

BARBARA JANZER, LIBRARY CONSULTANT

(AFTER 1 JAN '79 - 081 51 / 8771)

To: Lena  
Sutherland

23 April 1979

Newbery/Caldecott task force  
ALSC Newsletter  
American Library Association  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:

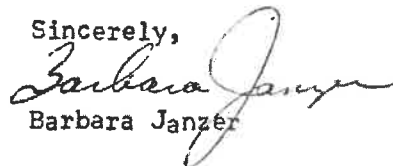
For many years I have felt that the price of the Newbery/Caldecott banquet was overpriced for it's value. Banquet meals are never very good. Because of the great quantity of tables required for feeding so many people, more than half of the people attending are too far away to appreciate seeing the authors giving their speeches.

It is therefore my opinion that instead of a banquet, there be only the speeches followed by the usual reception. Those attending would be able to sit close enough to the speakers to see their facial expressions as they deliver their speeches as well as just hear them. Now that Weston Woods does the cassettes of these speeches - why spend the money for a poor dinner to listen to a speech where you are too far away to see anything? By far of more value is the chance to meet the winners which takes place in the reception anyway.

I feel that the award ceremony and reception should still be by ticket only. Because of costs involved, there might still need to be a charge, but only to defray expenses. To give ALSC members the advantage, perhaps a reduced rate for members or even limited to members only (plus invited guests such as other divisional board members). In the latter case - would this not perhaps be an added encouragement for those interested in children's work to become ALSC members?

Hope my thoughts are of some use to your committee.

Sincerely,

  
Barbara Janzer