

For Immediate Release
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Louis Shores-Oryx Press Award recipient named

William Armstrong Katz, professor, School of Information Science and Policy, State University of New York at Albany, is the 1993 recipient of the Reference and Adult Services Division (RASD) Louis Shores-Oryx Press Award.

The award, \$1,000 donated by The Oryx Press, is given to an individual, team, or organization to recognize excellence in reviewing of books and other materials for libraries. It is named for Louis Shores, editor-in-chief of Colliers Encyclopedia (1960-81) and dean of the Library School at Florida State University (1946-67).

"In addition to making significant contributions to the fields of library education and library reference service, Bill Katz has almost singlehandedly put magazines on the library map," said Jack Forman, chair of the Louis Shores-Oryx Press Award Committee.

Forman said Katz's Library Journal column reviewing magazines (now in its 23rd year) and his book "Magazines for Libraries," (now in its seventh edition) have provided librarians with vital descriptive and critical information regarding the quality of magazines and their utility for all libraries.

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"His clearly written, witty and perceptive reviews have made librarians more aware of a whole genre of publications that many had viewed as ephemeral at best. As a library education, a reviewer and an author of professional literature, Bill Katz has furthered the quality and professionalism of reviews and the reviewing process by redefining the criteria librarians need to apply in making selection decisions and by broadening the vision of librarians," Forman added.

Katz has worked as a librarian with the King County Public Library in Seattle, Wash., assistant to the director of publishing for the American Library Association (ALA) and associate professor at the University of Kentucky.

He is the author of several editions of "Introduction to Reference Work," the "Reference and Online Services: A Handbook" and "'How-To-Do-It Manual for Small Libraries." He is currently revising Dahl's "History of the Book" (Scarecrow Press).

Katz is editor of The Acquisitions Librarian (Haworth journals) and has served as editor of The Reference Librarian, The Journal of Education for Librarianship and RQ.

He has bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Washington and a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago.

The award will be presented on Monday, June 28, at the RASD Awards Reception, 4:30 p.m., during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

RASD is a division of the American Library Association.