



PRESS RELEASE

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LYRASIS Announces 2010 Excellence and NextGen Librarian Award Winners

June 8, 2010, Atlanta, GA - LYRASIS is proud to announce the winners of the LYRASIS 2010 Excellence Award and the LYRASIS 2010 NextGen Librarian Award:

Excellence Award

- Ray McBride, Director, Florence County Library System, Florence, SC

The Excellence Award honors one individual who has made a significant and exceptional contribution in areas central to LYRASIS' vision of strengthening libraries through collaboration, creative solutions, and leadership for libraries. Ray McBride was cited for outstanding statewide leadership, including his role in the formation of the South Carolina Library Evergreen Network Delivery System (SC LENDS). He serves as the current chair of the SC LENDS Advisory Committee. This open source consortium is the second largest open source consortium in North America.

NextGen Librarian Award

- Julie Bill, Young Adult Librarian, Lee County Library System, East County Regional Library, Lehigh Acres, FL
- Andrew Burkhardt, Emerging Technologies Librarian, Champlain College, Burlington, VT
- Kevin Gilbertson, Librarian, Web & Digital Projects, Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

The NextGen Librarian Award honors three librarians new to the library profession who demonstrate an innovative and fresh approach to the profession and are leaders in our rapidly changing world.

From Julie Bill's nomination: "Tech-savvy, energetic information professional. . . an aggressive learner (who) actively looks for innovative opportunities to acquire and incorporate technology skills into her work as a teen librarian."

From Andrew Burkhardt's nomination: "One of the greatest attributes that Andy brings to our library is balance. His enthusiastic approach to technology is balanced by his careful consideration of whether that technology is truly useful."

From Kevin Gilbertson's nomination: "He doesn't see barriers to making complex changes and improvements, he sees only the possibilities, and then makes it happen (like magic!)."

The awards will be presented at the American Library Association 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, DC. The Excellence Award winner receives a \$2500 award and a one-year free membership to LYRISIS for the recipient's institution and NextGen Librarian Award winners receive an honorarium to cover registration and hotel accommodations to a library conference of their choice.

About LYRISIS

Created in April 2009 by the merger of PALINET and SOLINET and joined shortly thereafter by NELINET, LYRISIS is the nation's largest regional membership organization serving libraries and information professionals - providing opportunities for networking and collaboration, offering innovative solutions, and significant cost savings through group purchasing for products and services. For more information, please visit www.lyrasis.org.

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