The Pennsylvania Library Association is pleased to present the 2022 New Librarian Honors Award to Jennifer Powell, Library Director at the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library.

Jennifer has an original and creative approach to providing library service. As Director of the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library, she spearheaded efforts for innovative and inclusive children’s programs like the Teen Hunger Games and an Autism Meet-Up Group which earned her library the 2020 David J. Roberts EXCEL Award for Best Practices. She was the recipient of a PA Forward Literacy Grant for story time on Mental Health and Wellness for kids and was named a 2020 Toward Gigabit Libraries Inaugural Fellow.

In addition to her exemplary work at the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library library, Jennifer has provided thoughtful leadership and support for various Pennsylvania Library Association committees. After attending the Directors Institute by PALS (PaLA Academy of Leadership Studies) in 2018, she promptly volunteered for the committee in 2019. She continued to serve through the pandemic as vice chair. Her leadership on this committee as it became necessary to pivot to online learning was extremely valuable. She is currently serving as chair of the PaLS committee in 2022, again exhibiting outstanding leadership as PALS continued to shift how programs were being offered. In addition, she previously served as Chair of the Juniata-Conemaugh Chapter where she helped implement a Diversity Scholarship.

No matter her role on the committee, Jennifer is always willing to share feedback and suggest ways to improve programs. While so many were pivoting to virtual during the COVID-19 pandemic, Jennifer worked tirelessly with her colleagues on the Leadership Development Committee to help create the Leading Through Challenges online program.

Jennifer is truly generous with both her time and her talents as evidenced by her willingness to share her expertise through presentations at the PaLA Annual Conference. Her work and her leadership both at her library and through PaLA activities represent a passion and dedication to Pennsylvania Libraries that serve as an inspiration to new and seasoned librarians alike. Therefore, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that the Pennsylvania Library Association presents the 2022 New Librarian Honors Award to Jennifer Powell.