

Minutes  
ALA Awards Committee Meeting  
Monday, January 23, 2006, 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM  
Marriot Rivercenter, Conference Room No. 2, San Antonio, TX

Attendees:

Timothy Grimes, Chair  
Liz Bishoff  
Susan Melcher  
Jon Cawthorne  
Jennifer Ralston  
Annue Zeidman-Karpinski  
William Kinyon  
Angela Williams  
Cheryl Malden, ALA Liaison  
Nathalie Hristov, Intern

Pam Spencer Holley, YALSA, guest  
Bill Ott, *Booklist* Editor, guest  
June Pinnell Stevens, ALA Exec. Board, guest

Welcome and Introduction:

Chair Tim Grimes welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Each member in attendance introduced themselves to the rest of the committee.

YALSA Award Proposal:

Pam Spencer Holley and Bill Ott introduced a proposal to establish the Odyssey Award, recognizing "the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults in the preceding year" (language from p. 1 of draft proposal). According to the proposal, ALSC and YALSA would administer the award while *Booklist* would tentatively sponsor the award. Pam Spencer Holley feels there is strong support for this award in both of the divisions involved, but wanted the Awards Committee to offer comments or suggestions prior to taking the proposal for final approval at the division level, and finally to the ALA Awards Committee at Annual 2006.

Bill Ott explained that there is a current vacuum for this type of award, and that audiobooks are the fastest growing format in publishing. He also mentioned that the initial costs in establishing the award would be higher to support publicity and marketing efforts.

Tim Grimes asked if there would be a five year commitment from the two divisions (ALSC and YALSA). Bill Ott was confident that that would be the case.

Miscellaneous:

June Pinnell Stevens, our liaison to the ALA Executive Board, reminded the members of the Awards Committee of the proposed ALA membership dues increase, and the impact that low membership dues have had on the Association's financial outlook. For this reason, she would like for Award Committee members to support the dues increase, and to relay the need for the increase to our colleagues.

Cheryl Malden updated the committee on the status of the Cavendish Awards. The monetary amount for the Cavendish Award has been gradually decreasing over the past several years to below the minimum requirements. Along this line, Liz Bishoff mentioned that many of the low level awards are bleeding the Association from all of the administrative costs involved. She stated that we need to encourage the sponsorship of awards with reduced administrative costs.

Annie Zeidman-Karpinski suggested the Awards Committee develop an action plan to review existing awards, looking specifically at the administrative costs involved with each. Tim Grimes will contact someone from BARC to get the cost information. Everyone on the Awards Committee attending the meeting agreed that the cost of administering so many awards may be getting unmanageable. Liz Bishoff asked if ALA Divisions have their own Awards Committee. Cheryl Malden responded that most Division do. Liz Bishoff and Tim Grimes agreed to coordinate with those committees on this effort. In the meantime, Tim Grimes suggested the Awards Committee review just the existing ALA general awards for our next meeting in June.

Miscellaneous:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathalie Hristov, Intern

Minutes  
ALA Awards Committee Meeting  
Saturday, January 21, 2006, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
Convention Center Room 102B, San Antonio, TX

Attendees:

Timothy Grimes, Chair  
Susan Melcher  
Jon Cawthorne  
Jennifer Ralston  
William Kinyon  
Angela Williams  
Nanette Donohue  
Cheryl Malden, ALA Liaison  
Nathalie Hristov, Intern

Welcome and Introduction:

Chair Tim Grimes welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Each member in attendance introduced themselves to the rest of the committee.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 25, 2005 minutes were presented.

Jon Cawthorne entered a motion that the minutes be accepted as written. Jennifer Ralston seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Award Manual Revisions:

Tim Grimes explained to new committee members how the charge and responsibilities of the ALA Awards Committee was growing too large for a single committee, prompting the ALA Council to establish a separate committee charged with administering scholarships and study grants. Now that the new committee has been established, the Awards Committee needs to revise the *Awards Manual of the American Library Association* to reflect these changes.

Before revising the manual, Tim Grimes stated three objectives he would like to see accomplished in the manual revision.

