for teens. Without them in a library program, it could get messy.

**Cultural Competence.** The library is a public space and anyone can attend. Programs give teens access to other cultural, racial identities and ethnicities.

One program—ten assets. Imagine what assets you can help foster with a group of teens who come to every single library teen program. As I move into a more administrative role at my library, I'm realizing that my motivations are moving towards the outcomes of a program and not just the "it's a fun thing to do!" mentality. I can see a book club reaching five people as more of a success instead of the one that reached twenty-five people. Now to train the rest of administration to see it my way! J

[Kristin Fletcher-Spear](#)

Administrative Librarian  
Foothills Branch Library, Glendale



Kristin Fletcher-Spear

**“Many library programs fulfill developmental assets, so I thought I'd highlight a program that has been mentioned on YALSA listservs to show how to think them through when selling programming to boards and administration.”**

## Northland Pioneer College Honors Noted Tribal Archivist Amelia Flores

A desire to better meet the needs of her people led Amelia Flores on a long and productive journey. Beginning as long ago as 1970, Flores, a Mohave Indian and enrolled member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT), began work in a variety of positions for the Tribes, primarily in the tribal museum located in Parker, Arizona. Forty-three years later, she serves as an executive officer of the nine-member Tribal Council, the CRIT governing body.

As Northland Pioneer College played a pivotal role in helping her achieve her goal, the college's District Governing Board, at its April 16 meeting, honored Flores as the NPC Outstanding Alumnus, for Spring 2013.

The Colorado River Indian Tribes is a 430-square-mile Native American reservation created by the Federal Government in 1865. Initially it included only two tribes, the Mohave and the Chemehuevi, who had lived in the area for centuries. It later incorporated the Hopi and Navajo peoples who had been relocated by the U.S. government to the reservation. CRIT currently has 3,500-4,000 active members.

Flores was named director of the CRIT library/archives in 1984. As she grew in her job she says, "I saw the need to obtain a more professional and academic education to help me preserve the cultural and linguistic heritage of my people." Her dedication to accomplishing that task began at Arizona Western Col-

lege (AWC) where she enrolled as a general studies student to gain a broad educational background. After completing over 40 course credits she also enrolled at Northland Pioneer College to earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Library Media Technology. Even given the complication of living in her hometown of Parker (south of Lake Havasu City), Flores earned her AAS from NPC in just two years. "It was difficult at times and involved a great deal of independent study with monthly travel to NPC's Winslow campus, but it all came together in the end!" In fact, Flores graduated from both AWC and NPC in the same year, 1997.



*Amelia Flores with her award.*

This was just the beginning of her educational journey. She continued by graduating summa cum laude from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 2005; in 2008 she earned a Masters in linguistics from the University of Arizona.

Additionally, throughout her career, Flores has donated time to serving on numerous boards and commissions in both civic and professional arenas. She currently is one of five members of the Parker Unified School District Board and is also an elder for Parker Valley United Presbyterian Church. She recently stepped down after a four-year term as a council member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Partnership First

**"As she grew in her job she says, 'I saw the need to obtain a more professional and academic education to help me preserve the cultural and linguistic heritage of my people [the Mohave].'"**

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## NPC Honors... (cont.)

Things First. She relinquished this position in order to stand for election for the CRIT Tribal Council saying, “I hated to give it up. Serving and speaking on behalf of our young children is so important, but there’s simply not time to do everything.”

Flores was serving as the Northern Arizona Regional representative for the Arizona Library Association, an association she still maintains, where she became acquainted with her alumnus award nominator, NPC librarian Deborah Holbrook. In her letter of nomination, Holbrook says, “While I did know her from her work in Arizona, I now see... that the Arizona connection was only the tip of the iceberg in her important work to preserve native language and culture.” Holbrook is referencing the acclaim Flores has received for her work in preserving the language and culture of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. In 2007, the CRIT library, under her direction, was awarded the Guardian of Language, Memory and Lifeways Medal of Honor presented by the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums, an award established to identify and recognize organizations and individuals who serve as outstanding examples of how indigenous archives, libraries, and museums contribute to the vitality and cultural sovereignty of Native nations.

The following year she received the “Revitalization, Implementation and Preservation of Tribal Language Award,” awarded at the annual Yuman Family Language Summit held to celebrate the culture and traditions of the Yuman Nation, an area encompassing Native American tribes from Southern California to the Grand Canyon to northern Baja, Mexico.

In 2012, the Guardians of Culture and Lifeways International again honored Flores and the CRIT collections with the Archives Institutional Excellence Award for demonstration of “a significant commitment to the preservation and use of documentary heritage.”

Flores’ life is a reflection of how incremental accomplishments add up to great achievements. She says she feels NPC and other community colleges are good starting points for Native American and other students from rural communities who may be overwhelmed by large universities and cities. Starting at schools like NPC where classes are more personal and the atmosphere generally provides a greater degree of support, can offer a solid educational footing. “You start by passing one test and say, ‘I did that; I can do that.’ And you go on, test-by-test, paper-by-paper, until you build the self-confidence and knowledge and experience that carry you forward through life.

As the Alumnus Award recipient, Flores will receive mementos of the college, a tuition gift certificate and a plaque recognizing her selection.

Northland Pioneer College serves the residents of Navajo and Apache counties through four regional campuses and five centers with a variety of educational options for academic, career and technical and personal enrichment. NPC supports each student’s educational goals through affordable tuition, small class sizes and caring, professional instructors. For more information about NPC programs and services, visit [www.npc.edu](http://www.npc.edu) or call (800) 266-7845.

**Rose Kreher**  
NPC Staff Writer