



eva efron Memorial
AASL Conference Grant
2021



OVERVIEW

The 2021 eva efron Memorial American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Conference Grant (“the Grant”) is offered in honor of our friend and colleague eva efron, a dedicated member of her local, regional, and national school library community, who was just as special as the unique spelling of her name. eva served as a High School Librarian and School Library System Director (Nassau BOCES). She was an active member of both ALA and AASL. Rosen Publishing and the members of the School Library Systems Association of New York State (SLSA) are pleased to offer this grant opportunity to foster the growth of an emerging leader as an active member of ALA/AASL and in the hope that he or she will follow in eva’s footsteps as a leader of and mentor to future school librarians.

Stacey Rattner, the first (2013) eva efron AASL Conference Grant Recipient, wrote the following in her final report:

“It sounds corny but receiving the grant to attend AASL in Hartford changed my entire professional career. The past year and a half has been a whirlwind for me with doors opening that I never would have imagined ever being able to unlock. As a fairly new librarian based in a small, upstate school, by attending AASL and then coming back home and sharing my experiences with others, so many things happened. I made new forever friends, gained more confidence in my work and saw the value in pursuing opportunities daily. I realized how important it is to not only attend local and statewide conferences but the national conference. Meeting people from all over the country who were doing the same things you are doing, facing the same challenges and also accomplishing the same goals was amazing! I chatted with authors who I spent years admiring and attended workshops that validated that I was on the right track in my own library and others that pushed me to go that extra step when I got back home. The networking was unbelievable. All in all, it was such a positive experience, one I will never forget and hope to replicate in Columbus this year.”

As a result of receiving this grant, Stacey continues to receive accolades and awards (and nominates others for accolades and awards) and has served as the Vice President for Conferences on the NYLA/SSL (New York Library Association/Section of School Librarians) and as NYLA Councilor at Large. Stacie blogs at libraryleapsblogspot.com and collaborates with author Steve Sheinkin on the YouTube game show, Author Fan Face-Off.

Subsequent Grant Recipients Tara Thibault-Edmonds (2015), Annarose Foley (2017), and Kristen Falco (2017) have all subsequently served in leadership positions in their regions as well as State and National Professional Organizations.

Eligibility:

Any certified school librarian in New York State working in a public or private school district that is a member of a School Library Systems (SLS) is eligible to apply. The applicant’s SLS must be a member in good standing of the School Library Systems Association of NYS (SLSA). SLS Directors and previous recipients may not apply.



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Award:

The recipient will be awarded an amount not to exceed \$2000 toward AASL Membership and Attendance at the 2021 AASL National Conference (October 21-23 in Salt Lake City, Utah). Eligible expenses for reimbursement include AASL membership, conference registration, travel, and lodging. He or she will also receive a one-year subscription to the Rosen Publishing Digital Database of his or her choice.

Deadlines:

Applications will be accepted through July 2, 2021. The recipient will be announced by July 24, 2021.

How to Apply:

Submit one (1) signed hard copy of the complete grant application form, and one (1) digital copy of the grant application form to:

Katie Bertrand
School Library System Director, Monroe #1 BOCES
11 Linden Park
Rochester, NY 14625

Responsibilities of the Grant Recipient:

- Attend the AASL National Conference, October 21-23, 2021, in Salt Lake City, Utah
- If this is the recipient's first AASL Conference, we recommend attending the Welcome Home session on Thursday October 21, 2021 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- Share information acquired by attending this conference either by an oral or written presentation to your Superintendent, Board of Education, and/or faculty. Report at one of your School Library System's Communication Coordinators Meetings. Volunteer with AASL and apply to be considered for appointment to an AASL committee (many of the committees have virtual only members – no requirement to go to ALA meetings – for more information see the AASL Committee List at <http://www.aasl.org/aasl/about/committees>)
- Submit a Final Report to the School Library System Association of New York and Rosen Publishing by January 31, 2022.

Responsibilities of Rosen Publishing:

- Provide \$1000 toward the total grant.
- Provide the recipient with a one-year subscription to the Rosen Publishing Digital Resource of his or her choice (upon submission of Final Report).

Responsibilities of the School Library System Association of NYS:

- Provide \$1,000 toward the total grant.
- Reimburse the recipient as expenses are incurred up to the total \$1,800. Final \$200 payment will be made upon receipt of a Final Report by January 31, 2022.



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eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant Application Form – Part 1

INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for your interest in the eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant. The application process requires that you submit all of the following:

- A. A completed online application form.
- B. A signed Applicant Assurances/Photo Video Release Form.
- C. A current resume
- D. A professional letter of support from an educational leader (for example, your direct supervisor, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum Director, School Library System Director, etc.)

The application deadline is July 2, 2021. Submissions must include all three documents to be considered. Successful applicants will be notified by July 23, 2021.

