2018 WLA Membership/Professional Development Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide WVLS new directors and support staff the opportunity to attend a Wisconsin Library Association-sponsored conference to enhance professional development. Applicants can choose to attend the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference in May, or the WLA Conference in October. It is also meant to serve as a tool to develop technology and presentation skills. Also, the post-conference assignment is intended to reinforce/develop the scholarship winner's technology and presentation skills.

People who are selected for the scholarship will also be awarded a one-year membership to WLA.

The benefits of being a WLA member include:

- Meeting and networking with other library professionals
- Developing new skills that can enhance your career
- Improving and supporting library services for the people in your community
- Becoming an advocate for libraries and library workers

Three scholarships worth $700 will be issued in 2018. Up to $500 in scholarship funds will be issued for the conference, and up to $200 will be issued for the WLA Membership.

Scholarship Guidelines and Stipulations:

1. The scholarship is open to WVLS member library support staff, or first-time library directors as of July 1, 2016.
2. Those who wish to apply must complete an online application by the deadline. Notifications will be given within 3 days after the application deadline.
3. The scholarship is not a match, meaning applicants will not have to match the amount of money they are receiving.
4. Applicants must attend the WAPL Conference or the WLA Conference in full in 2018. Scholarship winners are expected to make their own conference arrangements, including registration, lodging and travel. Scholarship winners are also expected to join

the WLA membership program, and will be reimbursed for this expense once a reimbursement request and copy of WLA receipt is submitted to WVLS.

5. Once the conference is completed and an expense form is submitted by the scholarship winner to WVLS, they will be reimbursed for the amount up to (but not to exceed) $500.

6. Within three months of the conference, scholarship winners will be expected to conduct a 30-minute webinar on what was learned and how they will apply this to their library/career. This webinar will be part of the WVLS Continuing Education schedule and will be broadcast state-wide. The WVLS Education Consultant will work with the applicants on this timeline, and on focusing on a topic, presentation and delivery.

Conferences:

WAPL Conference
May 2-4, 2018
Country Springs Hotel & Conference Center
Pewaukee, WI
http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/wapl/conferences-events/wapl-conference

WLA Annual Conference
October 23-26, 2018
Radisson La Crosse and La Crosse Convention Center
http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/events-conferences/annual-conference/wla-conference-home

The online application can be found here: https://goo.gl/forms/HPUnM2FyHBhQAAtL2

The deadline to apply is Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

If you have any questions about this scholarship, please contact Jamie Matczak at WVLS at jmatczak@wvls.org or 920-455-0668.