



ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Because Libraries Matter

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## Press Release

**The Illinois Library Association's Youth Services Forum is presenting this year's Golden Ticket Award to Shelley Harris, Children's Librarian at the Oak Park Public Library. This award is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution in library services to young people in her or his local community. This year's award is again being sponsored by Brainfuse.**

Shelley Harris began her career with a background in Speech Pathology. She started working in schools in 2003. In 2005, Shelley decided to follow her passion for literacy by taking a job at the La Grange Public Library as a Children's Librarian Assistant. In 2006, she transitioned to the Oak Park Public Library where she has flourished as Children's Librarian assistant, and after completing her Master of Library Science degree in 2009, as a librarian. Shelley Harris is currently the Family Learning Coordinator at the Oak Park Public Library.

At the Oak Park Public Library, Shelley has excelled in commitment to providing programming and library services to patrons with disabilities. She currently runs the "Supported Storytimes" program there and has helped countless families as well as ensured the longevity of this program by training numerous staff members. Her expertise in this area of service has both garnered local and national attention.

Shelley's many other contributions to the people of Oak Park also include Augmentative and Alternative Communication resources, a Sensory Garden, and a video series created during the pandemic that focused on social and emotional growth.

This committee was impressed by Shelley's dedication to the idea that a library is a space where everyone can learn and grow.

Congratulations to Shelley Harris, the 2021 recipient of the ILA Youth Services Forum Golden Ticket Award.

The Golden Ticket Award will be presented at an awards ceremony during the 2021 Illinois Library Association Annual Conference. The conference will take place October 12-14, 2021.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

For Immediate Release