



NEWS

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New Haven, Connecticut NHFPL librarian chosen for national public service honor

Diane Brown recipient of the prestigious 2015 I Love My Librarian Award

NEW YORK – Today, Diane Brown, branch manager of the New Haven (Connecticut) Free Public Library’s Stetson Branch, will receive the I Love My Librarian Award for her outstanding public service to the community and ongoing commitment to transforming lives through education and lifelong learning. Brown was one of only 10 librarians within the United States recognized this year for this esteemed honor.

Known as the “urban librarian” to her patrons, Brown develops valuable programs and services to meet the needs of the underserved residents in the community.

Under Brown’s leadership, the library has been transformed into a true community center. She is always bringing residents together by hosting cultural and educational events such as an international “pop up” festival, art exhibits, lectures and health fairs.

Brown has been praised for facilitating an afterschool tutoring program for K-8 students and providing opportunities for children and their families to spend time together by establishing history and game nights.

Brown will receive a \$5,000 prize at an award ceremony and reception held this evening in New York City, hosted by Carnegie Corporation of New York, which generously sponsors the award. The New York Public Library and The New York Times are co-sponsors of the award, which is administered by the American Library Association.

Upon notification of receiving her award Brown shared, “I feel like it is my mission, obligation and responsibility to give back to my community and I am honored to serve my neighborhood as its librarian.” In recognizing Diane’s accomplishments, Martha Brogan, City Librarian and Director of the New Haven Free Public Library, praised her “powerful combination of local knowledge, passion, and creative mind. She approaches her work as a librarian from the perspective of a community activist, making her a force of nature in a neighborhood where she has first-hand experience and deep roots.”

As part of the award process, library users nationwide are invited to nominate their favorite librarians working in public, school, college, community college and university libraries. This year more than 1,300 library patrons

submitted detailed stories showing how their librarian had an impact on their communities and lives by connecting people with the information access and critical resources they need to succeed in today's digital age.

There are a total of 166,164 certified librarians in the United States and more than 200,000 dedicated library workers who are integral to the success of their libraries and communities. Librarians are continually working to meet the changing needs of the library users and communities they serve.

This year's award recipients include four academic librarians, three public librarians and three school librarians. A complete list of the 2015 I Love My Librarian Award recipients can be found at ilovelibraries.org/ilovemylibrarian.

About Carnegie Corporation of New York

Carnegie Corporation of New York was established by Andrew Carnegie in 1911 "to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding." In keeping with this mandate, the Corporation's work focuses on the issues that Andrew Carnegie considered of paramount importance: international peace, the advancement of education and knowledge, and the strength of our democracy.

About The New York Public Library

The New York Public Library is a free provider of education and information for the people of New York and beyond. With 92 locations—including research and branch libraries—throughout the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island, the Library offers free materials, computer access, classes, exhibitions, programming and more to everyone from toddlers to scholars, and has seen record numbers of attendance and circulation in recent years. The New York Public Library serves more than 18 million patrons who come through its doors annually and millions more around the globe who use its resources at www.nypl.org. To offer this wide array of free programming, The New York Public Library relies on both public and private funding. Learn more about how to support the Library at nypl.org/support.

About the American Library Association

The American Library Association (ALA) is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with 58,000 members in academic, public, school, government, and special libraries. The mission of the American Library Association is to provide leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.

The ALA administers the I Love My Librarian Award through the ALA's Public Awareness Office which promotes the value of libraries and librarians.

About the New Haven Free Public Library

Established in 1886, the New Haven Free Public Library's mission is to ensure all New Haven's citizens have full and unlimited access to information and knowledge so that they may meet the needs of daily living, have opportunities for self-education, and participate successfully in self-government.

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