

News Release: American Library Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, has won the J. Morris Jones and Bailey K. Howard - World Book Encyclopedia-ALA Goals Award.

The \$10,000 grant is made annually to a unit of ALA by Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, Inc. "to encourage and advance the development of public, academic and/or school library service and librarianship through recognition and support of programs which implement the Goals and Objectives of ALA."

ALSC will use the grant to help librarians develop strong and practical selection skills. In applying for the grant, ALSC President Barbara S. Miller wrote that a "catch-22" is currently impeding evaluation and selection of media. There is, she explained, a simultaneous swelling of media prices and shrinking of library budgets. What this means is that libraries not only have fewer dollars to buy materials, but they also have fewer staffers; staffers who often have less training and less time to devote to evaluating materials.

To help alleviate the problem, ALSC will hold 10 regional media selection conferences. The conferences, to be held between January 1978 and April 1979, will be planned and lead by 40 persons selected for their expertise in this area.