1. Remove all references to scholarships as they are no longer the responsibility of the Awards Committee.
2. Considering that division awards do not have to adhere to all of the guidelines imposed on ALA general awards, clarify those distinctions (between division and general awards), as well as

clearly state which guidelines apply to ALA general awards only, and which ones apply to all awards.

3. Since many jury chairs are unable and/or unwilling to attend ALA Midwinter and Annual Conferences, Tim Grimes proposed that the sections demanding a Jury Chair orientation be taken out, and that jurors meet at the conferences, be changed to reflect current practices of "virtual" meetings via e-mail, conference calls, etc.

The committee revised several sections of the Awards Manual addressing previously stated objectives. Sections requiring further thought and investigation were deferred. Cheryl Malden and Nathalie Hristov will make the changes to the Awards Manual that were agreed upon at the meeting and distribute revised copies to the rest of the committee.

#### Miscellaneous:

Jennifer Ralston brought up the issue of award labels for books and the importance of making them affordable so that publishers are willing to purchase the labels. She also suggested the committee be thinking about how to promote and market these awards so that publishers are more inclined to incur the extra cost of placing these labels on books for their added prestige. Cheryl Malden announced that several new publishers are submitting books for the Schneider Award.

Cheryl Malden expressed Katherine Schneider's wish to have an informal luncheon where she could speak with the winning authors and the Schneider committee in a more intimate setting. Currently, Dr. Schneider receives two tickets to attend the Awards Banquet; however, she feels that the formal venue does not afford her a substantial opportunity to converse with the authors and committee members. Cheryl Malden will update the Awards Committee regarding any future plans for a Schneider Award luncheon.

Chair Tim Grimes reminded the committee that we would be reviewing draft proposals for 2 new RUSA Awards and 1 new YALSA Award on Monday. He reminded committee members that division awards must adhere to points 1-4 and 6 in the "Establishment of New Awards" section of the *Awards Manual of the American Library Association*. He also asked that committee members carefully review the proposals so that we are prepared to make suggestions to those submitting the proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathalie Hristov, Intern

## Memo

**To:** Timothy Grimes, ALA Awards Committee Chair; Cheryl Malden, Program Officer

**From:** Beth Yoke, YALSA Executive Director

**CC:** Pam Spencer Holley, Audiobooks Award Exploration Taskforce Chair; Bill Ott, *Booklist* Editor; Aimee Strittmatter, ALSC Executive Director

**Date:** 1/11/2006

**Re:** Draft Proposal for an Audiobook Award

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Accompanying this memo is a draft proposal for a new award for audiobooks. Currently there is a joint taskforce working on the proposal for the award. It has yet to be brought to ALSC and YALSA's Board of Directors for approval, but we felt that it was important to get some feedback from the ALA Awards Committee before the proposal went much further.

At this point, the plan is to have a final proposal ready to bring to the Committee at Annual 2006. Any comments or suggestions that the Committee could provide that would help the taskforce shape a stronger final draft would be very much appreciated.

*Booklist* has tentatively agreed to sponsor the award, which would be administered by ALSC and YALSA. Please be aware that an important missing piece at this point is the financial aspect of this award. The taskforce envisions that this would not be a cash award. Further, the suggestion has been put forth that both Divisions use some funds from their Morris Endowments in order to start up the award and cover annual administrative costs. Nothing definite has been decided yet in terms of funding; however, the taskforce expects to have this matter settled in time to submit a final draft of a proposal to the Committee at Annual.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this matter. If I can answer any questions or be of assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to call on me.

## DRAFT PROPOSAL

### The ALSC/Booklist/YALSA Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production

#### What

An award for the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults during the preceding year.

