

Grow Our Own Area Librarians (GOAL) Program

**January 2012
Newsletter**



Ethics: an overview

The word "ethics" is derived from the Greek word ethos (character), and from the Latin word mores (customs). Together, they combine to define how individuals choose to interact with one another. In philosophy, ethics defines what is good for the individual and for society and establishes the nature of duties that people owe themselves and one another. The principal idea is that there are differences of opinion about what is best for human beings, and if we are to profit from ethical inquiry we must resolve this disagreement. Ethics is not a theoretical discipline: we are asking what the good for human beings is not simply because we want to have knowledge, but because we will be better able to achieve our good if we develop a fuller understanding of what it is to flourish

Code of Ethics of the American Library Association

As members of the American Library Association, we recognize the importance of codifying and making known to the profession and to the general public the ethical principles that guide the work of librarians, other professionals providing information services, library trustees and library staffs.

Ethical dilemmas occur when values are in conflict. The American Library Association Code of Ethics states the values to which we are committed, and embodies the ethical responsibilities of the profession in this changing information environment.

We significantly influence or control the selection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information. In a political system grounded in an informed citizenry, we are members of a profession explicitly committed to intellectual freedom and the freedom of access to information. We have a special obligation to ensure the free flow of information and ideas to present and future generations.

The principles of this Code are expressed in broad statements to guide ethical decision making. These statements provide a framework; they cannot and do not dictate conduct to cover particular situations.

- I. **We provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests.**
- II. **We uphold the principles of intellectual freedom and resist all efforts to censor library resources.**
- III. **We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted.**
- IV. **We recognize and respect intellectual property rights.**
- V. **We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness and good faith, and advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions.**
- VI. **We do not advance private interests at the expense of library users, colleagues, or our employing institutions.**
- VII. **We distinguish between our personal convictions and professional duties and do not allow our personal beliefs to interfere with fair representation of the aims of our institutions or the provision of access to their information resources.**
- VIII. **We strive for excellence in the profession by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, by encouraging the professional development of co-workers, and by fostering the aspirations of potential members of the profession.**

Adopted June 28, 1995, by the ALA Council



CAREER SKILLS TRAINING SESSION # 3

(Note: El Paso area Librarian in Training Participants must attend
2 Career Skill Classes to fulfill their requirements.)



“Attitude & Work Ethic-How Important are they?”

Wed., January 25, 2012

4:30 – 6 pm

El Paso Holocaust Museum & Study Center

715 N. Oregon,

El Paso, Texas 79902

915-351-0048

PLEASE CALL THE GRANT OFFICE IF YOU WILL ATTEND

BY Jan. 23th.

915-532-5588

'Little' wonder: Tiny library lets Zavala students give, get
books

Editor's Note: Lisa Lopez, Zavala Elementary School Librarian, was a recipient of the GOAL program's College Bound Scholarships! Good job, Lisa, we are proud of you!

By Cindy Ramirez \ EL PASO TIMES

Posted: 12/21/2011 01:44:27 PM MST



Rosa Norato, top, Jose Venegas and Mila Cordero grabbed books from... (Rudy Gutierrez/El Paso Times)

It may resemble a birdhouse, but it's books which are nestled in the Little Free Library at Zavala Elementary School. "It's been a great way to get students interested in reading and also in taking ownership of the Little Free Library," school librarian Lisa Lopez said. "It's a simple book exchange concept." Students are soaring to the wooden case on the playground at the Central El Paso school, the first in the state to install the little library. "I think the Little Free Library is a good opportunity for me to get with my little sisters and teach them to read," said 10-year-old Mila Cordero, a fourth-grader at the school. "The books are free and we can keep them, share them or trade them." The Little Free Library, a nonprofit organization that originated in Wisconsin, donated the structure to Zavala. The school also built a second little library indoors using a dollhouse from a crafts store that students painted and decorated. Under the Little Free Library program, the birdhouse-like structures are installed outside in city parks, inside coffee shops and at other neighborhood hot spots across the country. The public is encouraged to take a book and give another back in return. The book exchange sites are mapped on Google so families can easily find them. "I love it really much because it has books for everybody," said 9-year-old Jose Vanegas, who serves as the Little Free Library steward. "It's most important to take care of the books. If you don't, all the books would be mistreated and you can't share them anymore." Lopez said she hopes the Little Free Library program expands across the city as another way to promote literacy. "Libraries more than ever are facing budget cuts in schools and cities across the nation, and this is one way to help supplement access to books, especially in low-income neighborhoods," Lopez said. About 98 percent of Zavala's 300 students are economically disadvantaged, and 82 percent have limited English skills. One of the key programs facing the federal ax is Reading is Fundamental. The program provides more than 17,000 schools and community centers nationwide with new books and literacy resources. Founded in the 1960s, the nonprofit literacy program receives about 80 percent of its budget from the federal government. RIF receives about \$25 million a year. The program is one of about 40 being consolidated into 11 programs and will now have to compete for available funds. "With the Little Free Library, we get free books we can spread all around our house and our neighborhood," said fourth-grader Rosa Norato, 10. "It's pretty awesome."



The 2011 Border Regional Library Association (BRLA) Scholarship Awards for Study in Library and Information Science

The deadline for all applications is Friday January 20, 2012:

<http://www.brla.info/scholarship2011.html>

The Border Regional Library Association will be awarding two scholarships this year. One scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, will be awarded to a student in the process of completing a degree at either the masters or doctoral level in library science. The other scholarship, in the amount of \$500, will be awarded to an individual in the process of completing an associate degree in library technology. These scholarships are awarded annually and will be announced at the BRLA Awards Banquet in February 2012. The scholarships are open to all individuals meeting the above criteria who are from the El Paso--Juárez--Las Cruces area. The applicants must be a member of BRLA and show evidence of both commitment and potential in a library career.

All applicants must send:

- an application form (click on link below)
- a current resume
- two recommendation forms (click on link below) from professors, employers, librarians or other professionals (excluding, of course, family) who are well acquainted with the applicant's educational background, intellectual abilities, and personal character.

As part of the application, please include:

- documentation proving admission to a library science program
- a letter to the committee giving additional support for your application, and
- any other items that would support your candidacy

Please make the application as professional as possible

You may email the application form, resume and recommendation forms to the BRLA Scholarship Chair, Lorely Ambriz, at ambrizlo@paho.org. You may also send them by fax (915) 845-4361 or mail to: Lorely Ambriz, BRLA Scholarship Chair, 5400 Suncrest Dr. Ste. C-4, El Paso, TX 79912. If you need further information, Lorely can be reached at the above mentioned email address or at (915) 845-5950, ext. 42523. Please be sure to submit all requested documents.

All applications must be received by Friday January 20, 2012.

Lorely Ambriz Irigoyen, M.S.I.S

Knowledge Management & Communication Advisor

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GOAL COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE for
Summer 2012 is April 27.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Lenny Jaquez, GOAL scholarship recipient, who just graduated from UNT this past fall with his MLIS and is our *40th* program graduate.

Lenny is the Librarian at Irvin High School and I know you join us in wishing him well in his new vocation.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all from your
GOAL Staff!

