

## Listening and learning from you: the ILF Work Plan



We are listening. Based on internal analysis and initial interviews with ILF leaders and members, we identified assets, liabilities and opportunities for improvement and growth for the Indiana Library Federation. On August 11, the ILF Board approved the [ILF Work Plan](#) 2016, which will focus our attention in five areas in remaining months of 2016.

1. Improve office infrastructure and processes;
2. Plan for changes to ILF's legal organizing documents (articles and by-laws) and governance structure;
3. Engage members and initiate strategic planning;
4. Initiate comprehensive training, meeting, conferencing and professional development plan; and
5. Improve internal and external communications, transparency and accountability.

We invite your feedback on the plan and your participation in the process. Please complete surveys and let us know how we are doing. Feel free to reach out to [Lucinda Nord](#) or any [board member](#).

### Spotlight Work Plan Goal #5: Improving internal and external communications, accountability and transparency

The most frequently stated aspiration from our members is that ILF should be “the voice for libraries and the people who work in them.” A frequently stated change related to improving communications—both internally with our members and externally with key stakeholders. Here are a few examples of how we are working to achieve this objective:

- **Website** – We are working to streamline and update the website. Please let us know if we have moved or deleted some thing you value.
- **Newsletter** – We have worked to include timely, relevant articles and links in the monthly Focus on Indiana Libraries. Examples include info on overtime rule and ESSA.
- **Updates for ILF Members** – We plan to post important documents for all members. See the [August Report from ILF Associations, Committees and Divisions](#), which can be found on the ILF website under “Member Documents.”
- **Stakeholder meetings** – We are meeting with key stakeholders in state government, nonprofit organizations and vendors to raise the profile of ILF and to explore potential partnerships.

We have much more planned and underway. We welcome your feedback as we make changes. Contact [Tisa Davis](#), [Lucinda Nord](#) or Communications Board Liaison [Diane Huerkamp](#).

### Please complete surveys!

We want to hear from you. As we implement our ILF Work Plan, we need your input. If you have not yet participated, please complete the surveys:

- [Aspirations, Challenges and Changes for ILF](#) and the library community – The Aspirations Survey will remain open through September.
- [Conference and Professional Development](#) – We are making our decisions about Annual Conference (for 2018) and want to hear your preferences for speakers, topics and authors for future annual and specialty conferences (CYPD, FOIL, SAMS, District, LITD, IPLA). Please REPLY BY SEPT. 6. While we welcome your responses through September, we are making decisions on Sept. 7. Feel free to reach out to [Megan Zanto](#) or Board members [David Peter](#) or [Edra Waterman](#).

In the coming weeks, look for surveys about our communications, member services and advocacy.

## President's Column



I am so impressed with the talented librarians that we have in this state. I attended the CYPD conference recently and came back with pages and pages of notes on things that I am ready to implement in my library. It was a great experience, with the added benefit of getting to listen to authors Matt de la Pena and Nate Powell, and I was once again struck by the great things that librarians do in the state of Indiana.

We are working hard on your behalf as we are getting ready to host two important events that relate to ESSA implementation:

- Conference call meeting for AISLE members to discuss our ESSA implementation strategy on Thursday, Sept. 1 or Sept. 8, 4:30 p.m. ET/3:30 p.m. CT.
- AASL Workshop about ESSA implementation on Saturday, Sept. 24 in Indianapolis.

These are critical to get librarians ready for the Indiana Department of Education events that occur around the state. School librarians need the support of all types of librarians to help advocate for school libraries. Details about the DOE events can be found [here](#).

IPLA will focus on Human Resources issues at its conference on October 4th. Members will shape the 2017 policy agenda at the Legislative Fall Forum on October 5th. Attending one or both of these events provides all types of librarians with great learning opportunities.

Talent will also abound at the upcoming ILF Conference held November 8-10 at the Marriott East in Indianapolis. The schedule is set and registration is open and we hope to see you there to "Pause for the Past - Build for the Future".

Thank you to all of the skilled librarians around the state for sharing what you do every day with others around you. The members of ILF make us strong and I can't wait to see what else we can learn together.