#### Who

A joint taskforce made up of the following persons developed the rationale and requirements for this award:

**Producers:** Bruce Coville, Full Cast Audio; Tim Ditlow, Listening Library/Random House; Arnie Cardillo, Live Oak Media

**Booklist Staff:** Bill Ott, Editor & Publishers; Sue-Ellen Beaugard, Media Editor

**ALSC Members:** Mary Burkey, Chair Notable Children's Recordings; Ellen Fader, ALSC President

**YALSA Members:** Sharon Grover, Incoming Chair of Selected Audiobooks for Young Adults; Chair Pam Spencer Holley, YALSA President

#### Why

Though the youth divisions honor books and movies with awards, such as the Caldecott, Carnegie, Newbery and Printz, there is no official ALA award for audiobooks, yet this is one of the fastest growing areas of usage in libraries. Consider the following:

Circulation for children's audiobooks rose 10.7 percent and the budget for these materials rose 4.8 percent (Audio Publisher Association, December 2004)

The growth in circulation of audiobooks is outpacing overall library circulation. Book clubs are increasingly made up of hybrid listener-readers, and the market for children's audiobooks is booming! ("Loud, Proud, Unabridged: It Is Too Reading!"; *The New York Times*, May 26, 2005)

As a group of professionals who are committed to lifelong literacy, it's important that we recognize the role of audiobooks in the development of literacy. Consider the following:

Research shows that one of the most important reasons for the increasing interest in audiobooks for young people are the correlations between listening to audiobooks and improvements in reading comprehension, fluency, language acquisition, vocabulary development and improved achievement. ("Not Just for Listening," *Book Links*, May 2005)

Fewer Americans are reading books than a decade ago, according to the National Endowment for the Arts, but almost a third more are listening to them on tapes, CDs and

iPods. (“Loud, Proud, Unabridged: It Is Too Reading!; *The New York Times*, May 26, 2005)

According to Wendy Kasten, an education professor at Kent State University, “Listening to tapes with books in front of students is very, very good for building vocabulary.” (“To Curl Up with a Good Book, Listen Up,” *The Plain Dealer*, May 23, 2005)

Listening is an important skill to be both taught and learned. Children of this century live in a world where media is a dominant form of communication (25 million iPods sold last year), and imagination's greatest champion in this technological realm is the spoken word. Through the years our cultures have been nurtured and our customs passed on by storytellers—audiobooks carry on that tradition.

In addition, with all of the audiobooks available today, and with the increasing number being produced, we believe it is essential for ALSC and YALSA to provide the same level of support for this nonprint format that they have historically provided for print materials, by creating an annual award for the best audiobooks in the field. We believe that by doing so, ALSC and YALSA can not only assist their members to better serve their library patrons, but also raise the profile and standards of audiobooks by having those honored serve as models toward which all audio producers can aspire.

For all of us on this task force, we were pleased to be part of a unique collaboration between and among three units of ALA and three noted audiobook producers. The three ALA units will, if the ALA Awards Committee approves this award, continue to work together to ensure that this award is presented on a yearly basis.

## DRAFT PROPOSAL

### The ALSC/Booklist/YALSA Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production

**Charge:** To annually select the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States during the preceding year and, if desired, to also select honor titles.

#### Committee Members:

The committee will consist of nine members: four members appointed by ALSC; four members appointed by YALSA; a chair, whose appointment alternates between ALSC and YALSA divisions; and a consultant from the staff of Booklist.

Members serve a one-year term beginning immediately after Midwinter and ending after Midwinter of the announcement year. All members are required to attend all Odyssey Committee meetings held during the selection process. In the event a member is unable to complete her/his term, the President of the appropriate division shall appoint a replacement from among the members of either ALSC's Notable Children's Recordings or YALSA's Audiobooks Selection Committee, with the replacement serving double-duty until end of that cycle.

The chair is a voting member of the committee with all the rights and responsibilities of other members. In addition, the chair presides at all meetings of the committee and serves as a facilitator of both discussion and committee business. The chair has sole responsibility for any contact with publishers.

The Editor/Publisher of *Booklist* magazine will appoint a consultant to the Committee from among the magazine's Audiobooks staff. This consultant may participate fully in all book discussions but may not participate in voting.

#### Calendar

The Committee will observe the following calendar:

- October - Dec: Committee members and chair are appointed and the chair sends letters of welcome to committee members, which include a draft calendar and a copy of policies and procedures. The chair works with ALSC and YALSA staff to set initial meeting for the upcoming Midwinter as well as to determine method for best notifying publishers with an explanation of the award and a list of committee names and addresses. Appropriate award information for publishers and other interested parties will also be posted on the ALSC and YALSA websites.
- January - April: At Midwinter, the committee will have a voluntary organizational meeting to discuss criteria, set suggestion and nomination deadlines, and allow members to meet one another. Listening commences as audiobooks become available. Committee members suggest titles for award consideration to the committee as a whole. The chair compiles a monthly master list of suggested titles and distributes these updated lists to the committee.



