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Library Staff Receive Awards at Annual Conference

Amherst, NS– On Saturday, September 27th at the Scotia Room in Amherst, participants in the 2014 NSLA/LBANS Conference gathered to recognize members of their community. With each award, a representative of the Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) proudly beckoned the honoured library worker to the podium. The association describes itself as a “vehicle for library workers” to reach many professional achievements, and the Annual Awards Banquet is an entertaining and sincere means to champion the province’s unsung heroes.

“The awards banquet is our opportunity to bring the library communities together and give them a chance to celebrate the people they see diligently and silently making a difference,” says Jeff Mercer, 2013-2014 President of NSLA. “We are never at a loss for recipients.”

NSLA administers four awards and one bursary. At its annual conference, two of these awards are given to peer-nominated recipients.

Verna DeViller of Western Counties Regional Library received the 2014 NSLA Emile Theriault Library and Information Technology Award, which recognizes the efforts of a library support staff member who has made a major contribution to the library community. Verna’s story is one of hard work, determination, and “an excellent attitude”. She has tackled impressive projects, such as seven moving events, and has been the one to have on your team.

Frances Newman, CEO of Annapolis Valley Regional Library, was handed the 2014 NSLA Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership, which is given for distinguished contributions to the promotion and development of library service in Nova Scotia. She is best known for her dedicated and inspired work with One Book Nova Scotia and is said to have that prized leadership quality of being a team player, too.

“Reading the submissions for this year’s awards was a joy,” says Laura Emery, Past President of NSLA and administrator for the awards process. “I think it is vital that the Library community honour the quiet dedication of its members and applaud their creativity and innovation.”

The Annual Awards Banquet is presented during NSLA/LBANS (Library Board Association of Nova Scotia) Conference in the early fall of each year. The nominations procedure and administrator’s contact is published on nsla.ns.ca. All are welcome to submit a nomination for next year.

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