



December 14, 2018

Mr. Bob Swanay
Carmel Clay Public Library
55 4th Ave SE
Carmel, IN 46032

Dear Mr. Swanay,

Congratulations on having a "YHBA" volunteer among your staff. **Karen Steinberger** has served as a volunteer with the **Young Hoosier Book Award (YHBA) Program** during 2018, contributing an estimated 780 hours.

The Young Hoosier Book Award program relies on volunteers like Karen to read and review recently released books targeted for young readers. As a volunteer on the Young Hoosier Book Award (YHBA), Karen Steinberger participated in two educational meetings in Central Indiana--first to learn best practices about reviewing and related technology, and second to discuss themes and potential student reaction to specific books.

In addition to the reviewing and preparation of materials, teachers and librarians facilitate student voting to identify students' favorites. The top vote-earners are awarded this state's Young Hoosier Book Award. Authors and publishers across the country recognize this award, as well as the Eliot Rosewater Book Award for older teen readers, and the Read Alouds Too-Good-To-Miss for all ages.

School and community leaders are laser-focused on careers and college, in addition to school safety and children's mental health. Research shows that reading not only improves literacy and educational outcomes, but also fosters empathy and emotional intelligence.

We thank **Karen Steinberger** for encouraging recreational reading among young people. Thank you for your support of recreational reading and literacy in Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucinda Nord". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lucinda Nord
Executive Director

P.S. Karen is an invaluable asset to this program!!!
A simple handwritten smiley face consisting of two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.