



Great Reading Adventure Web App Aids Summer Reading

Maricopa County Reads, the premier summer reading program for 61 county libraries, is set to kick off near the end of this month. From May 29-July 26, this year's summer reading theme is FIZZ BOOM READ, with many events, programs, and materials for check-out focusing on science.

To officially participate, customers need only to register online at www.summerreadingaz.org. Last year, more than 91,000 children, teens and adults participated and more than 1/3 of these individuals completed the program.

This year, the program hopes to increase completions by rewarding reading accomplishments with digital merit badges and game challenges. While anyone who reaches the completion standard of 1,000 points is eligible to receive a free book, this year's program provides new and exciting incentives such as cool digital badges, game challenges, family-friendly programs, and bragging rights

replacing last summer's stickers, plush toys, fancy pencils and the like.

The Great Reading Adventure (GRA) is a new app that has been created that allows families to sign-up for summer reading, replacing an older, unwieldy Summer Reading Program (SRP) app. Using the GRA app, participants can incentivize themselves for reaching their reading goals as well as keep track of their progress online.

For each minute a participant reads, he or she earns one point toward his/her reading goal.

Points are not only earned for logging leisurely reading activities but also for attending library events, completing reading lists, participating in games, and engaging in community experiences.

For example, Arizona Sealife Aquarium is an SRP partner. When a summer reading participant obtains a "secret code" after visiting the aquarium and subsequently enters the code in his

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AzLA Service Award Nominations Due Sept. 1!

The Arizona Library Association recognizes individuals and groups making a difference in Arizona Libraries. These awards are presented at the AzLA Awards Breakfast or Luncheon at the Annual Conference. An award nomina-

tion form is available on the [AzLA web-site](#) and is due by September 1, 2014 to Gina Macaluso. A sample nomination form is attached at the [end of the newsletter](#).

Message from the President

Arizona Library Leaders' Summit Leads to New Statewide Goals

One of the pleasures of serving on the AzLA Executive Board as an officer or committee or division chair is the interaction with other librarians. You get this same feeling at the annual conference and regional forums; interacting with like-minded, friendly people is one of the simple pleasures of life.

I recently got to attend the Arizona Library Leaders' Summit, sponsored by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records in Prescott. Library leaders from across the state, representing public, academic, and tribal libraries, and Dan Stanton and I, representing AzLA, spent three days at the historic Hassayampa Inn getting to know each other, forming new relationships, and strengthening old ones.

Dan Heath, author of the book *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard*, spoke to us the first day. We all know the phrase, "change is hard." But most of us embrace such changes as new fashions, weddings, and babies. So change isn't always hard, sometimes it is welcome. Dan's presentation focused on how to help make change happen.

[Cheryl Gould](#) and [Chris Sams](#) facilitated the meeting, leading us in exercises designed to bring us to a final goal. As Chris Sams' website states, they "... create a safe space and environment to collaborate together, open up, build trust, be present, and let go of stress..." They certainly succeeded at all of these, as the group worked together wonderfully.

Susan Hildreth, the director of the

Institute of Museum and Library Services, gave an overview of IMLS and highlighted some notable projects in Arizona.

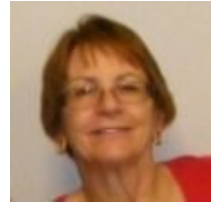
Joan Clark, State Librarian and Director of the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, shared her four LSTA goals with us: Learning, Community, Collections, and Leadership. The group took these goals and helped develop them further, leading us to come up with three specific goals that we all committed to help work towards in the coming months:

1. A statewide coordinated marketing, branding, advertising campaign.
2. Early learning is prioritized, supported, funded, advocated, and mentored equally across the state.
3. A statewide library card and access to shared resources.

I agreed to help with the marketing goal, because AzLA is a good vehicle for getting out the message about libraries. Please keep this in mind, and be watching for more news about this in the future, as work begins on these goals.

We left the meeting invigorated and committed to helping these three goals become reality. I hope you all help in whatever way you can.

Ann Boles
AzLA President



Ann Boles
AzLA President

Great Reading Adventure Web App Aids Summer Reading

online summer reading log, he earns 25 points for that community experience and that adds up toward the points needed to earn a free book.

