Overview

The **Midwest Chapter/MLA Jean Williams Sayre Innovation Award** recognizes individuals, groups, libraries, or organizations for their creative approaches to the delivery and management of health information. The winner receives a plaque and a $500 award.

Established in 2005 as the **Innovation Award**, it replaced the Chapter’s previous Award for Achievement in Health Information Management, established in 1995. In 2006, it was renamed after long-time Midwest Chapter member **Jean Williams Sayre** (1951-2006). Previous recipients of the Award are:

- 2023 The 2021 organizing committee of the Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries Symposium: Brenda Fay, Sara Hoover, Ramune Kubilius, Steven Moore, Lisa Palmer, and Gayle Williams
- 2018 - 2022 Not awarded
- 2017 Jonna Peterson & Corinne Miller, Galter Library, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
- 2016 Not awarded
- 2015 Rachel Sindelar, Director of the Broadlawns Medical Center Library, Des Moines, IA
- 2014 Gail Borden Public Library District, Elgin, IL
- 2013 MESH and the Central Indiana Health Sciences Libraries Consortium (CIHSLC), Indianapolis, IN
- 2012 Suzanne Earle, Hospice of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, OH
- 2011 Not awarded
- 2010 Taubman Health Sciences Library, University of Michigan / Ann Arbor, MI
- 2009 Ohio State University Prior Health Sciences Library and Center for Knowledge Information Management / Columbus, OH
- 2008 Gundersen Lutheran Health Resource Libraries / La Crosse, WI
- 2007 Not awarded
- 2006 Allina Library Services Knowledge Consultant Group / Minneapolis, MN

The Award is announced and presented at the Chapter’s Annual Business Meeting.
Nomination Criteria

- Nominees can be an individual, a group of individuals, a library, an institution, or an organization
- An individual nominee must be a member of the Midwest Chapter
- Group, library, institutional, or organizational nominees must include at least one person who is a member of the Midwest Chapter
- Library, institutional, or organizational nominees must be located in one of the following nine states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, or Wisconsin

Nomination Requirements

*Letter of Nomination*

Nominations must include a letter describing how particular innovative practices, workflows, projects, initiatives, applications, and/or other methodologies were utilized by the nominee to improve the delivery and management of health information.

- Software development or new applications for existing software
- New or improved teaching methods
- Organizational innovations or new marketing initiatives
- New consumer health outreach initiatives
- New roles for the library
- Successful combination of a new job or job skill with traditional library work
- Publications that describe successful innovative approaches to information delivery
Supporting Documentation

Individual: In addition to a letter of nomination, nominations for a single individual must include:

- A completed nomination form
- A current resume or vitae of the nominee (optional)
- Two additional letters of support, at least one from someone who is outside the nominee’s organization. Either the letter of nomination or one of the two additional letters of support must be from a Midwest Chapter member.

Groups. In addition to a letter of nomination, nominations for groups must include:

- A completed nomination form
- Brief professional profiles for all individuals nominated as a group OR brief descriptions of the nominated library, institution, and/or organization if individuals are not specified
- Two additional letters of support, at least one from someone who is outside of the nominee’s institution(s) or organization(s). Either the letter of nomination or one of the two additional letters of support must be from a Midwest Chapter member.

Selection Process

The Midwest Chapter/MLA Awards and Scholarships Committee will select the winner based solely on evaluation of the nomination materials received. The Committee reserves the right not to select a winner if no nominees meet the requirements or none are deemed qualified.

For More Information

For additional information, please contact
Awards and Scholarships Committee, Midwest Chapter/MLA
Email: amber.burtis@siu.edu

Thank You!

Nominations must be received by September 6, 2024.