- May: By May deadline, the chair will assemble and send to committee members a list of all suggested titles that will be discussed at the Annual meeting. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- Annual Conference: The committee meets in three closed sessions to discuss all titles suggested up to May deadline.
- June - October: Committee members continue to listen and each month, at an agreed upon time, suggest titles for award consideration. The chair will compile and distribute to committee members, monthly cumulative master lists of titles suggested since Annual. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- October: **October 1:** Final date for producers to submit audiobooks for consideration.  
**October deadline:** From the list of suggested titles, committee members nominate up to three titles for the voting ballot; members write annotations for each title. Chair compiles list of all nominated titles and sends list to members.  
**October deadline –December deadline:** Committee members continue to listen and suggest titles for award consideration. The chair will compile and distribute master lists of newly suggested titles to committee members. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- December - Jan: **December deadline:** Committee members nominate three additional, and different, titles, with annotations, for the voting ballot. Chair compiles and sends a final annotated list of all nominated titles to members. Committee members will evaluate all nominated titles noting the qualities that match the award criteria.

Midwinter Conference Committee meets in three closed sessions to select a winner and honor titles (if any) from the list of nominated titles. Winning titles are announced at the Youth Media Awards Press Conference.

### **Eligibility**

The ALSC/Booklist/YALSA Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production shall be awarded annually to the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults during the preceding year.

All literary genres are eligible for consideration.

Audiobooks produced previously in another audio format are ineligible for consideration.

The audiobook must have been designated by its publisher as intended for either young adults or children, who are defined as persons up to and including eighteen; works for this entire age range are to be considered.

Audiobooks featuring single or full cast narration are eligible

Audiobooks previously published in another country are eligible presuming they have also been distributed in the United States during the preceding year.

“In English” means only audiobooks produced in English are considered, but this requirement does not limit the use of words or phrases in another language where appropriate in context.

If no title is deemed sufficiently meritorious, no award will be given that year.

The chair, with assistance from designated ALSC or YALSA staff, is responsible for verifying the eligibility of all nominated titles.

The award will be presented to the publisher[s] of the winning and/or honor audiobooks.

## **Odyssey Award Criteria**

### **General Guidelines**

This award recognizes excellence by a producer or director for accomplishment and/or innovation in the production of an audio program. The winning title must exemplify the highest standards of direction, narration, engineering, and technical achievement.

Popularity is not the criterion for this award nor is the award based on the message or content of the book on which it is based.

The committee must consider technical and aesthetic aspects, including the effective use of narration as well as music and sound effects when they are incorporated into the production. These elements must come together to create a unified whole.

The audio must maintain and stimulate listeners' interest.

### **Production Qualities**

#### **Narration:**

Does the reader (or readers) have good voice quality, diction, and timing? Is the reader (or readers) believable and convincing?

Does the reader (or readers) distinguish between characters by changing pitch, tone, and inflection? Are accents or dialects used and if so, are they handled authentically and consistently?

Are all words, including proper nouns, locales, foreign terms, character names, and others pronounced correctly and consistently?

Does the reader (or readers) avoid condescending vocal mannerisms and style and is the reading believable and convincing?

Is the performance dynamic and does it reflect the expressive nature of the text?

#### **Sound Quality**

Is the sound sharp and clear with no obvious humming, distortion, or electronic interference?

Does the sound quality remain consistent throughout the recording?

### **Background Music and Sound Effects**

If music and sound effects are used, do they enhance the text and support the vocal performance?

Does the music represent the emotional and structural content of the text?

### **Overall Rating**

In the sum of all criteria—sound quality, narration, background sound effects and music (if present)—and considering such aspects as listener engagement, fidelity to source material, artistic achievement, and entertainment value, does this recording represent the highest achievement in audiobooks for children and/or young adults?

### **Confidentiality**

As all nominated titles must be kept confidential, there will be no announcements of nominated titles. All committee meetings and discussions, including electronic discussions, are closed to YALSA and ALSC membership and the general public.

