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Knight, Kunnupas win GLA scholarships

The GLA Scholarship Committee has announced the 2009 winners of the Beard and Hubbard scholarships — two awards given annually by GLA to provide financial assistance for students pursuing a Master's degree in library science.

This year's C.S. Hubbard Scholarship winner is Amber Knight, who completed a B.A. in theatre from LaGrange College and will be starting the LIS program at Valdosta State University in the fall. Throughout high school, Knight volunteered her summers off to work as a page for the Hall County Public Library System and later worked for that library system in Youth Services Programming.



Knight

She is presently employed full time at the Bartow County Library System as a Youth Services Assistant. She is praised by previous and current supervisors for her abilities in planning and conducting programming for children and teens. Her professional goal she says is to "shape in my own small way, the public library systems' future" and she aspires to someday be head of a children's department in a public library.

Tiia Kunnupas, currently a student in the LIS program at Valdosta, is this year's Charles Beard Scholarship winner. Kunnupas has a B. S. in Marketing from New York University, an M.Ed. from University of West Georgia, and is presently employed full time in the library at Atlanta Technical College. She previously worked as a media specialist for Cobb County Schools and was a national semifinalist in the International Reading Association's Presidential Award for Reading and Technology in 2008.



Kunnupas

On completing her library degree, Tiia would like to work in public libraries creating and implementing programs that encourage moms and their children to read together.

Complete information about the scholarships offered by GLA, including application information, is available through the GLA website at <http://gla.georgialibraries.org/scholarship.htm>. The 2010 deadline for applications is May 21st. Congratulations to our 2009 scholarship winners! ▶▶



Above left: Award winners Kozel, Michelle Demeter, Fran Perros and Donna Scheeder with FAFLRT Awards Committee Co-Chairs Shirly Loo and Maria Plsa. Above right: Kozel accepts his award from Plsa.

VSU students honored at ALA Conference

Three students from the Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) Program at Valdosta State University (VSU) were honored at the American Library Association (ALA) 2009 Conference in Chicago.

Kenneth M. Kozel received the Adelaide Del Frate Conference Sponsorship Award from the Federal & Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT). This award helps to defray the expense of attending the ALA Annual Conference for a student in an ALA-accredited Masters Program who has expressed an interest in some aspect of Federal librarianship. Kozel, who currently works at Pitts Library, Andrew College, in Cuthbert, Georgia, received his MLIS degree in August 2009. He has been accepted for an internship in the Office of eDiplomacy in the Bureau of Information Resource Management of the U.S. Department of State and plans to pursue a career as a Federal librarian.

Mary L. Miller is VSU's first participant in the ALA Student-to-Staff Program. Each year 40 library students are chosen to assist ALA staff during ALA Annual Conference. In exchange for working about four hours a day, these students receive free conference registration, housing, and a per diem for meals. During free time, they may attend programs and other conference activities. Miller worked in the ALA Store and attended sessions related to current cataloging and metadata standards. Currently employed as Cataloger for the Peabody Awards Collection at the University of Georgia, Miller plans to utilize her expertise in instructional design as a teacher of cataloging and metadata.



Miller

Jennifer Yontz-Orlando is VSU's first Spectrum Scholar. Spectrum is ALA's national diversity and recruitment effort to address under-representation of critically needed ethnic