



Pennsylvania
Library
Association

Best Practices Award Application 2019

Founded in 1901, the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) is the state's oldest and most diverse professional library organization serving libraries, library employees, library trustees, and Friends of the Library groups. The Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) continues its campaign to raise public awareness of library services and to inform policy-makers of the fundamental role we play in programming across generations.

Since 2004, Pennsylvania libraries have been recognized for their exceptional services to youth (birth to 18) with the Best Practices Award. The Best Practices Committee will honor several libraries at the Carolyne L. Smith Best Practices Award program at the Annual Conference.

This award is made possible by continued membership in the Pennsylvania Library Association. If you are not currently a member, won't you consider joining the organization so that we can continue to honor the best of the best in youth programs.

Programs considered "best practices" should be supportive of learning and literacy, effective in reaching intended goals, be innovative, budget friendly, serve youth, and favorably received. Community collaboration and promotion or recognition of PA Forward literacies is a plus.

Additionally, one library will receive the David J. Roberts EXCEL Library Service Award. The award will recognize the year's most creative and/or most influential program for early learning in libraries. It is selected from the entire group of best practices winners. EXCEL stands for EXcellence in Childhood Early Learning and, as such, the David J. Roberts EXCEL Library Service Award will represent the "Best of the Best" practices for library early learning. The honor includes a monetary gift of \$1,000.

You are permitted to submit more than one application from each library system or branch. Please be advised you may not enter the same application in more than one category.

Applicants may be contacted for clarification or additional information. All applicants will be notified whether or not their entry is selected for the award.

Thank you for your participation!

The deadline to submit the application is March 31, 2019. Winners will be notified in May.

Sincerely,

George Matthew; Chair Best Practices Committee

**Committee Members: Elaine Volpe, Ann Duffy, Jennifer Roberts, Catherine Stewart, Heather Weleski
Karl Rebon; Chair Youth Services Division**



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Best Practices Award Application 2019

Library Name:

Library Address:

County:

Telephone Phone Number:

Email:

Name of person responsible for planning/implementing the program:

Name of person completing the form:

Are you an individual member or an organizational member of the Pennsylvania Library Association?

Program Information:

Title of Program or Display/Design:

Category you are applying for:

- Infant/Toddler (birth to 3)
- Preschool (Age 3-5)
- School Age (Kdg-5th grade)
- Middle School (6th -8th grade)
- High School (9th-12th grade)
- Design & Display (Display: created for youth in the library. Design: innovative area of the library designed for youth.)
- STEM (program for any age that supports Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
- Family/Multi-Generational (all ages)

In 500 words or less, please give a general overview of your program or display/design. Be sure to include the following where applicable: *The goals of the program and how you measured effectiveness;* * How the program was marketed;* *Estimated cost and how it was funded;* *Examples of how it was favorably received. Briefly describe how it supports at least one of the PA Forward literacies and/or PA Early Learning Standards, or other relevant initiative.

Is the program or display/design replicable in other communities similar to yours and why?

Are you submitting supporting documents? For instance, comments, letters, survey responses, photos, video, plan, flyers, etc.

If YES, please follow these instructions for submitting your files:

In the subject line include your category and title of program or design/display.
For example: Middle School-After School Book Club.

Please send all attachments along with this application in one email to palabestpractices@gmail.com