Robyn Young, President  
Indiana Library Federation  
[ryoung@avon-schools.org](mailto:ryoung@avon-schools.org)  
317-257-2040

**BECOME A MEMBER**

**Not an ILF Member? Join today!**

The mission of ILF is to foster the professional growth of its members and to promote all types of libraries in Indiana. Your membership is essential to our success in advocating for libraries. There are many benefits to ILF membership, including important networking opportunities, supportive work on behalf of libraries in the legislative arena, ability to receive reduced rates to ILF's outstanding conferences which provide valuable continuing education credits and more.

The Indiana Library Federation offers a one-time initial personal membership of \$40 to anyone who wishes to join under the condition that the individual has never been a member of the Indiana Library Federation.

[Click here](#) to become a member or [click here](#) to renew.



### EDITOR'S NOTE

*Focus on Indiana Libraries* is a publication of the Indiana Library Federation.

Its purpose is to act as a publication for disseminating current news and information of interest to people working in and with Indiana libraries.

All correspondence, requests for advertising information, subscriptions and claims for back issues should be directed to:

*Focus on Indiana Libraries*  
941 E. 86th Street, Suite 260  
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Phone: (317) 257-2040

Fax: (317) 257-1389

E-mail: [tdavis@ilfonline.org](mailto:tdavis@ilfonline.org)

Website: [www.ilfonline.org](http://www.ilfonline.org)

Editor: Sean Davis

Managing Editor:  
Tisa Davis

Publications Committee:  
Robyn Young, Jenny Johnson,  
Gigi Shook, Greg Youngen,  
Sean Davis, Portia Kapraun,  
Rachel Jamieson,  
Shannon M. Bahler,  
Helen Cawley, Lucinda Nord,  
Tisa Davis

All submissions for *Focus* need to be submitted by the 2nd day prior to the month of publication. For example, an article in the June issue would need to be submitted by May 2.

Annual subscription rate: \$20

## ILF Advocacy Update

We are adding a section to the newsletter to provide you key highlights about policy and advocacy issues related to libraries.

- [The Interim Study Committees of the Indiana General Assembly](#) are meeting through October. See [calendar](#). Topics of interest to libraries might include ISTEP replacement, local government issues, processes for school personnel accused of abuse, immigration issues and redistricting.
- During the August 2 meeting of the [Interim Study Committee on Government](#), the committee heard about big data and issues related to transfers within and between local taxing units.
  - o Recently retired and former ILF interim executive director Beverly Martin testified on behalf of Indiana Library Federation. Martin made the case how libraries are good stewards of limited taxpayer funds and plan for long-term facility improvements. She explained the budgeting and prudent spending practices of libraries, and how the idea to transfer funds from one taxing unit to another taxing unit may harm a library's plan for facility improvement and undermine the taxpayer's intent. Martin offered support for the proposal under discussion to offer greater flexibility to transfer within funds within a taxing entity—an idea that was echoed by representatives of Counties, Cities and Townships.
  - o The ILF Legislative Committee, advocates and staff will continue to monitor this issue and will communicate with members any relevant information.
- ILF members are discussing ways that school libraries may be included in the [Indiana Plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#), which must be submitted in the first quarter of 2017. The IN Department of Education (IDOE) is planning input sessions. See below.



**Please note** that we will specify when we are asking members to take action. We plan to provide additional training, assistance and specific talking points, as needed. See below for **three opportunities for you to get involved**:

- **ESSA implementation in Indiana** – Tell us if you are attending ESSA events
  - o **ILF-ESSA Conference Calls** (target: ILF member school librarians and those who support them) on [Sept. 1](#) or [Sept. 8](#), 4:30 p.m. (EST). Please RSVP by clicking on the link of the date you will be attending.
  - o **ESSA Workshop with American Association of School Librarians of ALA**, Sept. 24, 10:30-1:30 p.m. (EST) in Indianapolis. Come to learn how libraries may be included in the State's Implementation Plan for ESSA.
  - o **IDOE input sessions about ESSA in Indiana**, held 4:30 – 6:30 local time, on the following dates: 9/14, Indy; 9/15, Ft. Wayne; 9/22, Evansville; 9/29, Merrillville; 10/4, Richmond; 10/5, New Albany; 10/6, South Bend; 10/11, Terre Haute; 10/12, Kokomo.
- **Legislative Fall Forum**, October 5, at Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park, Indianapolis. This forum will include an interactive program including a legislator, representative from DLGF, our legislative advocates, staff and volunteers. Come to help shape our 2017 Policy Agenda. [Register for Fall Forum](#).