### **Nominations**

Committee members suggest audiobook titles beginning in March, with suggestions due each month from March through the end of the time period. Three nominations from each committee member are due, at agreed-upon deadlines, in October and three different nominations in December. Following this procedure allows committee members to reflect on what their peers consider to be award-worthy titles and narrows the list, leading to more efficient and productive meetings.

Each suggestion must be in writing on an official suggestion form [available from either the ALSC [ALSC@ala.org] or the YALSA Office [YALSA@ala.org] or online from either division's website [www.ala.org/alsc or www.ala.org/yalsa]. Each suggestion must include the following information: author, title, publisher, name of narrator/full cast info, price, ISBN, time of production, length, format and an annotation specifying those qualities that justify the title for consideration.

At the agreed-upon deadlines in October, and again in December, committee members submit three nominations each to the chair. Each committee sets these specific deadlines at its first midwinter meeting to accommodate the oddities of that year's calendar, the actual conference dates, and any conflicts that the chair may have that would prevent the compilation of suggestions and/or nominations.

## **Field Suggestions**

Field suggestions are encouraged. To be eligible, they must be submitted on the official suggestion form. Committee members will be notified of all field suggestions, which are eligible to be considered for nomination by members. Only those titles that have been nominated will be discussed at Midwinter and Annual Conference meetings, though a committee member may request that a suggested title be moved to the discussion list and thus treated as a nominated title. Furthermore, all nominated titles must be discussed. Publishers, authors, or editors may not nominate their own titles.

## **Voting Procedures**

Following discussion at Midwinter, balloting will begin. Members must be present to vote. Proxies will not be accepted.

### **Award Audiobook**

Paper ballots will be used and tallied either by the chair or her/his designee(s).

Members are reminded that, at this point, they are voting for the winner, NOT for honor titles. A separate ballot will be conducted for honor titles.

On the ballot each member votes for her/his top three choices. First choice receives five points; second choice receives three points, and third choice receives one point. To win, a title must receive five first-place votes and must also receive at least five more points than the second-place title. If no title meets these criteria on the first ballot, any title receiving no votes is removed from consideration and a period of discussion of remaining titles follows. A second ballot is then conducted. Balloting continues in this fashion until a winner is declared.

Members are reminded that, at this point, they are voting for the winner, NOT for honor titles. A separate ballot can be conducted for honor titles.

### **Honor Audiobook(s)**

The results of the first ballot for the winning audiobook will be used for selection of the honor audiobooks with any title receiving no votes removed from consideration.

The same voting procedure will be used to select the honor audiobooks.

## **Annotations and Press Release**

The committee is responsible for writing a press release; annotations for the winning title and honor audiobooks, though already written, are rewritten by the committee to ensure consistency. The chair divides up the titles among committee members to complete this task; the Booklist consultant aids the chair by reviewing these annotations and assisting with the writing of the press release. Both the annotations and the press release will mention the specific audiobook criteria, which led to each title's recognition. ALA PIO provides specific information about the press release, annotations and the press conference.

Immediately after the press conference, the chair, and/or the appropriate divisional staff, will see that the ALSC and YALSA audiobook selection committees receive information about the winning and honor book title(s) appropriate for their lists, specific bibliographic information and annotations, for automatic inclusion on the final lists of these committees.

### **Relationship with Publishers**

Committee members are not to solicit publishers for copies of audiobooks, however they may accept any unsolicited ones that are offered or sent to them.

Committee members should not solicit publishers for favors, invitations, etc. If members receive these, however, they will use their own judgment in accepting. Publishers understand that such acceptance in no way influences members' actions or selections.

### **Conflict of Interest [ALSC Document]**

#### **Conflict of Interest**

ALSC affirms its confidence in the integrity of members who are invited to be nominated or appointed to serve on award and media evaluation committees, and in the integrity of the officers or nominating committees responsible for selecting candidates. However, because of the nature of the work of such committees, those who serve on them must be especially sensitive to conflict of interest situations and the appearance of impropriety.

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the eligibility and responsibility of candidates asked to serve on such committees.

