**Date**: January 2, 2018

**To**: All MLA member libraries in the State of Maine **From**: Northeast Storytelling (nestorytelling.org)

**Subject: 2018 Maine Library Association/Northeast Storytelling (MLA/NEST) Honor Award Application**

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***Northeast Storytelling*** (<https://www.nestorytelling.org>), a regional nonprofit that supports and promotes storytelling in the Northeast, is pleased to offer a financial award of $500.00 to the Maine library (member of MLA) that best supports and promotes storytelling. (Storytelling is the live art of narrative performance, dynamically shaped by audience response.) The goal of this award is to increase awareness of the creative applications of Storytelling in supporting a love of books and the stories that reside in them. Northeast Storytelling is devoted to bringing stories to life for all ages.

**YOUR LIBRARY IS INVITED TO APPLY FOR THE AWARD**

Please respond to the questions below and either mail you responses to ***Northeast Storytelling***, 16 Woodland Drive, Granby, CT 06035, or forward the answers via email to [nestorytelling@gmail.com](mailto:nestorytelling@gmail.com) with the subject line “**MLA Award**.”

*This award will be presented at the Maine Library Association annual conference in ?, ME on October ?, 2018. Please be sure that your application is completed and submitted by the deadline: June 1, 2018.*

All applications will be reviewed by a neutral committee that includes both librarians and performance storytellers. While the number and variety of storytelling events in the programming will be considered, the creative applications that transform stories into active participatory events will be particularly emphasized in the evaluation. The winning library will be ineligible to apply again for a period of 5 years.

We ask that the winning library:

1. utilize the monetary award to support future storytelling events for any age.
2. publicize the award in their community by whatever means are appropriate (print media, digital media, posting the award, etc.)
3. forward copies of all publicity to NEST for their files.
4. agree to publicize the annual NEST regional conference in their digital media.

Please call or write Deborah Roe at ***Northeast Storytelling*** ([nestorytelling@gmail.com](mailto:nestorytelling@gmail.com), 866-448-7414) with any questions concerning this award or the process of application.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the **Annual MLA/NEST Storytelling Honor Award**

**Application Questions:**

1. Library Name, Website, and Address
2. Name of Contact for Application, Email, and Phone
3. Please describe how your library has used storytelling in the past calendar year (2017). Include in your description programs offered by staff, volunteers, paid performers and other co-sponsoring organizations. You may list your read-aloud programs as well as storytelling performances for any age. (Please limit yourself to 700 word max)
4. Please describe any innovative and creative ways that you have brought stories to life in your programming for children and adults. (You might include such things as hosting a local storytellers’ guild/gathering event, story improv, adult/community story slams, kids’ storytelling troupe, story theatricals, puppet shows, etc.) (Please limit yourself to 700 word max)