GLA Announces 2008 scholarship Winners

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Christopher Warren, library associate from Gwinnett County Public Library, has been named this year’s winner for the Charles Beard Scholarship. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance toward completing a master’s degree in library science for candidates who show strong potential to inspire and motivate their peers in the library profession. In addition to reference and circulation duties, Christopher leads a book club for young adults and is coordinating the summer reading program for teens this year. He also uses social networking as further outreach to the younger generation. Christopher says he “fell back into libraries and soon fell in love with them. Working with teens — whether in person through a book discussion or virtually through a blog has been so rewarding.” In addition to work with young adults, he plays a role in professional development and technology planning.

The 2008 Hubbard Scholarship goes to Erika Farr. Erika leads the Digital Programs Team at Emory University’s Robert W. Woodruff Library, where she develops and contributes to a range of digital initiatives. She earned her Ph.D. in English literature from Emory University. She began working in digital libraries and digital scholarship as a graduate student assistant for the Emory Women Writers Resource Project in 1998. Erika was initially drawn to electronically publishing texts by and about early modern women. This has grown into a deep interest in textual technologies, digital publishing and technological impacts on humanities research.

Mercer University library news and notes

Mercer University’s Jack Tarver Library showcased undergraduate student research and artwork during National Library Week 2008. For the second year, Tarver Library collaborated with coordinators of the Mercer University Undergraduate Research Symposium. Forty-seven undergraduate researchers presented 35 posters at this year’s symposium. Student researchers represented the College of Liberal Arts, including the departments of Christianity, biology and sociology, and the School of Engineering. The library exhibited the posters the week of April 21 and honored the student researchers at a reception four days later.

The annual All-Student Art Show featured painting, drawing, photography, printmaking and sculpture. Student participants included art majors as well as those majoring in other disciplines. Andrew Shuping, interlibrary loan & circulation services librarian, served as the judge. A reception on April 25 recognized all participants and awarded the first-, second- and third-place winners of each media, as well as Best of Show.

VSU’s McGhee wins Josey Scholarship

Valdosta State University M.L.I.S. student Myron McGhee recently received the E.J. Josey Scholarship from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. The award is an unrestricted scholarship given to outstanding African-American library students who are currently enrolled or accepted by an ALA-accredited graduate school program. The competition for the award is nationwide, and only two Josey scholarships are awarded annually. McGhee holds a Master of Divinity from Emory University and is circulation specialist at Emory’s Pitts Theology Library. Myron states that he hopes to “continue working at Emory and pursue opportunities to synthesize interests in genealogy, photography, music and library science.”

Ott joins library faculty at Clayton State

Katherine Ott has joined the library faculty at Clayton State University as head of access and information services. She previously was employed at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.