

PRESS RELEASE

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Lyrasis Announces NextGen Librarian Award Winners

Atlanta, GA, April 23, 2009 – Lyrasis announces the winners of the first annual 2009 NextGen Librarian Award, created to identify and celebrate rising leaders in the library community. Winners will attend SAMM09 (formerly SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting) on May 14 -15 in Atlanta, GA, where they will share their innovations and activities in a breakout session. The NextGen Librarian Award is a legacy SOLINET program, which will be open to all Lyrasis members in 2010. LexisNexis sponsored the 2009 award.

- **Initiative: Keri Ostby, Roanoke County Public Library System (VA)**

Nominated as “the epitome of the Next Generation Librarian” for her “technology skills, energy, and positive attitude”; the success of the library’s Facebook and Twitter pages; her commitment to a responsive cataloging department; her work on the County’s Web 2.0 Committee and development of the library Technology Plan; and her positioning the library as a technology leader.

- **Community Involvement: Tim Gritten, Indiana State University**

Nominated for “his desire to make a difference in people’s lives”, his impact was called “immense.” As part of the university’s mission to do community outreach, he oversees a popular library program that brings Nintendo Wii games to the senior residents of a nearby retirement community. This community outreach is an extension of the library’s new tagline, “your campus living room.”

- **Outreach: Sarah Steiner, Georgia State University**

Nominated as “a great role model” and a “strong leader” who is “already focused on the generation that is following her.” She is the organizer of the overwhelming popular Atlanta Emerging Librarians Group and 2008 chair of the Georgia Library Association’s New Members Round Table.

- **Technology: Emily Gore, Clemson University (SC)**

Nominated for “amazing leadership” and for combining “innovative ideas with humor and a willingness to do what it takes to get the task accomplished” in the area of digital initiatives. She is the former director of North Carolina ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) and current partner in the South Carolina Digital Library.

- **Leadership: Stacey Greenwell, University of Kentucky**

Nominated as “a true blended librarian” and “technology innovator.” As part of a training program on social networking, she made “house calls” to library staff to expose them to new tools and is part of the Second Life campus-wide group. A leader in the Special Libraries Association, she has been accepted to the Frye Leadership Institute.

About Lyasis

A regional membership organization for libraries and information professionals, Lyasis facilitates their success today and tomorrow by providing access to shared knowledge and expertise, innovative products and services, and customized solutions to serve their communities effectively and, by working together, advance the profession. Lyasis is the new organization resulting from the merger of PALINET and SOLINET, and currently serves nearly a third of the U.S., including 16 states east of the Mississippi, plus Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information, please visit www.lyasis.org.

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