2023 Georgia Library Media Specialist of the Year Application

GLMA and GAIT (Georgia Association of Instructional Technology) co-sponsor the Georgia School Library Media Specialist of the Year award to recognize K-12 library media specialists with dynamic, innovative programs and whose instructional collaborations foster student engagement and achievement. Additionally, LMSOTY finalists are leaders within their school buildings and in the greater community of library media specialists.

Each school system may select one library media specialist for this award. From those chosen for the system level award, one library media specialist is chosen as the regional Library Media Specialist of the Year. The Georgia Library Media Specialist of the Year is selected from the regional winners. The 2023 winner will be announced at the GLMA Summer Institute in June.

Please be sure you meet the following criteria before proceeding:

 You are the LMSOTY for your school system.

 You are a member of GLMA or GAIT.

 You have been a certified library media specialist for 3 years or more.

Please fill out the application in its entirety in one sitting, including uploading a recommendation letter. You may find it best to review the essay questions below and come back to this application once you have formulated answers, as well as received a letter of recommendation as a Word doc or pdf.

Names of the school, district, and school librarian should appear ONLY on the information responses, not in the essay answers, in order to ensure impartial judging.

Applications are due March 14, 2023.

Name

School Email

Home / alternate email

Home Address

School Phone Number

Home / Cell Phone

Which organization do you currently belong to?

GLMA or GAIT

(Applicants must belong to one of these organizations to be eligible.)

Please check all boxes below.

I am a certified library media specialist.

I certify that I have three or more years of experience as a library media specialist.

I certify that I am the representative LMSOTY winner for my school system OR my district has 25 or fewer schools in the district.

Please list your social media handles (Twitter, IG, TikTok, etc.)

School Information

School Name

Principal Name

Principal Email

What grades does your school serve?

Approximately how many students attend your school?

School Address

Your library media website

What county is your school in?

Superintendent Name

Superintendent Email

Media Coordinator

Media Coordinator Email

Which GLMA district is your school in?

See map here: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/9be0f3\_3b401de13f2f4a87a0bd051178581a46.pdf

Biographical Information

Please describe your educational background by listing your degrees, certifications, schools attended and dates.

Please list your professional achievements, honors, awards, publications, and/or leadership roles.

Essay Questions

Discuss your approach to library media work, citing examples, in the following essay questions. You have a maximum of 2500 characters per essay, which is approximately 400 words.

Names of the school, district, and school librarian should appear ONLY on the front (information) page, not in the essays, in order to ensure impartial judging.

1) Vision: As a library media specialist, describe your philosophy, vision, and/or mission.

2) Instructional Partnership: Describe how you build collaborative partnerships that positively impact teachers and students.

3) Role of Reading: Describe how you promote a culture of reading.

4) Information and Technology Literacy: Explain how you incorporate educational technology into your media program.

5) Instructional Leadership: Discuss how you work with other instructional leaders to develop and implement a shared vision for your media program.

6) Effective Practices for Research: As a media specialist, how do you develop research skills in your students?

7) Positive Learning Environment: Describe the learning environment in your library media center. How does your program support both collaborative and personalized learning?

8) Professionalism: What professional learning do you engage in, and how do you contribute to the larger community of library media specialists?

Support

Who has impacted your work as a library media specialist the most? Describe this person and how they have supported you.

Recommendation Letter

Upload a one-page recommendation letter from an administrator, teacher, parent, or fellow library media specialist. Please upload a Word doc or pdf.

Photos

Please upload a head shot and photos of your library program that you would be comfortable using for promotional purposes only. Judges will not have access to your photos.