#### **I. The following situations disqualify a candidate:**

A. Persons may not accept nomination or appointment who are employed by or advisory to any trade publishing house or any company that produces children's films, filmstrips, recordings, software, and/or other types of non-print media to be evaluated by a committee; or are the author or illustrator of a children's book or creator of other materials to be published or evaluated in the year of committee service.

B. A member may not serve simultaneously on an ALSC award or media evaluation committee and an Association Board.

#### **II. All other persons are eligible for nomination or appointment. The following situations do not normally disqualify a candidate:**

A. Serving as a professional reviewer of children's books or of non-print materials.

B. Involvement in the selection of materials for professional tools, such as *Children's Catalog*.

C. Serving as a writer or editor of professional books in the field of children's literature.

All candidates for nomination or appointment have an affirmative duty to notify the nominating committee or the appointing officer of any circumstance or event which would disqualify him/her under this policy or which would otherwise affect, or give the appearance of tending to affect, his/her ability to carry out assigned responsibilities fairly and without self-interest of any kind. A committee member must resign immediately upon the development of any circumstance or event which disqualifies him/her from committee service under this policy or which would otherwise affect, or give the appearance of tending to affect, his/her ability to carry out assigned responsibilities fairly and without self-interest of any kind.

The president of ALSC shall immediately accept such resignations when tendered. In the

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event a committee member violates this policy, the Executive Committee shall request the committee member to tender his/her resignation. If a committee member refuses, the Executive Committee shall remove the member and inform the Board of its action. The president shall then appoint a new committee member. The final decision rests with the Executive Committee.

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## ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring Award Proposal

Please Note: The following proposal will be reviewed by the RUSA Board of Directors at Midwinter and may be subject to change. Any changes will be reported by Ms. Neal Wyatt, chair of the RUSA Awards Coordinating Committee when she meets with the ALA Awards Committee at 2:30 p.m. on January 23, 2006.

### I. Name of Award:

ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring Award

### II. Definition, Purpose and Criteria

#### Definition & Purpose

Atlas Systems, Inc. is sponsoring a one-time award for ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring. This cash award of \$1,000 is for travel expenses to attend ALA annual conference 2006 in New Orleans (includes; ALA registration, ALA membership (if not yet a member), hotel, meals, and travel).

This award will be offered to one library practitioner new to the field of interlibrary loan/document delivery or electronic reserves, has daily, hands-on involvement in the areas of borrowing, lending, document delivery, electronic reserves, material delivery, or resource sharing. This award is intended for persons interested in a mentoring opportunity at ALA, who have been in the profession for less than two years, or an individual who has recently accepted an interlibrary loan, resource sharing or electronic reserves position and has little or no experience in that area. M.L.S. or ALA membership is not required for this award. Preference will be given to individuals who evidence greatest need of this stipend for the purposes of professional development, networking, initial or continuing education, and service to their local community. The STARS Education Committee will assign a mentor to the recipient for the conference to help them navigate through the conference experience

#### Criteria

The deadline for the nomination of candidates will be March 1, 2006.

Candidates will be asked to submit the following credentials:

- Proof of entry into this field for the first time, in the form of written confirmation from the local human resources office or the library director.
- An updated resume that can be verified by STARS Education committee members.
- A brief description of their position description, their library, and the department they work in.
- A statement of petition, in essay format (no more than three pages)  
The essay should also answer the following questions:
  - Why are you interested in attending ALA Annual 2006?
  - What benefits would you like to see in mentoring at ALA Annual?
  - How might your attendance benefit service at your local institution?
  - What, in particular, interests you in interlibrary loan, resource sharing or electronic reserves?

Criteria includes that the selected nominee accepts the following award conditions:

- Recipient attends ALA Annual 2006.
- Recipient attends the ALA RUSA STARS ILL Discussion Group meeting, ALA RUSA STARS All Committee Meeting (Education Committee), and attends some of the events sponsored by Atlas Systems, Inc.
- Recipient makes travel arrangements; however, some assistance can be offered by John Brunswick, Atlas Systems, Inc.

### III. Number and Frequency of Award

This award will be offered to one library practitioner.

Atlas will award this stipend to one person for the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans in 2006. This is presently a one-time offer, with future stipends to be offered at their discretion.

