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Georgia Library Association - 2013 Awards & Scholarships

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*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

Georgia Library Association (GLA) 2013 Awards & Scholarships

GLA Paraprofessional Awards

This year's GLA Awards banquet once again featured the awards presented to winners of the GLA Paraprofessional Grants. The Paraprofessional Division awarded three grants this year to outstanding library staff. Each recipient received a stipend to support the winner's ability to attend the COMO conference, as well as a one year membership in GLA.

The winners were chosen from both academic and public libraries and were recommended by their supervisors or directors. Among the winners this year were Deborah Clark, Yolanda Crosby, and Laura Veatch.

Deborah Clark works for the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries and "is praised by customers for her caring, skilled and enthusiastic manner; her peers respect her as a resource and role model." Yolanda Crosby covers vast professional ground at the William S. Smith Library at South Georgia State College. Yolanda's director notes that she "demonstrates exceptional work ethics and continually seeks to expand her knowledge of information services provision and technology skills with a desire to learn." Laura Veatch works in the interlibrary loan office of the University of Georgia Libraries, where she is noted for her excellent rapport with patrons, reliability, and "willing [ness] to do what she can to help our students and faculty get the materials they need."

Congratulations to this year's winners and many thanks to Rhonda Boozer for smoothly guiding the awards process.



Laura Veatch, GLA Paraprofessional Grant winner; John "Mack" Freeman, Beard Scholarship winner; Asele Mack, Hubbard Scholarship winner; and Diana Very, 2013 GLA President

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GLA Scholarship

John "Mack" Freeman and Asele Mack were recognized at the GLA Awards banquet as winners of the Charles Beard and C.S. Hubbard Scholarships, respectively. These two awards are given annually by GLA to provide financial assistance for students pursuing a master's degree in library science.

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Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award

The Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award recognizes someone not employed in or by a library who has made outstanding contributions to libraries at the local, state, or national level. At the GLA awards dinner at COMO this year, Bill Kelley received the award for his work on the board of the Tifton-Tift County Public Library Board. As with many libraries in the

state of Georgia, they were facing some serious budget cuts. Mr. Kelley rallied the community to communicate with their city counselors, fill city budget hearings, and demand that their library remain whole. Victoria Horst, his nominator, said it best: "Advocacy is not a job; it's a lifestyle." Mr. Kelley has taken the lead of many other fundraising and advocacy projects for his local library, including creating new donation programs and pulling in new patrons through his contacts in the community. GLA is happy to recognize his contributions with the Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award.

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Bob Richardson Award

The Bob Richardson Award is given each year to someone who has given outstanding service to the Georgia Library Association. This year, the GLA awards committee is delighted to finally recognize the extensive contributions of Mrs.

Susan Kendall. Susan has been an active and integral member of the GLA Scholarship committee since at least 2007. She's served as a regular member and as chair of that committee during various years. The scholarship committee is one of the most active committees in GLA, and her service has made its efforts a rousing success year after year. She secures donations from vendors, mans the raffle, encourages other librarians to donate money and materials, and somehow manages to get some of the most popular items we've ever had, including autographed scripts from *Will and Grace* and even VIP tickets to a filming of the *Colbert Report*. In addition, Susan has proved a steady and sage mind when it comes to soliciting and selecting winners for the scholarships each year. GLA very much appreciates all her time and dedication and rejoices in this opportunity to see it formally recognized.