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Press Release

Kathleen Schaefer, Programming Coordinator at the Dixon Public Library, is the recipient of the Illinois Library Association's (ILA) 2024 Oberman and Rich Reaching Forward Conference Grant, which is presented by the ILA Reaching Forward Committee.

According to Library Director Christina Keasler, Schaefer has worked at the Dixon Public Library for over eight years and is responsible for organizing all the in-house programming as well as the preschool outreach. Keasler sees the Oberman and Rich grant as an opportunity for Schaefer to attend and “Not only would she be able to connect with numerous third-party library performers, but she would also be surrounded by her professional peers.”

In addition to her work at the library, Kathleen has taught kindergarten, been an assistant director and director of a group childcare center, owned her own in-home family childcare center, worked as a substitute teacher, taught early childhood courses to students at Sauk Valley Community College as an adjunct instructor, and currently serves on the school board for Dixon Public Schools.

Kathleen Schaefer will receive free registration to the 2024 Reaching Forward North Conference, an overnight hotel stay, \$50 for expenses, and a framed certificate. The award will be presented at the Reaching Forward North Conference on Friday, May 10, 2024.