



Frances H. Pletz Award for Excellence in Service to Youth

Background: The award is named for Frances H. Pletz, a former Executive Director of the Michigan Library Association, because of her exemplary library service to teens in our state. This award was established in 1978 by the Young Adult Division of the Michigan Library association and was given to a teen librarian. In 2010, the Pletz Award combined with the Children's Services Award of Merit to create the Frances H. Pletz Award for Excellence in Service to Youth.

Purpose: The award is given annually to a Michigan library staff person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of library service to youth, ages 0-18, throughout their career.

Eligibility: Anyone who is a current individual member of the Michigan Library Association, is currently employed by a library in Michigan, and has at least three years of experience in a public library may be nominated for the award.

Qualifications:

- The nominee must be a member of the Michigan Library Association.
- The nominee must be an employee of a library in the state of Michigan.
- The nominee must have at least three years of experience in a public library.
- The nominee must have provided significant service to youth, ages 0-18, through a library that exposed youth to the library in at least one of the following ways: innovative programming; service on a committee; contributing research; presenting at a workshop; or developing materials for a workshop.
- A degree in library and information science is optional.
- A Michigan Librarian's Professional Certificate is optional.

Recommended:

- Active in the Michigan Library Association is encouraged
- Additional community service

Nomination packet should include:

- Nominee's contact information (name, library affiliation, address, phone, email address)
- Nominator's contact information (name, address, phone, email address)
- Letter of nomination
- Minimum of one letter of support, maximum of three letters of support
- Maximum of three pages of other supporting documentation as appropriate

Nomination letter should tell the awards work group:

- Reason for nominating individual for this specific award
- Events, projects, or circumstances that illustrate the reason for this nomination
- Current and previous professional position(s), educational qualifications, professional organization memberships and offices, community activities, awards or recognitions, and any other relevant information.
- In a field of qualified candidates, what makes this nominee stand out?
- Nominee's involvement in the Michigan Library Association

Nomination packet should be submitted via MLA's website: <https://www.milibraries.org/call-for-nominations-mla-awards>

Send questions to: mla@milibraries.org

Nomination deadline (extended): Friday, July 16, 2021