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THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



The New York Times
NYTIMES.COM

I Love My
Librarian!
2011 Award

The Carnegie Corporation
of New York / New York
Times I Love My Librarian Award
encourages library users to recognize
the accomplishments of exceptional public,
school, college, community college, or university librarians.

This year, another 10 librarians will win \$5,000!

Nominations are open through September 12.



Carnegie
CORPORATION
OF NEW YORK

“Libraries are among those cherished institutions that are most representative of our open society. We must, therefore, acknowledge that libraries—and hence, librarians—are indispensable to the strength and vitality of our nation and our democracy.”



—Vartan Gregorian, President, Carnegie Corporation of New York

Nominations open for the 2011 Carnegie Corporation of New York / New York Times I Love My Librarian Award

HISTORY

From 2008 to 2010, library users from every state submitted nearly 8,500 nominations for librarians in school, public, college, community college, and university libraries.

A total of 30 librarians have been honored with the award so far.

Now is your chance to have a spotlight shine on a librarian in your community. Encourage library users in your community to nominate a librarian.

NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations are open through September 12 on atyourlibrary.org.

Winners will be notified by November 8. In addition to the \$5,000 award, the winners will receive a plaque and a \$500 travel stipend to attend a ceremony and reception held at the TimesCenter in New York in December. The winners' libraries will also receive a plaque.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Carnegie Corporation of New York / New York Times I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional librarians that are making a difference in the lives of people in their communities.

The award is administered by the American Library Association's Campaign for America's Libraries with support from the Carnegie Corporation and the *New York Times*.

Contained in the thousands of nominations submitted each year for librarians are stories of problems solved, hurdles jumped, and lives fundamentally changed for the better.

At the center of each story is a single person: a librarian.



"Our library is located in the center of our charming and historic New England town, overlooking the town common and the old First Congregational Church. Under Ellen Dolan's leadership, the library is much more than just a physical presence in the center of town. In so many ways, it has become

the very heart of our town as well."

—Katherine Colman, nominator of 2010 winner Ellen Dolan, director of the Shrewsbury (Mass.) Public Library



"There comes a time when we all need someone to help us. To my good fortune, there was Jeff, waiting to lend his skill and his confidence when mine waned so desperately."

—From a nomination for 2010 winner Jeff Dowdy, assistant librarian at Bainbridge (Ga.) College



"[He] makes a small room in a public school in Harlem feel like the center of the universe."

—Anthony Klug, nominator of 2008 winner Paul McIntosh, school library media specialist at Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing and Visual Arts, New York City



"Lucy has not only been a strong mentor in my life, but also a voice of comfort, compassion, and strength in my hardest times. . . . When I was happy, she knew; when I wasn't, she helped; when I was stumped, I called or emailed her. When I found out I had been accepted to study at Oxford

University, the first person I called was Lucy."

—Nereyda Esparza, nominator of 2009 winner Lucy Hansen, lead librarian at the South Texas Independent School District, Mercedes, Texas



"When the Center for Worker Education of the City College of New York—whose students are nontraditional, working adults—moved to a new facility, our dean left space for a real library and asked for a librarian. Wonder of wonders . . . we got Seamus. Students leaving the program are as well-prepared for digital research and learning as students from anywhere else in the country."

—Clark Marlene, nominator of 2009 winner Seamus Scanlon, librarian and assistant professor at the Center for Worker Education Library (The City College of New York)



The "Class of 2010" celebrates at the New York Times building in December 2010. Each year, the 10 I Love My Librarian winners are honored at an award ceremony in New York. Joining the winners were Janet L. Robinson, president and chief executive officer of the New York Times Company (left); Arthur O. Sulzberger Jr., chairman of the New York Times Company and publisher of the *New York Times* (right); and celebrated *New York Times* columnist Gail Collins (fourth from left).



"Patti has the unique gift of taking something that seems impossible to outsiders and making it a reality for our students."

—Jordan Trogon, nominator of 2010 winner Patti Updike, for her work as media specialist at the Webb Street School, Gastonia, North Carolina



"Jean is worth the price of our tuition dollars all by herself."

—Nominators of Jean Amaral, 2008 winner, reference librarian at Antioch University New England, Keene, New Hampshire



"Chris Wagner has brought joy, hope, and dignity to the South Madison branch of the Madison Public Library. . . . Students who learned about the project through Chris have gone from homelessness to University of Wisconsin–Madison degrees, from poverty to fulfillment, as social workers, police officers, and nurses. . . . [Chris has helped make the library] one of the most vibrant and culturally diverse places in the entire city."

—Emily Auerbach, University of Wisconsin Odyssey Project (an award-winning free college humanities course for adults near the poverty level) and nominator of 2010 winner Chris Wagner, branch librarian at the Goodman South Madison branch of the Madison (Wis.) Public Library

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