



MEDIA RELEASE
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**International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)
Inc.**

DEVELOPING WORLD SCHOOL LIBRARIES -- AWARDED IASL BOOK GRANTS

The International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) has awarded grants to three schools in developing countries to enable them to purchase library books. The awards totalling US \$1000 were made possible through a fund raising auction at the IASL Conference held in Taipei, in 2007. In making the awards, IASL President, James Henri, noted that the recipients of the IASL Books for Children awards each had to guarantee shelves, space, personnel and service and verify this through a letter or other documentation by the school principal or designated supervisor.

The recipients for 2008 are:

Kenya School Library Association, Lessos, Kenya. Pupils and teachers from Lessos Educational Centre and surrounding public and private primary schools will benefit by acquiring books for Fiction, encyclopedias and magazines.

St Josephs Primary School, Swaziland, South Africa. The children and teachers of St. Josephs will benefit through supplementary books and dictionaries for all the children in the school including special units e.g. the visually impaired and the mentally challenged.

Tipu Model School and College Kabal Swat, Pakistan. A school in a region affected by military insurgents will be able to provide books related to the curriculum, general knowledge books, novels, drama, science, information technology related books and books on Human Rights

The International Association of School Librarianship comprises personal, association and institution members from over 75 countries. Through the improvement of school libraries and school library programs as a vital component of education, the Association is committed to enabling young people to develop literary and cultural appreciation and to use information effectively.

Information about membership and the awards program is available on the IASL website: <http://www.iasl-online.org> and from the IASL Secretariat, PO Box 83, Zillmere, Queensland 4034, Australia.