To get to 1,000 points, participants must complete the first four levels of the program identified in the Reading Adventure app.

According to Caris O'Malley, Maricopa County Library District customer experience administrator

and GRA creator, "Our aim is to challenge participants to go beyond the earn-a-book standard, urging them to complete the 46 additional levels of the GRA app."

"This type of 'gamification' brings out a healthy sense of competition for participants to earn more badges, achieve the most worthy personal goals, amass many more points than a friend, and strive to get one's name on the leaderboard," O'Malley said.

More importantly, summer reading is one of the Library District's major contributions to community literacy efforts. It is believed that the GRA app will help kids maintain their literacy skills during the summer by challenging them with games and experiences that compel them to read, explore and discover.

"Beyond us, this app potentially gives libraries everywhere a low-cost or no-cost option for managing their summer reading programs," said O'Malley.

"Currently it's the best product available that provides that cutting edge, fun, engaging inspiration for summer reading," he added.

The Maricopa County Library District received a \$150,000 grant from Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records—Library Services and Technology Act (with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library

Services) coupled with \$100,000 through its own summer reading allocation to build a full-featured, user-friendly, open source software system that allows SRP customer registration, interactive customer interface, the development of virtual game boards, literacy activities, collection and reporting of data, creation of badge incentives, electronic delivery of coupon prizes, and much more. During the next cycle, LSTA will invest another \$100,000 and MCLD will provide an additional \$60,000 to create GRA pre-test and post-test modules to better measure literacy achievements.

For more information about the 2014 Summer Reading Program or other activities at MCLD libraries, visit www.mclldaz.org.

Nelson Mitchell

Public Relations & Marketing
Maricopa County Library District



The Great Reading Adventure Web App allows readers to earn badges for reading and participating in real life experiences.

The Children's Author/Illustrator Network

The Author/Illustrator Network is updated with each edition of the newsletter on the [AzLA website](#). Look for the Children's Author/Illustrator Network on the AzLA homepage under the "Tools and Resources" heading in the toolbar.

Author/Illustrator programs are the

delight of children, teachers and parents, and Arizona librarians are fortunate to have a one-stop shop for calendars, contact and scheduling information of local and visiting authors. Mary Wong creates this resource list for librarians and teachers throughout the state.

New Collection of Historical Documents Available at Yuma County Library District

Anyone who has assisted a genealogy researcher or historian knows how passionate they can be about their quest. We're happy to announce that, here in Yuma, historical research just became a lot easier!

Approximately 18 months ago, thousands of uncatalogued documents were transferred from the Sanguinetti House Museum in Yuma to the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe. Staff at the Arizona Historical Society worked tirelessly to preserve photos and documents, and catalog the collection. As a result, over 400 boxes of historical documents have been processed and will be returned in time for a grand re-opening of these materials at the Heritage Library in Yuma.

In order to preserve the collection and make it accessible to the public, the Arizona Historical Society and the Yuma County Library District entered an intergovernmental agreement. The

Arizona Historical Society provided training and funds for a staff position, as well as equipment, supplies, and policies for conserving the collection. The Library District provided a room for the collection at its Heritage Branch Library, complete with climate control, security, and a reading room. A specially trained librarian will staff the room 20 hours per week to assist patrons with their research.

According to Arizona Historical Society Director Linda Whitaker, housing a historical collection such as this at a public library is a very unique arrangement. The Yuma County Library District is honored and proud to play a part in keeping Yuma's legacy accessible to our community and beyond.

[Sarah Wisdom](#)

Community Relations Manager
[Yuma County Library District](#)
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Library Spotlight

Kyrene del Norte Elementary School Media Center-Library

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.

“The heart of the school” is how Lisette Quintana, Teacher Librarian, refers to Kyrene del Norte Elementary School’s [Media Center - Library](#). The [Kyrene school district website](#) highlights the important role of Teacher Librarians and Media Centers similarly, as “the hub of the school where teacher-librarians

teach literacy skills, 21st century information fluency, and foster a love of reading. As active participants in the teaching and learning process, the teacher-librarians’ role is to prepare students to be literate citizens

of the 21st century. They also plan with and provide media support to teachers and staff members.” [Kyrene del Norte Elementary School](#) is located in Tempe, Arizona. The Media-Center Library is open throughout school hours and staffed by Lisette and Library Technician, Marsha Nelson.