SECTION 1 – PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please fill out the following personal information. Applications will not be considered if the following information is incomplete.	
First Name	Last Name
School District	School(s)
Position/Title	School Library System
Work Address (include city, state, zip code)	Work Phone
	Work Email Address
Home Address (include city, state, zip code)	Home Phone
	Cell Phone
	Alternate Email address (optional if you do not check work email in the summer)



SECTION 2 – APPLICANT ASSURANCES

Please fill out the assurances below. Type your initials in each line, confirming that you have read and agree to each of the criteria for participating in the eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant. After initialing confirmation for each line, please provide an electronic signature at the bottom of the agreement.

I confirm that I am employed as a certified school librarian (library media specialist) in New York

I confirm that I have read the Grant Application. I understand its basic tenets and I am prepared to participate as specified if selected

- Attend the AASL 2021 National Conference, October 21-23, 2021 in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Share information acquired by attending this conference either by an oral or written presentation to your Superintendent, Board of Education, and/or faculty. Report at one of your School Library System’s Communication Coordinator’s Meetings.
- Volunteer with AASL and apply to be considered for appointment to an AASL committee (many of the committees have virtual only members – no requirement to go to ALA meetings – for more information see the AASL Committee List at <http://www.aasl.org/aasl/about/committees>)
- Submit Final Report to the School Library System Association of New York and Rosen Publishing by January 31, 2022.

I understand that I will receive a grant of a total of \$2,000, which can go towards: payment of AASL Membership and Conference Registration, lodging and travel. Any remaining funds can cover cost of meals and transportation within Salt Lake City. All receipts will be submitted to Katie Bertrand, SLSA representative, so \$1,800 of the funds can be released. The remaining \$200 will be reimbursed upon submission of Final Report to SLSA and Rosen Publishing (Miriam Gilbert, VP Rosen Digital, miriamg@rosenpub.com).

I understand that additional costs are my responsibility.

I agree to write an article or make a presentation about my experiences resulting from receipt of “the Grant”

I confirm that I am a member (or will become a member) of the American Library Association (ALA), and the American Association of School Librarians

I confirm that Rosen Publishing and SLSA can publish my name, title, and organization if I am the grant recipient

I have obtained my direct supervisor’s signature and will provide his/her original signature in the space below on my hard-copy application submission as described in the OVERVIEW (Page 1).

Terms of Acceptance and Signature	
Applicant’s Digital Signature (please type your full name below)	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree to the above terms of acceptance.	
<input type="checkbox"/> I support the above individual’s application for this grant. If he or she receives this grant, I will allow release time to attend travel to and attend the 2021 AASL Conference.	
Direct Supervisor’s Digital Signature (please type his/her full name below)	Date



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SECTION 3 – ESSAY QUESTION

Please submit an essay of approximately 1000 words responding to the following prompts. You may use the space provided below and on the next page or submit a separate Word or PDF document. Make sure to provide examples and evidence in your essay.

- The past year has posed many challenges for school librarians. How did you demonstrate leadership to ensure that your school library program remained vital to the school community during the pandemic?
- Describe how you went above and beyond expectation to connect with staff, students, and families to ensure engagement with your school library. Please include stories, facts, and examples.
- As we return to face-to-face instruction next year, explain how you intend to incorporate the lessons of virtual education to foster social emotional learning and to keep your program at the forefront of learning and essential to your entire school community.
- Explain how attending the 2021AASL Conference will support you to further those efforts.

There is an additional text box on the next page if more space is needed.



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SECTION 3 – ESSAY QUESTION -continued



SECTION 4 – PHOTO AND VIDEO RELEASE

I, _____, hereby consent to and authorize the use and reproduction in Print or electronic format by anyone authorized by Rosen Publishing or the School Library System Association of New York of any and all photographs, video, and non-identifiable information, including my image, likeness, and voice in marketing materials and other information added to Rosen and SLSA’s websites(s) and social media outlets for materials related to the eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant. I hereby acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older and have read and understood the terms of this release.

Terms of Acceptance and Signature	
Applicant’s Digital Signature (please type your full name below)	Date
I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree to the above terms of acceptance.	

eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant Application Form – Part 2

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Please attach the following supporting documents as PDFs to an email with the completed Part of the application.

1. Current Resume
2. Professional letter of support from an educational leader (for example, your direct supervisor, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum Director, School Library System Director, etc.)

Applicants must submit complete applications by July2, 2021 as follows:

- One digital copy of the complete application via Email to: slsa-nys@mail.com
- AND**
- One hard copy **with original signatures** to the address below:

Katie Bertrand
 School Library System Director, Monroe One BOCES
 11 Linden Park
 Rochester, NY 14625
slsa-nys@mail.com



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eva efron Memorial AASL Conference Grant Application Form – Part 3

FINAL REPORT *(to be submitted to Katie Bertrand, address above, and Rosen Publishing, Miriam Gilbert, VP Rosen Digital, miriamg@rosenpub.com, by January 31, 2022)*

Recipient's Name _____

In the space provided below please write an essay of at least 500 words, addressing the following the following items and any other observations you may have about your Grant experience:

1. Highlight the positive aspects of the conference.
2. As a result of this professional development activity, I was able to...
3. To what degree did this conference have an impact on your own professional development?
4. Were there other unanticipated benefits from your attendance at this conference?