

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Washington DC
June 24 – 29, 2010

Topic: Member Recognition Award Proposal

Background: A work group was established at ALA Midwinter 2010 to create a proposal for a chair/leader/member group of the year type of recognition to be submitted to YALSA Executive Committee for their spring 2010 call, followed by final submission to the Board for Annual 2010. The group's first draft is provided below by their Chair, Stephanie Squicciarini. The Board will want to provide feedback to the group so they can refine the proposal and submit a final draft for the Board to consider.

Action Required: Discussion

2010 Ad Hoc Committee Preliminary Report

Report to the Board of Directors of the Young Adult Library Services Association

Submitted by Stephanie Squicciarini (Chair), Angie Manfredi, and Connie Urquhart

Charge: To create a proposal that looks at chair/leader/member group or team of the year membership recognition award. (Note: During the discussions at Midwinter it was clear that the intent was to keep this discussion open to include the possibility of recognizing one or more, so theoretically a chair, leader, and/or member group could be recognized in a given service cycle/year with a maximum of three recognitions.)

Introduction: We feel the timing for this award is right and will help members who volunteer their time to continue to feel connected to and appreciated by YALSA. As the economy and budget cuts can make volunteering more challenging, this is even more critical to maintaining member enthusiasm for such commitments. We involved past committee members with whom we all served (which represented selection and process committees and a t54li1TT000me

Possible Recognition Methods: This is the list that we created. Noted with each “method” is our reasoning along with a summary of the feedback that we received on that method. *Perhaps combine some of these into a “recognition package” for honorees.*

- **Formal letters/certificates to honorees and their administrators**
 - We felt this was almost a no-brainer and would give acknowledgement to administrators to further spread the mission of YALSA and would give the honoree something tangible. Feedback agreed and stressed that both components would be necessary so that the members also have something to put with their resume/professional portfolio.
 - **Cost:** for the certificates and postage
- **Recognition in YALSA Publications**
 - We also felt this would be an easy thing to do and would serve to promote the recognition award, the work that members are doing on behalf of and for YALSA,

- We thought this could help spread the word about the Symposium and a chance to recognize YALSA members at a YALSA dedicated event. Most liked this idea with one person not clear if the Symposium is a separate event.
- **Cost:** Depends on event and/or level of reduction. Could negatively impact revenue, but could also be that it attracts a member who might not have been able to register to attend.
- **Cash Stipend/Scholarship to attend a conference in member's home state**
 - We felt that this could add relevancy

- YALSA Membership must be active at both time of nomination and time of award if selected. If membership lapses before awards are granted, selected recipient(s) forfeits award (this would make sense if there is a monetary or equivalent award decided upon).
- If no Chair, Member Leader, or Group/Team is nominated, no award will be granted for that category for that year.
- Creation of a Task Force/Jury for evaluation of nominations.
- Nominations can be submitted by the general membership, a Board Liaison, or a member of the committee.
- Nominations/Evaluations of nominations based on selected criteria.
- Nominations to include “nature and scope of accomplishments” for nominated individuals/groups, supporting documentation also considered.
- The Task Force/Jury can decide that no awards be granted for that award cycle.
- The Task Force/Jury can decide one, two, or all three awards will be granted for that award cycle.
- Chairs, Members, and/or Groups can be awarded successive recognitions, being awarded/recognized one year does NOT preclude from being a recognized again during any cycle.
- Nomination cycle to follow rotation of other awards. Nominations submitted by December 1st, winners announced during/following ALA Midwinter. Cycle needs to be fine-tuned based on actual cycle(s) of groups considered to be eligible.

Further Suggestion: A further award consideration would be to award YALSA Member(s) beyond work done for a committee or task force and for general service to either fellow librarians or directly to/for teens (perhaps similar to Library Journal’s Movers & Shakers?).