The Illinois Library Association’s Awards Committee is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Ann D. Carlson as the 2014 recipient of the Davis Cup Award.

This award, given in honor of Marion Davis, recognizes an Illinois librarian who has made an outstanding contribution in their service to youth. Presented annually, since its inception in 1971, this award is proudly sponsored by the ABDO Publishing Company.

Dr. Carlson has been a librarian at the Oak Park and River Forest High School for the past eleven years. It was early in her library career, as a children’s librarian in Florida that Ann became interested in how children’s minds really worked, developing what was then innovative programing for children as young as eighteen months. She went on to complete her doctoral degree at the School of Library Service at Columbia College in New York. Dr. Carlson has published three books, to assist other children’s librarians in the field: *Early Childhood Literature – Sharing Programs in Libraries; Flannel Board Stories for Infant & Toddlers (an ALA publication)* and *The Preschooler and the Library*.

While a passionate faculty member of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Rosary College (now Dominican University) from 1986 until 2003, Ann taught courses in children’s services; school librarianship and early childhood development. For eighteen years, she taught and mentored hundreds of today’s youth services and school librarians. Dr. Carlson inspired her students in their knowledge of children’s literature; encouraging them to guide young minds through discovery and asking her students to respect each child.
Regionally, Ann has been a member of the planning committee for the NIU Children’s Literature Conference and served on the Chicago Children’s Reading Roundtable. As a part of the American Library Association, Dr. Carlson has served as a judge for the Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction; as a member of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal Committee; and on the 2001 Caldecott Committee. She is currently serving on the (Robert F.) Sibert Informational Book Award Selection Committee. Ann has also participated in the Zena Sutherland Lecture.

In her pioneering research of library programming for very young children, her sharing of knowledge, and her commitment to her college and high school students, Ann has indeed proven herself to be an outstanding member of the Illinois library community. She has distinguished herself through her contributions and her dedication to librarianship.

Dr. Ann D. Carlson will receive the Davis Cup Award at the Illinois Library Association’s Annual Conference Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 12:00 noon at the Prairie Capital Center in Springfield. She will also be honored at the Youth Services Author Breakfast, on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, which will be held at 8:30 a.m.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.