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Association**

Press Release

Jan Oblinger, Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator for the Fremont Public Library District, is the recipient of the 2015 Illinois Library Association Deborah Dowley Preiser Award. The award recognizes a library employee who has performed excellent work in public relations and programming over a period of several years. The award will be presented by ILA and the Oak Park Public Library.

Jan has been an active and impactful contributor to many initiatives that have advanced awareness of library services. She has served as a skilled leader for regional cooperative library programs, and has consistently produced insightful and highly-in-demand adult programs.

Jan's programming efforts reflect her responsiveness to the interests of the community, and as a result advanced the library's role as a community gathering place. Over the years, Jan has developed adult programs that repeatedly draw full houses and waiting lists. Also, fledging writers throughout the north suburbs have benefited from Jan's expertise with her contributions to the popular "Inside Writing and Publishing" series presented cooperatively at area libraries.

Jan is a future-leaning library marketer, exemplified by her role as co-creator and coordinator of the Fremont Public Library's foray into word-of-mouth marketing. The initiative helped library staff develop new skills that provided the platform for many new successful engagement opportunities with the community. As a former journalist, Jan has shared her insights with colleagues at other libraries, which have helped guide them to more effective public relations practices.

Jan is recognized as a skilled and generous colleague in the Illinois library community. Her impact has been wide-reaching, creative, and consistently impactful.

The Deborah Dowley Preiser Award will be presented at the Awards Gala held on Friday evening, October 23rd, during the 2015 Illinois Library Conference in Peoria.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

For Immediate Release