

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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Erie County children's librarians to receive awards at Library Association Conference

Erie, PA – Three Erie County Public Library children's librarians will receive a Carolyne L. Smith Best Practices Award in the category of Design & Display at the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference taking place at Erie's Bayfront Convention Center, Oct. 13-16.

Margaret Ignasiak, Elizabeth Martin and Amberlee McGaughey will accept their award Monday, Oct. 14, at 9 a.m. at the Carolyne L. Smith Best Practices Awards Program session. The winning display, featured at Blasco Memorial Library in November 2018, encouraged civic engagement and voting.

The conference will be hosted in Erie for the first time in more than 30 years and is anticipating more than 400 attendees. The library community will receive a variety of continuing education, supplier resources and networking opportunities at the four-day event.

Eight Erie County Public Library staff members will be presenting, and Blasco Library is providing a registration-only lunch and tour of the Idea Lab, which is sold out.

"The Library staff is very excited to participate in this conference and to act as hosts," said Erie County Public Library Executive Director Blane Dessy. "In addition, the Library's Friends and Foundation are also engaged in making this a memorable experience for everyone visiting Erie. The Erie County Public Library is a leader in many ways, and we're happy to share that with conference attendees."

The Erie Conference Planning Committee, led by staff from the Pennsylvania Library Association – which includes six Erie County Public Library staff – is working to highlight Erie-area attractions by offering several excursions for attendees, such as a breakfast tour of Presque Isle on the Victorian Princess, the Erie Art Museum, and a wine trail.

"We welcome the Pennsylvania Library Association and its 400-plus attendees with open arms and are thrilled the conference is taking place in our bountiful Erie County," said Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper. "I am proud of our Erie County Public Library and the services it provides. Congratulations to the award winners."

The Pennsylvania Library Association is the oldest professional library organization serving all types of libraries throughout the Commonwealth.

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