### IV. Selection of Jury to Administer the Award

The STARS Education Committee chair appoints a committee to of 3-4 STARS Education Committee members to administer the award; determine qualifications and deadlines, prepare advertisements, solicit nominations, screen the nominations and select the recipient, manage files, etc. according to ALA's Awards Manual of the American Library Association. (see:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/guidetopoliciesandproced/rusaawardsb/7awards.htm> ).

### V. Deadline for Nomination of Candidates

The deadline for the nomination of candidates will be March 1, 2006 (post-mark). E-mail submissions will also be accepted.

Candidates will be solicited by the following means:

- Postings to the ILL-L, ILLiad and ALA listserv for new ILL practitioners.
- Atlas Systems will advertise this stipend in their OCLC ILLiad Newsletter.
- Advertising at ALA Midwinter in San Antonio, including the Atlas booth, the OCLC booth, handouts, announcements at relevant meetings, notices in the daily ALA *Cognotes*, etc.
- A what's new announcement in *American Libraries*.

Submissions are sent to the ALA STARS Education Committee chair, currently:

ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring Award

Cyril Oberlander

Director of Interlibrary Services

The University of Virginia

Alderman Library

P.O. Box 400109

Charlottesville, VA 22904-4114

[Cwo4n@virginia.edu](mailto:Cwo4n@virginia.edu)

# ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring Award Proposal

Please Note: The following proposal will be reviewed by the RUSA Board of Directors at Midwinter and may be subject to change. Any changes will be reported by Ms. Neal Wyatt, chair of the RUSA Awards Coordinating Committee when she meets with the ALA Awards Committee at 2:30 p.m. on January 23, 2006.

## I. Name of Award:

ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring Award

## II. Definition, Purpose and Criteria

### Definition & Purpose

Atlas Systems, Inc. is sponsoring a one-time award for ALA RUSA STARS Mentoring. This cash award of \$1,000 is for travel expenses to attend ALA annual conference 2006 in New Orleans (includes; ALA registration, ALA membership (if not yet a member), hotel, meals, and travel).

This award will be offered to one library practitioner new to the field of interlibrary loan/document delivery or electronic reserves, has daily, hands-on involvement in the areas of borrowing, lending, document delivery, electronic reserves, material delivery, or resource sharing. This award is intended for persons interested in a mentoring opportunity at ALA, who have been in the profession for less than two years, or an individual who has recently accepted an interlibrary loan, resource sharing or electronic reserves position and has little or no experience in that area. M.L.S. or ALA membership is not required for this award. Preference will be given to individuals who evidence greatest need of this stipend for the purposes of professional development, networking, initial or continuing education, and service to their local community. The STARS Education Committee will assign a mentor to the recipient for the conference to help them navigate through the conference experience

### Criteria

The deadline for the nomination of candidates will be March 1, 2006.

Candidates will be asked to submit the following credentials:

- Proof of entry into this field for the first time, in the form of written confirmation from the local human resources office or the library director.
- An updated resume that can be verified by STARS Education committee members.
- A brief description of their position description, their library, and the department they work in.
- A statement of petition, in essay format (no more than three pages)  
The essay should also answer the following questions:
  - Why are you interested in attending ALA Annual 2006?
  - What benefits would you like to see in mentoring at ALA Annual?
  - How might your attendance benefit service at your local institution?
  - What, in particular, interests you in interlibrary loan, resource sharing or electronic reserves?

Criteria includes that the selected nominee accepts the following award conditions:

- Recipient attends ALA Annual 2006.
- Recipient attends the ALA RUSA STARS ILL Discussion Group meeting, ALA RUSA STARS All Committee Meeting (Education Committee), and attends some of the events sponsored by Atlas Systems, Inc.
- Recipient makes travel arrangements; however, some assistance can be offered by John Brunswick, Atlas Systems, Inc.

### III. Number and Frequency of Award

This award will be offered to one library practitioner.

Atlas will award this stipend to one person for the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans in 2006. This is presently a one-time offer, with future stipends to be offered at their discretion.

