

For Immediate Release
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ALA President Marilyn Miller receives AASL Distinguished Service Award

Marilyn L. Miller, president of the American Library Association and chair of the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, is the 1993 recipient of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Distinguished Service Award.

The award, \$3,000 donated by Baker & Taylor Books, recognizes outstanding national or international contribution to school librarianship and school library development.

"She has been in this profession and working for the benefit of school libraries for more than 40 years," said Hilda Jay, chair of the 1993 AASL Distinguished Service Award Committee. "The work that she has done to establish the quality of the library program at UNC-Greensboro, one of ALA's 59 accredited library schools, is impressive. She continues to have a significant impact on future professionals and people in the library field."

Miller began her library career in 1952 as a school librarian in Kansas. Following service in school libraries in Topeka, Miller became the first school library consultant for the state of Kansas.

In 1967, Miller joined the faculty of the Department of Librarianship at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. She was appointed to the faculty of the School of Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1977. In 1987, Miller accepted her current position.

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Miller is a researcher and author in the areas of school library media programs, library service to youth and library education.

She served as president of AASL for the 1986-87 term and the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) for the 1979-80 term. Miller has also served as president of the Kansas Association of School Librarians (KASL), the Kansas Library Association (KLA) and was the first elected president of the Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME).

Miller was instrumental in ALA/AASL becoming a member of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) where she presently serves as a member of the state recognition board.

She has been a driving force behind a continuing series of research reports on materials expenditures in school library media programs. Miller is a member of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) Library Statistics Standard Revision Committee and the School Library Media Program Statistics Advisory Committee. Her statistical work has been presented to the U.S. Congress during hearings related to funding for school library media programs.

In 1991, Miller served as head of the U.S. delegation to the Romanian Summer Institute on Librarianship and, in 1992, she served as citizen ambassador and U.S. chair of the school librarians delegation attending the Chinese American Conference on Education held in Beijing. She was the delegation leader and citizen ambassador for the School and Public Children's Librarians Delegation to Russia and Poland in the fall of 1992.

Miller has a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas and a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Michigan.

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Marilyn L. Shontz, a fellow faculty member of Miller's at the University of North Carolina, nominated her for the award.

The 1993 selection committee included: Jay, chair, Bowie, Md.; Beverly Bagan, Richmond, Va.; Kay Bland, Little Rock, Ark.; Helen F. Flowers, Bay Shore, N.Y., and Barbara Spriestersbach, Bethany, Okla.

The award will be presented on Monday, June 28, at the AASL Awards Luncheon during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

AASL is a division of the American Library Association.

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