



**ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Because Libraries Matter

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## **Press Release**

**The Illinois Library Association (ILA) announces Kelly McCully, as the 2019 Valerie J. Wilford Scholarship Grant for Library Education winner. The Valerie J. Wilford Scholarship was established in honor of Valerie Wilford (1939-2016), teacher and mentor to hundreds of librarians, who made significant impacts in school librarianship, multi-type libraries, and resource sharing. The award is supported by the Valerie J. Wilford Memorial Fund and is granted to those in pursuit of education in librarianship, including classes, webinars, seminars, or conferences.**

Kelly McCully is the Director of the Bourbonnais Public Library District. She received her BA from Illinois State University and her MAT from Olivet Nazarene University. She is currently pursuing her MLIS through the University of Alabama and will use the grant money to complete a course in Professional Paths. The Bourbonnais Public Library has worked closely with local elementary schools to promote literacy initiatives and resources. By completing this class, she will have a better understanding of the challenges facing all types of libraries and develop strategies for working through these issues.

Kelly has worked for the Bourbonnais Public Library for twelve years and is honored to be the Director of the library where she received her first library card.

The Valerie J. Wilford Scholarship will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, October 22, during the 2019 Illinois Library Association Annual Conference in Tinley Park.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

For Immediate Release