[Kyrene del Norte’s Library](#) has a semi-circular design that welcomes students to explore shelves of books branching out from the center. Plants, eye-catching books, and inspiring posters line the tops of shelves and decorate

the walls. A blue ‘new and popular books’ rack near the main entrance offers recent arrivals and books on popular topics: *Diary of the Wimpy Kid* series, animals, princesses, and sports. The media center-library is open to students, staff, and teachers throughout school hours and all students have a



The view of Kyrene del Norte Media Center-Library as you walk in.

weekly lesson that includes a chance to browse or search for books to check out and take home.

Kyrene del Norte students benefit greatly from their weekly library classes where Lisette works

with them to build their digital and information literacy skills through scaffolded projects. The projects also allow each child to explore a topic of interest in connection with class curriculum goals. Lisette designs the projects to teach research skills (exploring a topic and finding more information), and writing and reflection skills (what did they find out about the topic and what do they think about it). For example, in 1st grade, when the class is learning about animals, each student chooses

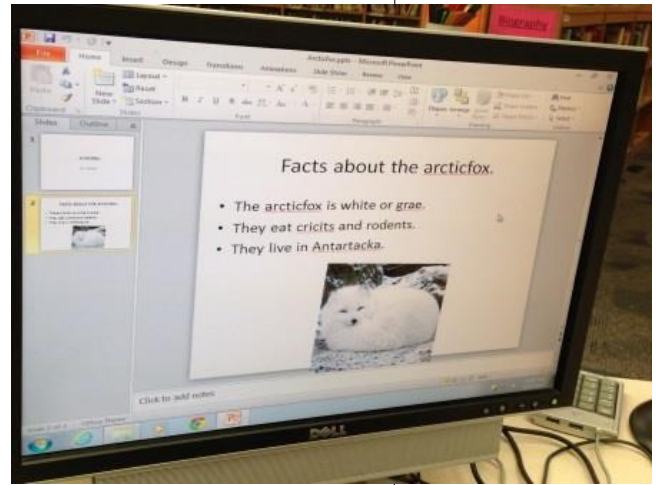
(Continued on [page 6](#))

Library Spotlight (cont.)

an animal to research. Over a month, they find information about their animal, write down three facts, and conclude with what they think or feel about their topic.

From Kindergarten through 5th grade students expand their technology and digital citizenship skills. They use a variety of materials (print and online) and applications to build and share their knowledge. Students use programs like Pixie Pages and Power Point to create brief presentations for their classmates and parents. They also enjoy informal opportunities to share what they're learning and writing. As they work at group tables, students often ask each other about their projects, teaching and learning from each other, even in the youngest grades. Older students also learn about interacting in today's digital

world, such as: how to write emails and developing an understanding of personal information and privacy in online interactions. The Media-Center Library lessons provide opportunities for students to engage with curriculum topics in-depth while building lifelong learning and communication skills.



An example of a first grade student's research project on the arctic fox as a PowerPoint presentation.

Library Staff Spotlight

Lisette Quintana

Lisette Quintana, Teacher-Librarian at [Kyrene del Norte Elementary School, Media Center-Library](#), starts each day feeling like, "I have the best job in the world: seeing students rise to the occasion with challenging projects and sharing the joy of reading." As KDN's Teacher-Librarian, Lisette believes it is important to get to know the school overall, the teachers, students, and parents, to stay up-to-date with current curriculum in all grades, be familiar with the school's community, and provide a welcoming library environment and engaging lessons for students.

A lifetime literacy supporter, Lisette began her career as a K-8 classroom

teacher, teaching 5th grade. Students in her classes were always reading books for their assignments and her classroom library was exceptionally diverse and well-used. Her principal at the time noticed that she specialized in helping students who were struggling: getting them interested in reading, and helping them build their literacy skills to grade level standards. When the school's librarian left, Lisette was offered the position and has been a Teacher-Librarian ever since. She moved to Kyrene del Norte Elementary School as their full-time Teacher-Librarian in the fall of 2013 where she

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Library Staff Spotlight (cont.)

added her Library-Media Specialist Endorsement.

