Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

CATEGORY: Practitioner

AWARD NAME: Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

AWARD DEFINITION: The Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement will be given, in odd years (i.e. 2011, 2013, 2015……), to a practitioner for substantial contributions through active engagement with youth using award winning African American literature for children and/or young adults, via implementation of reading and reading related activities/programs. The practitioner may be a public librarian, academic librarian, school librarian (public or private), an educator (preK-12 or any level therein, or higher education), or youth literature advocate whose vocation, work, volunteer service, or ongoing promotion of books with and/or on behalf of youth is significant and sustained.

The Award pays tribute to the quality and magnitude of Virginia Hamilton’s exemplary contributions through her literature and advocacy for children and youth, especially in her focus on African American life, history and consciousness.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PRACTITIONER:
1. Must be a practicing youth advocate whose productive activities, work, or career engages students in the reading of award winning African American literature for children and young adults.
2. Recipient has made a significant contribution to champion youth reading and engagement with award winning African American literature.
3. Committee will consider the applicant’s level of dedication to the promotion of reading and implementation of various reading/reading related programs, depth of involvement, impact of their work, and overall amount of time committed to such service.
4. Preference will be given to the applicant whose service in this area has been significant over a period of years, rather than those whose accomplishments, though highly visible, are more limited in duration.
5. Recipient must be living by deadline of nomination date.

DEFINITIONS:
1. Practitioner—one actively engaged in the promotion and use of African American award literature in their service community.
2. Body of Service/Activities—Career and/or volunteer service that champions reading, and promotion of high quality African American literature.
3. Practitioner’s Significant Contribution—Denotes personal time and effort over and above that normally required, as well as the applicant's impact over time on large numbers of youth.
4. Practitioner’s service over a period of years—Denotes service for a minimum of ten years.
NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES:
1. Who is eligible to nominate the Practitioner for the Coretta Scott King - Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement?
   ALA members, EMIERT members, CSK members

2. Who may be nominated?
   Nominee may be anyone who meets the criteria. Membership in ALA or its divisions or roundtables is not a requirement.

3. Deadline date for nomination of candidates
   Candidate nominations must be submitted by July 1 prior to the ALA Midwinter Announcement of the Award recipient. Nomination form must include a statement of outstanding contributions, documentation of accomplishments, any previous recognitions, etc. Nomination forms will be accessible on the ALA website at www.ala.org/csk and through the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD WINNER:
The winner will be announced in alternative years during the ALA Midwinter Press Conference at which the CSK Award winners are announced.

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD:
A plaque and $1500 cash award will be presented in odd years (i.e., 2011, 2013, 2015….) to a practitioner. The presentation will be part of the Coretta Scott King Awards Breakfast during the American Library Association Annual Conference.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION:
The Award recipients will be selected by a five member award jury of the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Awards Committee of the Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT).

The Award will be administered by the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee, Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT), with support of the American Library Association staff liaison, Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS).