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Press Release

Isabel Huerta of the Addison Public Library is the recipient of the 2016 Robert P. Doyle Award, which was presented at the Reaching Forward Conference on May 6, 2016 in Rosemont.

Isabel started working at the library in a part time entry-level shelving position and by year's end was promoted to a position in the Guest Services department. She was again promoted in May 2014 to work alongside the Public Relations Coordinator, in a community services role. A full-time position was created for her as a member of the library's Community Engagement team in June 2015.

Isabel has been an advocate for educating members of the library's Latino community, building a strong rapport with families. She was born in Mexico and came to the United States when she was 15 years old, and is able to relate to the many challenges immigrant families face. While working at the library part-time, she started a Temporary Visitors Driver's License (TVDL) program, promoted the library on Facebook offering to provide tours in Spanish, contacted the College of DuPage to offer the library as a satellite location for ESL and Spanish GED classes, and has helped people to fill out various forms that they would not have been able to complete without her assistance. The TVDL classes that she has created have served over 400 people in the last 1½ years. She translated practice texts into Spanish to help individuals who are unable to attend the classes. The ESL and GED classes that Isabel has set up have been extremely popular. There is not a day that goes by without inquiries about the classes.

Isabel's latest venture has been a program that she calls *El Club de Lectura*. It is a program in which she provides the space, resources, and encouragement for parents to read to their children in Spanish.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

For Immediate Release