For more information about ILF Advocacy, contact [Lucinda Nord](#), Committee Co-Chairs [Jos Holman](#) or [Bill Wiebenga](#), Network Coordinator [Nick Schenkel](#) or Legislative Committee Board Liaison [Kelly Ehinger](#).

### ••••• Are you registered to vote?

- The deadline to register is October 11. Check your voter registration or polling place at [www.indianavoters.com](http://www.indianavoters.com).



## 2016 ILF Award Honorees



The ILF Awards, Honors and Scholarship Committee met July 21 to review several applications and nominations for outstanding library service. The following individuals will be honored on November 10 at 12:30 p.m. at the Indianapolis Marriott East. Tickets are available by contacting the ILF office ([tdavis@ilfonline.org](mailto:tdavis@ilfonline.org)) (\$45/each) or by registering for annual conference and choosing the luncheon option for Nov. 10. Please join us in congratulating your colleagues.

**Federation Leadership Award** - This award recognizes a person in a leadership role who has performed far beyond the scope that would normally be expected for a volunteer or officer to the Federation. Current ILF President **Robyn Young** has spent many years serving ILF. She has held positions in both AISLE and the ILF Board, has presented at conferences, and in 2012 created an Evaluation Rubric to be used across the state. She has spent countless hours working with the interim executive director, current executive director and staff to position the ILF to become an even stronger organization.

**Lifetime Achievement Award** - This award honors and recognizes a librarian who has rendered outstanding service to Indiana libraries or media centers in his or her local community, region, or the state. This year, ILF is pleased to honor two members. **Karla Wilson** is honored as a school librarian recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Director of Media Services for the Duneland School Corporation in Chesterton, Indiana, Karla has served on the ILF District 1 committee, has been an AISLE District 1 representative, and presented at the ILF Annual Conference.

**Diane Bever** has been selected as an academic library recipient of the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Diane started her career in libraries at the Indiana University Kokomo library in 1979. In her library career she has served as Assistant Reference Librarian, Head of Reference Services, Head of Public Services, Interim Dean of Librarian, and Reference and Information Services Librarian. Diane has served in many roles in ILF. She served as a member of the Board and as ILF Board President. She has held leadership roles in the organization at both the district and committee level, and as Editor of the *Focus on Indiana Libraries* newsletter for over 10 years. Diane is a tireless volunteer who works for the better of ILF and librarians across the state.

**Outstanding Librarian Award** - The ILF Outstanding Librarian Award honors and recognizes excellence and innovative leadership in the development of library service and for remarkable service to the profession. **Stephanie Davis** is the director of the Wells County Public Library in Bluffton. Stephanie's 30-year library career is filled with excellence and innovation. As director of the Wells County Public Library since 1997, she has been the driving force that has kept the library exemplary in technology, building facilities, digital resources, and personnel. Stephanie has been instrumental in forming many groups and ideas important in the library community. She has presented at many district meetings and annual conference spreading the word to other libraries about an alternative organization system for library materials, which she helped to develop. Stephanie has also held leadership roles both in ILF and in her community.

**Outstanding Library Award** - This award honors and recognizes either outstanding library service consistently exceeding the expectations of the users and thereby serving as an exemplary model for other libraries or notable expansion and improvement of service based on cooperation with other libraries or community organizations. This year's award goes to the **Wells County Public Library (WCPL)**. WCPL leads the way in technology, customer-service, and dedication. Through forward-thinking ideas like their Word Wise library classification system, engaging their community by partnering with the Parks Department, and local school corporation. Thanks to a dedicated library staff, the library has won the hearts and minds of its patrons and become a model library for other libraries.

