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Georgia Library Association - Paraprofessional Division Grants

Rhonda Boozer Clayton State University, rhondaboozer@clayton.edu

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Georgia Library Association Paraprofessional Division Grants

The Paraprofessional Division of the Georgia Library Association provides paraprofessional grants to full-time library paraprofessionals to facilitate their attendance at the COMO conference. In addition, each winner receives an awards plaque and a one-year free paraprofessional membership in the Georgia Library Association.

The committee that chose this year's winners consisted of Jennifer Duke, Dawn Dale, and Sharon Davis.

The four winners this year are:

Megan Aarant is a library associate at the South Columbus Branch Library. She works directly with the public providing circulation, reference, and one-on-one technology assistance. She also



Megan Aarant

plans and successfully carries out the branch's young adult programming. Teen services blossomed when Megan arrived. She started hosting two to three programs a week for teens. She listened to the teens'

programming ideas. She conducted chocolate festivals, decade themed programs, locker decoration parties, art contest, and many other activities that got the teens excited about participating in the library programs. Not only did Megan provide constructive and

entertaining recreational outlets for the teens, but she was able to make education and self-improvement a focus as well. Megan is an exceptional library staff member who has done so much to create positive change in the Columbus community.

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Tangela McKibbens is the branch manager for the Fortson Public Library in Hampton, GA. Her

duties involve managing the operations of the building, coordinating staff, keeping staff informed, and creating programs for her patrons. She has served in this position since 2006, and during this time her branch and her employees have flourished under her leadership.



Tangela McKibbens

She contributes by providing a positive energy; great communications between her, the staff, and the patrons; and by motivating others to explore their true potentials. She is strongly committed to the idea that the library is a marketplace of ideas. She works to empower her employees and patrons with knowledge and inspiration. She is public-service minded. In all things, her first priority is in meeting the needs of her patrons and empowering her staff. Tangela performs all of this with natural talent and internal motivation towards exceptional service.

Rebecca Taylor is a library technical assistant in the Cataloging Department at the Valdosta State University Odum Library. Her responsibilities include editing records for RDA, creating holdings and item records, supervising students, and various other duties. She has sought different ways in which she can contribute to Odum Library. Rebecca is a problemsolver. She exhausts every possible avenue to resolve a problem herself but knows exactly what and who to ask if she needs it. She is a very flexible person integrating new information and skills into her work

on a regular basis. She makes good use of her time and knows how to manage time and projects well. She is a great manager for the student workers and interacts well with others outside the department. Rebecca has an incredible amount of potential and drive.

§

Sharon Williams is the Library Administrative and Technical Assistant at South Georgia State



Rebecca Taylor

College – Waycross campus. This position blends both her administrative assistant and technical services responsibilities. However, Sharon provides much more than just administrative and technical services. She goes above and beyond her duties to work with students on special projects, assist them with their course work, and also provides that special smile when students need a little extra encouragement. She wants to be a source of inspiration. Her outstanding work ethic, continually expanding abilities, and personable demeanor all make working with

her nothing short of a pleasure. Her servicecentered values, attitude, and behavior provide a perfect foundation on which she layers high quality information provision for student, faculty, staff, and community library users.

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For more information about the GLA Paraprofessional Division go to: http://gla.georgialibraries.org/div_pd.htm