



ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Because Libraries Matter

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Press Release

Annette DeLuna, Youth Services Associate at the Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District, is the recipient of the Illinois Library Association’s (ILA) 2023 Robert P. Doyle ILA Conference Grant for Support Staff, which is presented by the ILA Reaching Forward Forum.

Annette has made excellent strides to promote diversity and awareness at her library. Annette’s manager, Amy Malysa, says that Annette’s “gift is creating community.” Her initiative and creativity have been demonstrated through offerings that meet the needs of community members and provide meaningful experiences. An example of Annette’s hard work and dedication is the development of what began as a story time, and eventually turned into an original bilingual family program that blends books, food, crafts, and music. Her colleague, Elizabeth O’Boyle, notes the success of this event, stating that attendance has doubled since Annette started.

Annette’s manager further praises Annette for her contributions, stating that she promotes the library “with every step and breath she takes” and is “a living embodiment of public library service to all.”

Annette DeLuna will receive a one-year ILA membership and full registration and expenses to attend the 2023 ILA annual Conference, up to \$800, and a framed certificate. The award will be presented at the Reaching Forward Conference on Friday, May 5, 2023.