**ILF Programming Award** - The ILF Programming Award honors and recognizes a library system or branch of a library system that has successfully provided ongoing, innovative, and diverse programming designed to meet their community's needs. The **Monroe County Public Library** has provided its community with many outstanding learning opportunities through The Power of Words program, a bi-annual author event which encompasses various elements to engage the community.

## 2016 ILF Award Honorees

**Special Services Award** - This award recognizes and honors exceptional contributions or services which strengthen library or media center services in a local community, school, or across the state. **Suzanne Walker** is the Supervisor of Professional Development at the Indiana State Library. However, she is much more than her title. Suzanne has served as chair of the Children and Young People's Division of ILF, spearheaded a literature writing contest for students across the state, helped develop a children's and young adult section of the Indiana State Library, and as Coordinator for the Indiana Center for the Book. She has been instrumental in developing new programs that improve service and programming in Indiana libraries and even developed a puppet program with Sammy the Toucan, educating youth about library roles.

**Peggy Pfeiffer Award** - This award honors and recognizes outstanding service to the Indiana Library Federation Association for Indiana School Librarian Educators (AISLE) and to school library programs within Indiana. This award differs from other awards in that the award's focus is work or service within or for AISLE. **Vicki Builta** is the director of the South Whitley Public Library. However, her work in school libraries even after leaving the school setting is proof of her outstanding service. During her career, Vicki has served students and staff as a school librarian/media specialist; her fellow school librarians through professional organizations at the local, state and national levels; her patrons at the public libraries where she has served as their director; and, she still serves her school librarians as AISLE Young Hoosier Book Award General Co-Chair, the Indiana Library Federation Awards/Honors/Scholarship Committee Member, and AISLE Representative.

**Outstanding Support Staff Award** - This award honors and recognizes a support or a paraprofessional staff person who has contributed to his or her employing library or media center and to librarianship in Indiana. **Jennifer James** began her career with the IUPUI University Library in 1997. Throughout her career, Jennifer has exceeded the limits of her position as Acquisitions Senior Associate. She has developed new skills that have enabled her to contribute to important digital humanities work. She has also worked to address the need for events and conversations around priorities of LGBTQ community on campus and manages access to online resources on the library's website.

**Sena Kautz (Media Center) Merit Award** - Honors and recognizes a non-media professional in the education field for exceptional contributions or services which strengthen media center services in a school, community, or across the state. **Anna Spalding** is the Title 1 Director/Grants Coordinator/Curriculum Director/Professional Development Coordinator/Testing Coordinator at Adams Central Community Schools. Through budgeting and grant seeking, Anna has helped fund a variety of library needs and programs. She found grant money to purchase a laptop, iPad, projector and screen for the library. She is always looking for ways to assist the library and make sure the library is part of the decision making in the school.

**Tom Zupancic Literacy in Libraries Award** - This award was created to acknowledge outstanding efforts by an individual or an organization in advocating the importance of libraries and literacy programs in a community. **Wendy Preilis** is the Coordinator of the Adult Learning Center at the Johnson County Public Library. Wendy organizes the Adult Basic Education and ESL activities, partners with Johnson Memorial Hospital for the Baby TALK program, and makes appearances at public events such as, back-to-school nights, the local farmers market, the college intern fair, and many more. She is always an advocate for literacy and a great ambassador for the library.

**Citizen's Award** - The Citizen's Award honors and recognizes an individual, corporate entity, or group who has rendered outstanding service to Indiana libraries or media centers in their local community, throughout their region, or the state. The **Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund (IFLF)** works diligently to engage with libraries in Indiana through major contributions to collections, professional development, programming, outreach, and donations to Indiana libraries.



The **Small and Medium Size Libraries (SAMS) Conference** will be held at the Alexandria Monroe Public Library on September 15-16. Registration rates are Pre-conference (Sept. 15) \$40 for members, \$60 for non-members, conference (Sept. 16) \$40 for members, \$60 for non-members. More information about this conference is available at <http://www.ilfonline.org/page/SAMSConference>.

