

FLA Awards Recipients 2008

The Association is pleased to announce the winners of its 2008 awards. Recipients were recognized for their achievements during the Closing Session of the FLA Annual Conference Friday, April 25 Tradewinds Resorts St. Pete Beach, Florida

Library of the Year Award

Pasco County Library System, Linda Allen, Director

Pasco County is on the move with innovative programming, award winning staff members, exceptional quality marketing materials, and excellent ratings by the public. The library is a leader in E-government services and generously shares information and methods with other libraries. Services such as electronic gaming, literary speed dating, battle of the bands, and adaptive toys are indicative of the excellence and innovation in Pasco County libraries.

Public Library Web Site Award

Osceola Library System, Edward Kilroy, Director

In keeping with Osceola Library System's commitment to offer innovative customer service, a redesigned virtual branch – OsceolaLibrary.org – was launched in late 2007. The site is focused on enhancing the customer's virtual experience by offering a feature-rich and interactive environment. Developed by Osceola staff, the site continues Osceola's branding and identity.

FLA Leader of the Year Award

Bradley Ward, Northeast Florida Library Information Network

Long an active FLA member and leader, Brad leads by example, encouraging and supporting his own staff and library employees in the NEFLIN region to participate in FLA. He took a personal and professional risk in November 2006 when NEFLIN took on management of the FLA office at a time when the Association was in need of a home. His cooperative partnership with FLA leadership was critical in assuring a successful financial and administrative year for FLA in 2007.

Friends, Foundations & Boards Library Award

Bettye Stevens Coney, Leesburg Friends of the Library

Bettye conceived and organized a project to bring an original bronze sculpture, "A Grandmother's Legacy," to the new Leesburg Public Library. She brought many community organizations into this project that honors a local teacher.

Chavez-Hernandez Libraries Change People's Lives Award

Kathleen Mayo, Lee County Library System

Kathy has devoted her career to leadership in the expansion of library services to the underserved, to people with disabilities, those living in institutions, and non-English speakers. For eleven years in Lee County and many more before that at the State Library & Archives of Florida, Kathy has been a pioneer and a national and state leader in this field. She is the recipient of many awards but none is more fitting for a professional of her caliber than this, a new award named after an individual who labored, like Kathy, to bring library services to those whose need is greatest.

Betty Davis Miller Youth Services Award

Clearwater Public Library System, Barbara Pickell, Director

The Bright Mind Preschool Storytime, an early literacy program for children ages three to five years, is based on the best in classic and contemporary children's literature, music, activities, ASL signing, and art.

Exhibitor "Best Booth" Award

Library Interiors of Florida

Friends, Foundations & Boards Member Group Awards, Presented at the April 24 Luncheon

- [Newsletter of the Year](#) Friends of South County Regional Library (Lee County)
- [Special Projects Award](#) Friends of the Elsie Quirk Library (Sarasota County)
- [Outstanding Program Award](#) Friends of the Bloomingdale Regional Library (Hillsborough County)
- [Special Projects Award](#) Friends of the Leesburg Public Library