



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 two 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. 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 2010 are:

Api fo'ou College, Tonga – the school recognizes the importance of useful educational books and is eager to upgrade their present collection consisting of mostly outdated donations from overseas.

With the award the school will purchase relevant books for teaching and learning for the benefit of students and staff alike.

The Nongsalanonsawang School, Thailand – the school's principal encourages the 200 young students to read widely. With the award the school can acquire picture books, easy readers and non-fiction books in Thai and English.

The International Association of School Librarianship comprises student, 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

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