

ST-4

MT Report

The 2011 joint conference is almost underway!

Awards to be presented by MLA :

Librarian of the Year: Marilyn Trosper, for her efforts in establishing the North Lake County Library District

Outstanding Support Staff of the Year (the first time this award has been given): Amy Ling, North Valley Public Library

Library of the Year: Belgrade Public Library

Honorary Lifetime MLA Membership: Peggy Smith, Skyview High School, Billings

Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award: Niki Whearty, Helena High School, for her handling of the challenge to Sherman Alexie's book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*.

Trustee of the Year: Albert Martens, trustee at Rosebud County Library

School Administrator of the Year: Bob Whalen, Principal of Skyview High School, Billings.

BTOP (Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program) Update

Computers are arriving at libraries throughout the state, and the mobile public computer center has been delivered to Missoula (a bookmobile being retrofitted for a new purpose).

Montana State Library reports that over one million pages have been digitized in its project to digitize the entire collection of 55,000 state publications. Use rates for the online versions are close to 250 times more than the print versions.