

1023 N. Humphrey
Oak Park, IL 60302
March 2017

Oak Park District 97 Board Members,

Dear Board Members,

Thank you for all you do to support the students and teachers of District 97. Once again, I am making a donation of books to the District 97 School Libraries.

I am donating books from the 2016 Jane Addams Children's Book Award list. I do this every year in honor and in memory of my mother and my mother's cousin who both worked for peace, justice, freedom and equality. My hope is that the children and teachers in District 97 will enjoy these books and be inspired by them.

The winning picture book for 2016 was ***New Shoes*** by Susan Lynn Meyer. The honor books were ***Lillian's Right to Vote*** by Jonah Winter & Shane W. Evans, ***Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation*** by Edwidge Danticat and ***The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore*** by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson.

The winning book for older students was ***Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Right's March*** by Lynda Blackmon Lowery. The honor books was ***Full Cicada Moon*** by Marilyn Hilton.

I am thrilled to say that many of the school libraries already had copies of some of these books, so now there are multiple copies of all of them throughout the District 97 school libraries. This year I am donating a total of 21 books which came to \$255.00.

I wish you all a wonderful and productive end to the 2016-2017 school year and thank you for your dedication. If I might add a request - PLEASE visit at least one of the District 97 school libraries; stay for a lesson. I believe you will be surprised and thrilled at the teaching of valuable lessons that goes on in the libraries on a daily basis. I volunteer a half day a week in one of the libraries and am constantly in awe of the superior teaching that happens.

Sincerely,



Judy Chrisman
retired D97 teacher librarian

✓cc Dr. Kelley, Superintendent