Lisette inspires her students to love reading for its own sake, in addition to providing them with skills to use reading and research to answer their natural curiosity about all kinds of topics: from insects and animals, to sports and movies. When she started at del Norte, Lisette wanted to incorporate information literacy skills for long-term projects in all grade levels. At first, she wasn't sure that students as young as those in kindergarten and first grade could make it through a long-term project with only weekly lessons. When she tried it, she was thrilled to see the excitement and pride of just such young students in successfully completing these projects, and the fun they had in learning from each other.

Building lifelong learning and literacy skills is an important goal to Lisette, and one way she incorporates this is to provide a library environment similar to public libraries. The books and other materials are shelved using the Dewey Decimal system, in similar sections as those in a public library. From Kindergarten on students learn to look up

topics, authors, or titles of interest using the online catalog - on their own, or with assistance. Then, they learn how to find the book they identify on the shelf and check it out.

Read and Relax! Every now and then, throughout the school year, Lisette surprises students with a day to simply enjoy reading.

Each student looks up one or more books, locates them, and then students read to themselves or each other, or with 'Ms. Quintana.' Lisette is currently reading *Out of My Mind*, by Sharon Draper, and recommends it, "It's so good - I love it!" From instilling a lifelong love of reading, to teaching students valuable information and digital literacy skills, to supporting teachers in their curriculum goals, each day

Lisette demonstrates the essential, long-term value of Teacher-Librarians and their place at the heart of any school.

Contact Information

[Lisette Quintana](#)

Teacher-Librarian

[Kyrene del Norte Elementary School,
Media-Center Library](#)



Lisette Quintana, Teacher-Librarian at Kyrene del Norte Elementary School, Media Center-Library.



Working the Web

As librarians, professional development is a part of our lives. Whether for promotion, tenure, or to satisfy a love of learning, these websites offer free webinars or in-state classes to help keep us current in our ever-changing jobs.

The [Arizona State Library's](#) Library Development calendar runs classes that often take place at the Carnegie Center or the Burton Barr Library in Phoenix. Some classes are held at other locations such as Tucson. The frequency and times of the classes vary. Classes tend to begin at 9am or 1pm and usually run for two hours. Classes in the month of April addressed topics such as digital literacy, Reader's Advisory, and MakerSpaces in support of STEM programs. The State also sponsors 20 self-paced courses dedicated to collection development training especially for librarians working in small and rural libraries.

[WebJunction](#), a site powered by OCLC, states that they are "a place where public library staff gather to build the knowledge, skills and support we need to power relevant, vibrant libraries." The Webinar link under the "Find Training" tab allows you to view their current calendar of classes and their class event archives. WebJunction averages three classes a month with most running one hour beginning at either 1 or 2pm EST and their topics are for all types of libraries. Their archives are divided into five categories: Leadership, Staff Training, Library Service, Technolo-

gy, and Programs. With many subcategory headings under each topic, a keyword search option, and archives stretching back to 2010, this is a great resource for a quick webinar when it is most convenient for you.

[Tech Soup](#) offers approximately four free webinars a month. Recent topics discussed how to work with off-site volunteers, teach internet safety, and procure technology donations through Tech Soup. All webinars are from 11am-noon PT. Their webinar archive is divided into topics such as Managing Staff and Volunteers, Website Management, and Train and Learn.

[InfoPeople's](#) webinars are always free. They run from 12-1pm PT. Depending on the month, you can catch between 2-6 webinars or watch any from their list of archived classes, dating back to 2003. April's webinars were about reference services using new technology and putting together a human library program.

The [Association for Library Collections and Technical Services](#) offers three or more webinars a month beginning at 11am PT and lasting an hour. Recent topics include MOOCs, maintaining a floating collection, and electronic resources. Most live sessions are not free but all webinar recordings are with listings available through the [ALCTS YouTube Channel](#).

Three websites geared for school,

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“Recent topics discussed how to work with off-site volunteers, teach internet safety, and procure technology donations through Tech Soup.”

