

ALA Awards Committee
Saturday, June 26, 2004, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Peabody Hotel–Bayhill Suite V
Annual Minutes

Award Committee Members:

David Dowell
Timothy Grimes
Geraldine Harris
Andrea L. Miller
Roxanne Jeanine Sellberg
Cheryl Malden, ALA liaison

Observers:

Linda Mays

Approval of Minutes

It was moved, seconded to approve the minutes from the San Diego Annual Conference.

ALSC Theodor Seuss Geisel Award - Action Item

The Award will be given annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as beginning reader books published in the United States during the preceding year. The award is to recognize the author(s) and illustrator(s) of a beginning reader book who demonstrate great creativity and imagination in his/her/their literary and artistic achievements to engage children in reading. The Dr Seuss Foundation will fund the award.

It was moved by Andrea Miller, seconded and approved to approve the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

W.Y. Boyd Award Update

The award was reinstated for 2004. Susan Roman will approach Bill Boyd to endow the award.

Sullivan Award Dispute

Executive Board member Jim Rettig and Councilor Ann Sparanes did not think that the ALA Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrator Supporting Services to Children Award complied with policy. The minimum amount for an ALA award is \$1,000. The Sullivan Award gives a commemorative gift instead of money. Cheryl Malden sent a letter to Rettig that explained this award has a smaller audience and according to 1994-95 CD # 46, smaller specialized awards have their audience and do not need to have limitation on the amount of the award. She said they would update the handbook and include information that minimum amounts refer to the ALA Recognition

Awards, which are the awards of the whole Association. Divisions, Offices, Sections, and Roundtables do not have minimum amounts.

The committee decided not to update the handbook at this conference because Council would have to approve the change. The committee will update the handbook at the Midwinter Meeting.

Meeting adjourned 11:00 a.m.

ALA Awards Committee
Monday, June 28, 2004, 2:00-4:00pm
Peabody Hotel-Boardroom
Annual Minutes

Award Committee Members:

David Dowell
Roxanne Jeanine Sellberg
Andrea Miller
Tiomothy Grimes
Geraldine Harris
Cheryl Malden, ALA liaison

Observers:

Carrie Russell

L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of User's Rights

Carrie presented The L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of User's Rights. The award is to recognize contributions of an individual or group that pursues and supports the Constitutional purpose of the U.S. Copyright Law, fair use and the public domain.

It was moved by David Dowell, seconded and approved to approve the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



DATE: June 14, 2004
TO: American Library Association Award Committee
FROM: Malore Brown, Executive Director
Association for Library to Children (ALSC) *Malore*
RE: New ALSC Award

Below is ALSC's proposal for a new award to honor Theodor Seuss Geisel. The administrative costs to be incurred by ALSC are included in the following proposal, with the endowment expected to be funded by Dr. Seuss Enterprises. Confirmation of the funding is expected prior to Annual Conference 2004.

Introduction: \$50,000 is required to establish and continue a new award that is administered by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association. Of this amount, approximately \$40,000 will be endowed so that the interest from this long term investment will be used to administer the award indefinitely. The \$10,000 difference will be used for the set up and administration expenses incurred to initiate the award.

Expenses: The expenses involved in establishing the award include the following:

- Design Approximately \$1,000
- Sculpting and die casting Approximately \$5,000
- Striking of medals Approximately \$150 each
(\$150 X 25 medals = \$3,750)
- Engraving of the medals Approximately \$75 each
- Case for each medal Approximately \$125

A \$500 administrative fee includes:

- \$250 per annum for the evaluation committee members' expenses such as postage, phone, email, etc.
- \$100 for marketing the award along with all the ALA awards.
- \$100 for office expenses such as phone, email, postage in an advisory capacity for members, nonmembers and members of the press.
- \$50 for preparing for the announcement, including copying costs for information, phone calls to publishers, and other miscellaneous expenses.

In-kind contributions include: staff time for planning the award celebration; answering inquiries from individuals, the public and the press; and fiscal management of the award program.

Name of Award: Theodore Seuss Geisel Award

Definition, Purpose and Criteria:

Definition: The Award is to given annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as beginning reader books published in the United States during the preceding year.

Purpose: The award is to recognize the author(s) and illustrator(s) of a beginning reader book who demonstrate great creativity and imagination in his/her/their literary and artistic achievements to engage children in reading.

Criteria: The awarded shall be given annually to the author and illustrator of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as beginning reader books published in the United States during the preceding year. There are no limitations as to the character of the book considered except that it will be original, and must be marked, and function successfully as a beginning reader book. Honor Books may be named. These shall be books that are also truly distinguished.

The Award is restricted to author(s) and illustrator(s) who are citizens or residents of the United States.

The committee in its deliberations is to consider only the books eligible for the award, as specified in the terms.

The "author(s) and illustrator(s)" may include co-authors and illustrators. The author(s) and illustrator(s) may be awarded the medal posthumously.

"Distinguished" is defined as: Marked by distinction: noted for significant achievement; Marked by excellence in quality; Marked by conspicuous excellence or eminence; Individually distinct; Providing a stimulating and successful reading experience for the beginning reader containing the kind of plot, sensibility and rhythm that can carry a child along from start to finish;

"American children's literature" means that books originally published in other countries are not eligible.

"Contribution to the body of children's literature commonly known as beginning reader books" indicates the text of a book, which must be directed at readers from pre-K through Grade 2. The book must also contain illustrations, which function as keys or clues to the text. The committee shall consider all forms of writing—fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Reprints and compilations are not eligible.