The **Friends of Indiana Libraries (FOIL) Conference** is being held on September 9 at the Fortnightly Club House on the campus of the Knox County Public Library. Registration rates are \$35. Author Marie Albertson will be joining us! For more information, please go to: <https://ilfonline.site-ym.com/page/foilconference>.

The **IPLA Conference** takes place October 4 at Ft. Benjamin Harrison Conference Center in Indianapolis. Registration Rates are \$60 for Members and \$90 for Non-members. Come hear from HR expert Jeff Halbert of Bose, McKinney & Evans, LLC as he speaks about best HR practices. Followed by Assistant Manager of Academic Administration in the Department of Medicine at IUPUI, Bridget Working who will be presenting on performance evaluations. For more information and to register, go to: <https://ilfonline.site-ym.com/page/iplaconference>.

The Indiana Public Library Association (IPLA) Conference will be followed by the Legislative Fall Forum on October 5 at the Fort Harrison Inn. Registration for Fall Forum is \$30 for Members and \$45 for Non-members. To register, go to: <https://ilfonline.site-ym.com/page/fallforum>.

ILF has a block of rooms available for these two events at the Main Lodge (Fort Harrison State Park Inn) and some of the Officer's Homes, which can sleep 10-13. Reservations can be made by contacting 317-638-6000 or 1-877-lodges1 and using the block code "ILF."

Don't forget, the **2016 ILF Annual Conference - Pause for the Past - Build for the Future** will be held on November 8-10 at the Indianapolis, Marriott East. Registration Rates are: Full Conference - Early Bird: Member - \$170 Non-member - \$255 One-Day - Early Bird: Member - \$150 Non-member - \$225. Our keynote speaker for Wednesday will be award winning author, James Patterson. On Thursday, come hear from keynote speaker and past ALA President, Barbara Stripling. **Early Bird deadline is September 26th!**

\*More information about Trustee, Student, Friends, and Retiree prices, as well as the regular and late registration prices are provided on the annual conference webpage at: <https://ilfonline.site-ym.com/?page=2016annualconference>

---

## 2016 ILF Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following students who applied for and will receive scholarships from the ILF. We wish them the best for the 2016-17 school year as they pursue a degree. All of our recipients this year are attending IUPUI:

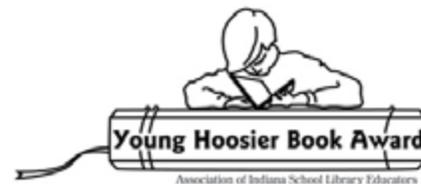
Caitlin Balgeman  
Janelle Barton  
Jennifer Borgman  
Jessica Champlin  
Tamara Gibbs  
Lindsey Walters



## YHBA: Still Fabulous at Forty

By Valerie Bassett, YHBA Co-Chair

Since its inception in 1974, the Young Hoosier Book Award (YHBA) program has endeavored to get books into kids' hands. Not just any books—ones they will love to read! There have been many thousands of Indiana students who have come to appreciate reading and realize its importance because of the YHBA program. During this last school year (2015-2016) nearly 44,000 children voted for our winners.



Divided into three levels: Picture Book, Intermediate and Middle Grade. Our picture book level covers readers in kindergarten through 2nd grade; Intermediate covers readers in 4th grade through 6th grade and the Middle Grade level readers in 6th grade through 8th grade. One title out of the 20 nominated for each list each year will win by having the most student votes. Those winning authors will be invited to accept their award at a banquet that is hosted during the Indiana Library Federation's annual conference each fall. In recent years, we have been privileged to welcome such authors as Richard Paul Evans, Jef Czekaj, Nick Bruel, Suzanne Collins, Daniel Kirk, and this year we will welcome famed picture book author Peter Brown!

Comprised of volunteer librarians and teachers from around the state, our committees meet twice a year to help select the best books to promote to Indiana students. We also rely heavily on outside participation (that means you) in the form of nominations. Any teacher, librarian or graduate student in information/library sciences can nominate a title to be considered for a future list. Our committees work two school years ahead to give ample time for schools and librarians to obtain the newly nominated titles, book availability and banquet preparations. For example, this fall at the conference, we will release the list for the 2017-2018 school year.