Working the Web (cont.)

public, or collection librarians are [Booklist](#), [School Library Journal](#), and [Library Journal](#). All three have one-hour webinars with *Booklist*'s starting at 1pm CDT, *School Library Journal*'s beginning at 3pm EST, and *Library Journal*'s beginning sometime between 12-3pm EST. While topics are typically specific to a particular genre, webinars also address the Common Core, spotlight new authors, and hot topics like Makerspaces. You can access their webinar archives, which are in reverse chronological order and, except for *School Library Journal*, harken back to 2009 or earlier.

[The Nebraska Library Commission](#) hosts a free weekly event at 10am CT called *NCompass Live* with a variety of topics that tend to lean toward public librarianship. All sessions are hosted by the NLC's Special Project Librarian and "include a mixture of presentations, interviews, book reviews, Web tours, mini training sessions, and Q & A sessions presented by NLC staff and guest speakers. Attendees ask questions and participate in the show via VoIP, using their own microphone, or in the live text chat." All webinars since January 2009 are available on their website.

News from SIRLS: UA SIRLS and Knowledge River is Awarded IMLS Grant for Nearly \$500,000

The University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science ([SIRLS](#)), home of the [Knowledge River](#) program, has received a grant for \$498,736 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as part of its [Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program](#).

[The Texas State Library and Archives Commission](#) offers one or two webinars a month geared toward public librarians that are generally open to all librarians across the United States unless otherwise noted. These one to one-half hour sessions start at 2pm CDT and have discussed how to deal with errors in annual reports, strategies for mobile libraries, and digital literacy. The site offers webinar archives back to September 2012.

[The TL Virtual Café](#) is "committed to creating conversations about teacher-librarians, educational technology, and collaborative connections to facilitate meaningful and lifelong learning skills. No need to register for our events." All webinars use Blackboard Collaborate software and are held the first Monday of the month at 8pm EST following the typical school calendar from September until June.

Need to figure out what time the webinar you want to attend is in Arizona time? Use this [meeting planner](#).

[Kim Belair](#)

Librarian I
Mesa Public Library

"The Nebraska Library Commission hosts a free weekly event at 10am CT called *NCompass Live* with a variety of topics that tend to lean toward public librarianship."

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News from SIRLS (cont.)

archives and special collections, medical librarianship, and public librarianship. The project will educate 24 culturally competent master's degree students to serve Latino and Native American communities in the digital world.

Since its inception in 2001, Knowledge River – currently in its 12th cohort - has graduated 155 information professionals to date, primarily through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

“Knowledge River is *the* foremost graduate program for training librarians and information specialists who are committed to Latino and Native American issues,” explains program manager and SIRLS Assistant Professor Gina Macaluso.

Students gain hands-on experience working as graduate assistants with project partners: the University of Arizona Libraries, Center for Creative Photography, Arizona Health Sciences Library, Pima County Public Library, Arizona Historical Society, Arizona State Museum, Labriola National American Indian Data Center, American Indian Film Gallery, Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research and the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records.

The tremendous success of SIRLS' Knowledge River would not be possible without support from key organizations, and the program gratefully honored the contributions and involvement of its partners at the recent Knowledge River Annual Meeting. This working meeting focused on sustainability, looking towards future graduates and iterating a goal of supporting additional students through scholarship opportunities, internships and financial support.

Knowledge River's partners have played

a key role in the program's accomplishments, and the group of 40 meeting attendees included leaders in Latino and Native American communities from Arizona and throughout the United States. These partners contribute to Knowledge River in a variety of ways, including direct financial support, writing grants through foundations, and providing internship and funding opportunities for students.

In addition to formal recognition, partners and other attendees engaged in discussion and sharing of new ideas to further develop and build upon Knowledge River's values and goals, which include promoting diversity and cultural fluency, expanding diversity curriculum, engaging in outreach, and drawing support from previous Knowledge River alumni.

“Today, I am challenging all of us to dream,” urged Macaluso, inspiring goal-oriented discourse about the program's promising path forward, with an overall vision in mind:

“To become a national exemplar in LIS education, reflecting throughout its teaching, research, and outreach to diverse communities that libraries, information environments and cultural heritage institutions serve, in Arizona and in the nation.”