Committee members need to consider the following criteria: Subject matter must be intriguing enough to motivate the child to read; The book may or may not include short "chapters"; New words should be added slowly enough to make learning them a positive experience; Words should be repeated to ensure knowledge retention.; Sentences must be simple and straightforward; There must be a minimum of 24 pages. Books may not be longer than 96 pages; The illustrations must demonstrate the story being told; The book creates a successful reading experience, from start to finish; The plot advances from one page to the next and creates a "page-turning" dynamic.

Number and Frequency of Award: One Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for one book will be announced in January of each year during the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting to recognized author(s) and illustrator(s). The announcement of the first Theodor Seuss Geisel Award is January 2006, with the first award presented in 2006, and to continue every year thereafter. If a suitable candidate is not found for any given year, the award will not be presented that year.

Selection of Jury to Administer the Award: The President of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, will appoint the committee to administer the award. The first committee shall be appointed in fall 2004; and the first committee to sit in 2005. Membership shall be one chair and six members.

Deadline for Nomination of Candidates: The deadline for award entries is December 31. The Committee will consider books for the award up to and including this date. The dates of the Midwinter Meeting may affect the date the nominations are due, but will be specified on a yearly basis.

Presentation of the Award: The award will be presented at the American Library Association Annual Conference.

Form and/or Type of Award: The award will be a medal designed by Dr. Seuss Enterprises and the Association for Library Service to Children.

Donor: The \$50,000 endowment to sustain the award in perpetuity and is likely to be funded by Dr. Seuss Enterprises. Confirmation of the funding is expected to occur prior to Annual Conference 2004. A portion of these funds will be used for the set up and administration expenses incurred to initiate the award for 2006.

Contact Person: Malore Brown, Executive Director, Association for Library Service to Children, 40 E. Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, 312/280-2162, mbrown@ala.org

approved 6-28-04

Name of Award: The L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users' Rights

Definition, Purpose and Criteria: This award is established to recognize contributions of an individual or group that pursues and supports the Constitutional purpose of the U.S. Copyright Law, fair use and the public domain.

The purpose of the U.S. Copyright law is "to advance the knowledge of science and useful arts" (U.S. Constitution, art 1, sec 8). When drafting the U.S. Copyright law, Congress established the following fundamental tenets:

- The creation of new knowledge and the arts are encouraged;
- The creation and dissemination of knowledge is the purpose of copyright;
- Congress is granted the power to encourage creation of new works, but only via a very specific method, by granting authors and inventors exclusive rights;
- The exclusive rights granted should be for a limited time;
- Authors and inventors can benefit financially from copyright but this is a side effect of encouraging the dissemination of knowledge, and not a direct intent of copyright; and
- The rights of authors and inventors are granted by Congress and are not intrinsic or natural.

To be eligible for the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award person/persons must be: an individual or a group; living; a significant, consistent contributor(s) to the pursuit of copyright principles outlined above working in the area of academia, law, politics, public policy, libraries or library education. The recipient does not have to be a librarian.

Who was L. Ray Patterson? Professor L. Ray Patterson was a noted scholar and prolific writer on the subject of copyright. Patterson wrote the definitive book on the constitutional underpinnings of copyright and the critical importance of the public domain in *The Nature of Copyright: A Law of Users' Rights* and served as consultant to Congress during the drafting of the Copyright Act of 1976. He has contributed numerous legal briefs supporting the position of the American Library Association to preserve and protect fair use.

Professor Patterson was a graduate of Mercer University and earned a master's degree in English from Northwestern University and an advanced law degree from Harvard University. He was a faculty member at Vanderbilt University and worked briefly as an assistant United States Attorney in Tennessee. Later, he returned to Vanderbilt and became the Dean of the School of Law at Emory University. He finished his career at The University of Georgia in 1987 where he held the Pope Brock endowed chair.

For librarians, Patterson was the key legal figure that explained and justified the importance of the public domain and fair use. He helped articulate that copyright law was negatively shifting from its original purpose and overly favoring rights of copyright holders. Before his death in 2003, Patterson wrote a key amicus brief in the Supreme Court *Eldred v. Ashcroft* arguing that the continual extension of the term of copyright by Congress was unconstitutional.

In 2002, librarians and noted legal scholars celebrated Patterson's contributions at the ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta. To preserve his memory and acknowledge those who likewise

support and fight for balanced copyright law, this award was proposed in Patterson's name by the OITP Copyright Advisory Committee.

Number and Frequency of Award: The L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award will be awarded on an as-deserved basis, no more frequent than once a year, no less frequent than once every two years.

Selection of Jury to Administer Award: The jury will be a standing committee of one member of the OITP Advisory Committee and four members of the OITP Copyright Advisory Committee.

Deadline for Nomination of Candidates: December 1; submit letter of nomination detailing criteria, statement of outstanding contributions.

Screening of Candidates and Recommendations: Any person can nominate a potential recipient by sending a nomination letter to the OITP Copyright Specialist at ALA's Washington Office. The letter should describe the potential recipient as related to the criteria noted above.

Read all the nominations
Jury members will review the letters of all potential recipients and a vote of the jury will determine the winner.

Presentation of the Award: The award will be presented to the recipient at an OITP sponsored copyright program at ALA Annual Conference.

Form and Type of Award: This is a recognition type award. A crystal trophy will be presented to the recipient; there will be no cash award.

Donor: Expenditures associated with the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award will be provided by ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy.

Contact Person: OITP Copyright Specialist, Office for Information Technology Policy, American Library Association Washington Office, 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 403, Washington, DC, 20004; phone (202) 628-8421; fax (202) 628-8419.

*advisory committee to Wash. office
will give award
interpret law
1970 worked with congress establishing copyright
law
educator, journalist, librarians*