



ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Because Libraries Matter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Illinois Library Association

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**Matt Hammermeister Selected as the 2025 Recipient of the
Illinois Library Association Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award
for Interlibrary Cooperation**

Matt Hammermeister of the Pinnacle Library Cooperative has been awarded the Illinois Library Association Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award for Interlibrary Cooperation. The Atkinson Award is awarded annually for sustained activity and contributions having a lasting impact on librarianship in regard to resource sharing and/or library cooperation. The award is supported by the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Fund and by the Valerie J. Wilford Memorial Fund, established in recognition of contributions to multi-type cooperation and resource sharing.

Hammermeister has done remarkable work to promote cooperative services for the Pinnacle Library Cooperative, which is made up of six libraries and has a service population of approximately 400,000 patrons. His excellent leadership is demonstrated in training programs and orientations for new managers that he has created. He has provided customized solutions for each library in the cooperative in a timely fashion and has created special tools to help individual libraries to use their collection effectively. He shows his understanding of how to

work well with his colleagues and create positive relationships as he serves as the Chair of the Wisconsin Illinois Innovative Users Group (WILIUG), and has been commended by the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) for his work with Find More Illinois.

The Illinois Library Association Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award for Interlibrary Cooperation will be presented at an awards ceremony during the 2025 Illinois Library Association Annual Conference. The Conference will take place on October 14-16, 2025, in Rosemont, Illinois.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

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About the Illinois Library Association

The Illinois Library Association (ILA) is a professional membership organization that represents Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. Founded in 1896, it is the third-largest state library association and serves as a chapter within the American Library Association. ILA is comprised of 2,000 personal and more than 500 institutional members, made up of public, academic, school, and special libraries, as well as librarians, library staff, trustees, students, and library vendors.