With a solid foundation and an engaged network of partners, educators and students, Knowledge River is poised to continue supporting Latino and Native American communities through scholarship.

[Ricky Salazar](#)

Manager, Administration & Recruitment
University of Arizona
School of Information Resources &
Library Science (SIRLS)

ALA Midwinter: A crash course in networking for a new librarian

Thanks to a continuing education scholarship from the Arizona State Library I had the opportunity to attend the American Library Association's Midwinter Meeting. I attended as part of the New Members Round Table Midwinter Social Committee, which planned a networking event aimed at new librarians. Despite some misgivings about leaving the beautiful Phoenix weather for Philadelphia in January, I was thrilled to attend. I set two goals for myself at the conference – to figure out how the ALA committees and divisions work, and to network, network, network.

As a new librarian, I've heard from many of my mentors and peers that networking can be a powerful tool for professional growth. While I understood networking in theory, I felt hopelessly lost when trying to put it into practice. Like many, I'm not terribly comfortable with striking up conversations with complete strangers. So, out of my comfort zone I went.

Five days and a heap of business cards later, I came back to Arizona feeling like I successfully met those personal challenges. My personal revelation? Networking: it's just talking!

You too can network, and here are my thoughts on how to do it:

Ask questions. Lots and lots of questions. Make it as easy as possible for the other person to converse with you. You'll have much better luck engaging someone if you're the one showing interest and moving the conversation forward. These three questions carried me through the conference: 1. Where

are you from? 2. What do you do? 3. Are you here with a committee?

With that in mind, **get your elevator speech ready.** Be ready with a few solid, polished sentences about yourself when the conversation turns to you.

When surrounded by experienced librarians it is easy to fall into the trap of thinking that you have nothing particularly valuable or interesting to share. Fear not—you are indeed interesting! **Practice confidence.** Minimizing the work you do may seem polite, but it won't get people excited about you or your organization.

There were, of course, some awkward moments (sorry for talking your ear off on the exhibition floor, guy from Arizona I bumped into!) but by and large speaking with so many librarians was a revelatory experience. This is an amazing field, full of people ready to share.

I'll even make it easy for you to get started. If you're interested in sharing your own personal experiences with conferences or have questions about the ALA Midwinter please feel free to contact me. I'm interested in getting a group together to organize social events for newer librarians, so please reach out if you're interested. One last plug: mark your calendar for the NMRT's ALA Annual Social in Las Vegas—it's a guaranteed fun time.

Go forth and network!

[Cherise Mead](#)

Librarian I
Mesa Public Library

AzLA SERVICE AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Award nominations should include this form and a letter of nomination together with a minimum of two (2) additional letters of support. Support letters should reflect the criteria for each award. Check special requirements to indicate you have verified that the nominee meets the requirements. Refer to the AzLA newsletter or the AzLA website for details at www.azla.org.

Nominee: Phone:
Address:
City & Zip code:
Institutional Address (if applicable):
Email:

Library Leadership
 Current AzLA member
 Focus on past 3 years of service

Rosenzweig Distinguished Service
 Current AzLA member
 Focus on past 10 years of service

Sharon G. Womack Outstanding Library Technician
 AzLA member for at least 1 year

AzLA Outstanding Youth Services
 2 years of continuous membership
 Serving youth in AZ public library

Emerging Leader Award
 Nominee should have no less than 2 and no more than 5 years of full-time library experience

Nominator:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Included:
 Nomination Letter
 Letters of Support (minimum of 2 letters of support required)

Deadline to submit – September 1, 2014
C/O Gina Macaluso
University of Arizona – SIRLS
1515 E. First St.
Tucson, AZ 85719
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Follett Library Resources School Librarian of the Year Award
 AzLA member for the past 2 yrs
 Certified Teacher/librarian

Outstanding Decision Maker
 Outstanding Library Service
 Focus on past 3 years of service

Outreach Services Award
 Library Volunteer of the Year Award

Outstanding Library Board
 Library Support Staff Scholarship Award
 Official Transcripts
 500 Word essay