

Illinois Library Association
33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401
Chicago, IL 60654-6799

Phone: 312.644.1896
Fax: 312.644.1899
Email: ila@ila.org

**Illinois Library
Association**

Press Release

The Northbrook Public Library is the recipient of the 2015 Illinois Library Association Demco Library Innovative Award. This award recognizes a library's achievement in planning and implementing an innovative or creative program or service which has had a measurable impact on its users. The award is sponsored by Demco.

On April 2, 2015, the Northbrook Public Library participated in Light It Up Blue (LIUB) on World Autism Day to help raise awareness of autism, educate community members about the disorder, and show support for residents impacted by autism. The exterior of the building was lit with blue lights and blue rope lights were used to decorate each public desk. The library's website featured a LIUB graphic with explanation and staff posted information about autism to social media sites throughout the day. Multiple departments created displays featuring materials about autism.

The Light It Up Blue campaign built on years of serving users impacted by autism. Past initiatives have included developing a collection of materials on autism and hosting special events for children with disabilities and their families.

As a result of the Light It Up Blue events, the Village of Northbrook issued a proclamation declaring its support, and awareness was raised among staff and community members. This creative use of library resources can serve as an inspiration to other libraries.

The Demco Library Innovative 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