



Rising Star

Background: The Up & Comer Award was established in 2012 by the Michigan Library Association. The name was changed to Rising Star in 2019.

Purpose: The award recognizes a library employee who shows leadership early in their career. While new to the field, they expand the profession by being forward-thinking and moving libraries into the future.

Eligibility: Anyone who is a current individual member of the Michigan Library Association and is currently working in a Michigan library, library cooperative or library related non-profit may be nominated for the award. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Nominees must:

- Be employed by an active Organizational Member of the Michigan Library Association (MLA). Individual MLA membership is not required.
- Be currently working in a Michigan library, library cooperative or library-related non-profit organization for five (5) years or less

Nominee should be able to demonstrate they have:

- Help establish a library culture that sets high standards, promotes learning, and makes the library an integral part of the community; or
- Push the boundaries of originality and creativity, and thoughtfully disrupt the status quo; or
- Exhibit future leadership potential by demonstrating initiative in their work, often going above and beyond what is required; or
- Foster communication between library workers and members of the community, and project a positive image of the library; or
- Impart a commitment to advocacy in special areas such as intellectual freedom, library innovation, outreach, and/or equity, diversity and inclusion

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
- Describe an event, project, or situation that illustrates your reason for this nomination
- Nominee's professional background, recognition, work history, memberships, and any other relevant information
- In a field of qualified candidates, what make 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