

News Release: American Library Association

From: Peggy Barber, Director
Public Information Office

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96th Annual Conference
American Library Association
Detroit, Michigan
June 17 - 23, 1977

Press Room: Cobo Hall, Hall C
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The John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom will be presented to Irene Turin, Coordinator of the Library Department of the Island Trees (Long Island) School District on Monday, June 20, at a meeting of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in Detroit. The Award is given in honor of John Phillip Immroth, founder of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table and a leader in intellectual freedom.

The citation presented to Irene Turin reads:

"The John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom, which honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have made notable contributions to intellectual freedom and demonstrated remarkable personal courage, is presented to IRENE TURIN, Coordinator of the Library Department of the Island Trees (Long Island) School District, for personal courage and professional adherence to intellectual freedom in the face of Island Trees School Board's violation of the district's selection process by removing eleven titles from district libraries.

"Perhaps your own words best express your heroic stance:

John Phillip Immroth

"The best way to fight the banning of books is distribute the books and let them speak for themselves."

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