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State Library Staff Member Awarded PLA Fellowship

Columbia, S.C. - The Public Library Association (PLA) has awarded Leadership Fellows scholarships for programs at the Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington and the Ross School of Business, University of Michigan.

Denise Lyons, a Library Development Consultant with the South Carolina State Library, is the recipient of the PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the [Executive Management Program](#) at the Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington.

Stephanie Chase, Director of the Stowe (Vt.) Free Library, is the recipient of the PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the [Positive Leadership: Building Extraordinary Personal Leadership Capabilities](#) program at the Ross School of Business, University of Michigan.

The Leadership Fellows scholarships offer PLA members who are public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States. These university programs draw participants from various disciplines in government, non-profit, and the private sector, allowing PLA Fellows to learn leadership and change management concepts among professionals with different perspectives and experiences. PLA Fellows learn the value of representing and advocating for public library to a diverse group of interests.

Fellows will be asked to share their experience with PLA and contribute to the development of future leadership programming for public libraries. New skills gained through the programs will benefit their current roles and strengthen their future leadership capabilities. More information about the Leadership Fellows can be found online at <http://www.pla.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaawards/Leadership/index.cfm>.

PLA is a division of the American Library Association. PLA's core purpose is to strengthen public libraries and their contribution to the communities they serve. Its mission is to enhance the development and effectiveness of public library staff and public library services.

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About the S.C. State Library

The South Carolina State Library is the primary administrator of federal and state support for the state's libraries. The Library is a national model for innovation, collaboration, leadership and effectiveness. The Library's mission is to optimize South Carolina's investment in library and information services. In 1969, as the result of action by the General Assembly, the State Library Board was redesignated as the South Carolina State Library and assumed responsibility for public library development, library service for state institutions, service for the blind and physically handicapped, and library service to state government agencies. Headquartered in Columbia, S.C., the Library is funded by the state of South Carolina, by the federal government through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and other sources. For more information, visit www.statelibrary.sc.gov or call 803-734-8666.