

The New York Public Library

ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

Office of Children's Services

The Branch Libraries

8 East 40th Street
New York, New York 10016

June 6, 1979

Ms. Zena Sutherland
The University of Chicago
Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Dear Zena:

I'm writing to champion the Newbery Caldecott Dinner. I think it's wonderfully successful. It's the most visible program at the conference. For every jaded person who makes fun of the "ladies in their long dresses" there are probably two people who are at their first convention and have decided that of all the events that are occurring at ALA this is the one they must see, whatever their librarian specialty is.

I think it's wonderful if we're getting directors and non ALSC members. What better way to spread the word about how special children's books and children's book authors and illustrators are. It may be the only time they think of children's work all year.

I believe the Banquet is the only time I ever feel that I am an ALSC member and proud of it.

If seats are available for auditors to enter the room afterwards I think the Division will have made its concessions to inflation.

I think it is foolhardy to begin to have anxiety about such a successful and beloved event.

Yours truly,



Marilyn Iarusso
Assistant Coordinator
Office of Special Services

MI/dt