

For Immediate Release
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ASCLA/National Organization on Disability Award recipient named

The Pioneer Library System in Newark, N.Y., is the 1993 recipient of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)/National Organization on Disability Award for Library Service for Persons with Disabilities.

The award, \$1,000 and a citation donated by the National Organization on Disability and funded by J.C. Penney, is given to institutions or organizations for the development of programs or services that have made the library's total service more accessible through changing physical and/or attitudinal barriers.

The Pioneer Library System received the award for "Bridges to the Community," an outreach program and collection of educational and recreational resources for people who are developmentally disabled and for parents, clinicians, caregivers, nursing staff and other persons who provide care and services for these individuals.

The core collection includes books, videos and 40 multi-media theme kits arranged by specialized subjects. The materials are designed to encourage communication, independence and interaction while opening up new areas of interest and hobbies. Materials are shared throughout the library system via interlibrary loan and workshops extend to 41 public libraries and residential and day treatment programs in community agencies throughout the four rural counties.

ASCLA/National Organization on Disability Award recipient named -- add one

"The ASCLA/National Organization on Disability Jury recognizes and commends the outstanding planning, creativity and commitment exhibited by the Pioneer Library System," said Leslie Rosen, jury chair. "The library developed and implemented an innovative program that focuses on the integration of persons with developmental disabilities into the community and significantly expands library services for persons with disabilities."

The award will be presented on Sunday, June 27, 9 p.m. to 12 a.m., at the ASCLA/State Library Agency Section (SLAS)/Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) Awards Reception during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

ASCLA is a division of the American Library Association.