



**ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Because Libraries Matter

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## **Press Release**

**Joshua Wirth, Adult & Teen Services Library Assistant at the Downers Grove Public Library, is the recipient of the Illinois Library Association's (ILA) 2023 Oberman and Rich Reaching Forward Conference Grant, which is presented by the ILA Reaching Forward Forum.**

Joshua started at the Downers Grove Public Library as a Circulation Clerk and moved to his current role as Library Assistant in the Adult & Teen Services Department last year. In the short time that he's been in his current role, he has mastered his tasks, including interlibrary loans, creating book lists and displays, managing collections, and developing programs.

Joshua's manager, Van McGary, commends his strong leadership and character, which have been demonstrated through a PRISM affinity group that Joshua spearheaded, offering support for members of the LGBTQ+ community. Van describes Joshua as a vital contributor to the department and provides the "highest level of service to all community members and colleagues."

Joshua is currently pursuing an LTA Certificate and Associate degree in Library and Information Technology. He hopes to attain his MLIS degree in the future.