In recent years, there have been a few criticisms regarding the books chosen. Some have been that subject matter is a little too deep for our intermediate and middle grade readers. Others have been about language in the middle grade novels<sup>1</sup>. In response, we realize that some of these titles can be considered "controversial" but those are the books that get teens reading and talking! In a sense, the YHBA program is "growing up." We must provide books the kids want to read, or else the program will fail and cease to exist. This is not to say that choosing controversial books is our goal; rather, as stated above, these are the books that receiving the most buzz and were also lauded for their literary merit as well as their appeal to readers.

In addition, other criticisms have labeled our program as being "too white" (Caucasian). Again, because this program relies primarily on nominations from volunteers and from the public, we accept what others send in (as long as it follows our guidelines) and have professed to be "good books." We do try and provide books that we feel each reader will enjoy. It would be gratuitous to include diverse titles just to include them. Plus, the trends in the mainstream publishing industry lately have also been lacking diverse characters and have trended toward non-human, animal and/or cartoon characters.

If you feel that the YHBA lists do not represent your community, your school, or offer titles you do not want to promote to your students, then PLEASE get involved! There are complete regulations, directions and guidelines<sup>2</sup> on how to participate on our website. Here you will see nomination forms and also what to do if you'd like to be on a future committee. Without our hard-working committee members, we wouldn't be able to provide this program. As the old adage goes, if you don't like what you see—change it! The Young Hoosier Book Award committee needs your help by either being on a committee, nominating titles to consider for future lists, or by using the books in your library or classroom and having students vote for their favorites each spring.

This program needs to exist now more than ever in this digital age. We are constantly competing for the kids' attention with all of their devices, television and of course, video games. With all of the required reading students must complete at school, its vital that they also get their hands on meritorious leisure reading too. Our recent partnership with TeachingBooks.net (<http://teachingbooks.net>) has also made finding lesson plans and other resource activities much easier. Most of the YHBA books from the past five years are also located on the site.

If you wish to become involved, please contact general co-chair Debbie Acord at [acordd@accs.k12.in.us](mailto:acordd@accs.k12.in.us). You may also contact me, general chair, Valerie Bassett at [Bassettv@wws.k12.in.us](mailto:Bassettv@wws.k12.in.us) to directly nominate titles, or with questions.

<sup>1</sup> Referring to: *The Living* by Matt de la Pena, published by Delacorte Press, 978-0385741200 and *The Impossible Knife of Memory* by Laurie Halse Anderson, published by Viking Books for Young Readers, 978-0670012091.

<sup>2</sup> Guidelines can be found on our website pages on <http://www.ilfonline.org>



# FOCUS

*o*  
*n* **INDIANA  
LIBRARIES**

941 E. 86th Street, Suite 260  
Indianapolis, IN 46240  
Phone: (317) 257-2040  
Fax: (317) 257-1389  
E-mail: [askus@ilfonline.org](mailto:askus@ilfonline.org)

## CALENDAR

### September 2016

- 1**  
ILF Call about ESSA
- 2**  
Articles due for October issue of *Focus*
- 6**  
Legislative Committee Mtg.,  
10:30 a.m., ILF Office
- 7**  
IALA Call
- 8**  
**ILF Call about ESSA**
- 10**  
YHBA Fall Selection Meeting
- 13**  
ILF Board Call
- 15-16**  
SAM S Conference, Alexandria-  
Monroe Public Library,  
Alexandria
- 24**  
ESSA Workshop in Indianapolis

### December 2016

- 2**  
Articles due for January 2017 issue  
of *Focus*
- 8**  
ILF Board Mtg., ILF Office Complex

### January 2017

- 2**  
Articles due for February issue of  
*Focus*

### February 2017

- 2**  
Articles due for March issue of  
*Focus*

### October 2016

- 2**  
Articles due for Nov/Dec issue of  
*Focus*
- 4**  
IPLA Conference, Ft. Benjamin  
Harrison, Indianapolis
- 5**  
Legislative Fall Forum,  
Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis
- ILF Board Mtg.  
Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis

### November 2016

- 8-10**  
ILF Annual Conference,  
Indianapolis Marriott East