### IV. Selection of Jury to Administer the Award

The STARS Education Committee chair appoints a committee to of 3-4 STARS Education Committee members to administer the award; determine qualifications and deadlines, prepare advertisements, solicit nominations, screen the nominations and select the recipient, manage files, etc. according to ALA's Awards Manual of the American Library Association. (see:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/guidetopoliciesandproced/rusaawardsb/7awards.htm> ).

### V. Deadline for Nomination of Candidates

The deadline for the nomination of candidates will be March 1, 2006 (post-mark).

E-mail submissions will also be accepted.

Candidates will be solicited by the following means:

- Postings to the ILL-L, ILLiad and ALA listserv for new ILL practitioners.
- Atlas Systems will advertise this stipend in their OCLC ILLiad Newsletter.
- Advertising at ALA Midwinter in San Antonio, including the Atlas booth, the OCLC booth, handouts, announcements at relevant meetings, notices in the daily ALA *Cognotes*, etc.
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## VI. Screening of Candidates and Recommendations

The STARS Education Committee mentoring sub-group will select the recipient by April 1, 2006, in order to give the candidate time to make travel arrangements. Examining the nominations from March 2 – 20<sup>th</sup>, the STARS Education Committee sub-group will screen candidates first on meeting all the following criteria:

1. Did they send their nomination information by March 1, 2006?
2. Did they complete all of the following documentation:
  - Proof of entry into this field for the first time, in the form of written confirmation from the local human resources office or the library director.
  - An updated resume that can be verified by STARS Education committee members.
  - A brief description of their position description, their library, and the department they work in.
  - A statement of petition, in essay format (no more than three pages)  
The essay should also answer the following questions:
    - Why are you interested in attending ALA Annual 2006?
    - What benefits would you like to see in mentoring at ALA Annual?
    - How might your attendance benefit service at your local institution?
    - What, in particular, interests you in interlibrary loan, resource sharing or electronic reserves?
3. Have they agreed to the following award conditions?
  - Recipient attends ALA Annual 2006.
  - Recipient attends the ALA RUSA STARS ILL Discussion Group meeting, ALA RUSA STARS All Committee Meeting (Education Committee), and attends some of the events sponsored by Atlas Systems, Inc.
  - Atlas Systems, Inc. does not expect the recipient to write any sort of endorsement or appear in any advertisement. However, they would like to reserve the right to use her or his name in our newsletter, any press releases, promotions, etc.
4. Final Selection Evaluation
  - STARS Education Committee sub-group will then evaluate the best-qualified candidate to receive this award based on the quality of how they answer the essay question and contributions they have made to libraries as indicated in the nomination materials they have submitted. Sub-group adheres to the ALA Awards Policy, as stated in the Awards Manual of the ALA.
  - Chair of sub-group contacts recipient to confirm the award conditions can be met and awarded.
  - Chair of sub-group notifies STARS Chair and Atlas Systems, Inc. to begin planning the mentoring and award presentation and notice.

## VII. Presentation of the Award

The presentation of the award will follow the presentation ceremony guidelines as recommended by the ALA Awards Manual, and presented at the ILL Discussion Group at ALA Annual 2006 by the RUSA Awards Committee representative and a representative from Atlas Systems, Inc. It will also be recognized during the STARS All Committee Meeting and an event sponsored by Atlas Systems, Inc, such as the ILLiad users meeting.

Basic Outline:

- Recipient presented to the presiding RUSA Awards Committee representative.
- Complete award citation reading, includes purpose of the award.
- Acceptance speeches by the recipient as well as the donor/sponsor are not allowed.

VIII. Form and/or Type of Award

Cash award

Also, ALA RUSA STARS Education Committee agrees to provide mentoring of the recipient during ALA Annual 2006 and throughout the year.

IX. Donor

Jason Glover from Atlas Systems Inc.,

Atlas Systems Inc. agrees to provide recipient a check for \$1,000. Atlas Systems Inc. also agrees to pay the \$250.00 administrative ALA fee.

X. Contact Person

John Brunswick  
Atlas Systems, Incorporated  
5301 Providence Road, Suite 20  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23464  
Phone: (757) 467-7872 ext. 203  
Fax: (757) 467-7875  
Email: [jbrunswick@atlas-sys.com](mailto:jbrunswick@atlas-sys.com)

1/9/06