## **ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**Because Libraries Matter** 

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## **Press Release**

Debbie Hoffman of the Warren-Newport Public Library is the recipient of the Illinois Library Association Readers' Advisory Service Award. The award, presented by the Adult Reading Round Table and the ILA Reference Services Forum, recognizes excellence in the planning, development and delivery of readers' advisory service to adults and teens. The award is sponsored by the Adult Reading Round Table.

For over twenty years, Debbie has brought her love and knowledge of literature, both fiction and non-fiction to the patrons of the Warren-Newport Public Library. She not only carries out more "traditional" readers' advisory services, such as reading recommendations and book discussions, but has initiated many unique programs that promote reading, including a creative writing contest and other writing programs, the library's More Than Just Books blog, and a Books to Go program that works with community book discussion groups.

In addition, Debbie has worked tirelessly to attract nationally known, prominent authors to visit her library. Warren-Newport Public Library has hosted such luminaries as Jane Hamilton, Erik Larson, Lee Child, Adriana Trigiani, Marilu Henner, Anne Perry, Jackie Collins, and Lisa See, all through Debbie's hard work. Debbie not only coordinates publicity with in-house public relations and graphics experts, but she has also promoted the visits through contacts at local bookstores, on local radio, through YouTube videos and library podcasts. As a result, WNPL's author events are well-attended and anticipated by a lively and varied audience of community members. Because of her success with these events, Debbie has been contacted by librarians around the country for advice about attracting top authors and maintaining these relationships.

The Readers' Advisory Service Award will be presented at the Awards Luncheon held on Tuesday, October 10, during the 2017 Illinois Library Association Annual Conference in Tinley Park.

For further information, contact the Illinois Library Association.

For Immediate Release