Sue Wilsey, Marketing and Publicity Supervisor for the Niles Public Library, is the recipient of the 2014 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.

Since joining the library six years ago, Sue has used her considerable skills, vast experience, and boundless creativity to steer the once under-the-radar library to the forefront of the community. She lead a dynamic marketing overhaul to introduce the library’s year-long renovation and rebranding, driving a 20% increase in library card sign-ups during 2013 Library Card sign-up month.

Sue has overseen every major event at the Niles Public Library since arriving. This includes programs as diverse as a month-long focus on Benjamin Franklin coinciding with a national traveling exhibit, a community-wide Big Read, and a highly successful Beatles Art Festival. Sue has helped raise the Library’s profile as a very active member of the Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and has been invited to serve on the newly formed Village Arts and Culture commission.

Sue has been an energetic participant in the Illinois library community, serving as co-chair of the ILA Marketing Committee, and was one of the leaders of the Soon to Be Famous Illinois Author project. Sue is recognized as a generous mentor and colleague, that has helped refresh and reframe the perception of today’s public libraries.

The Deborah Dowley Preiser Award will be presented at the Illinois Library Association Annual Conference Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14 at 12:00 p.m. at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.