This scholarship is given annually to honor the memory of Ann Gibson, a dynamic and dedicated librarian, storyteller, and teacher, in recognition of her many contributions to the field of youth service librarianship. Ann’s career in Western New York was spent in public libraries and several colleges and universities. As a founding member of the Genesee Storytellers, Gibson provided in-service training in children’s literature for librarians and teachers. She was a guiding force in the University of Rochester’s annual storytelling conference. Ann was also an active volunteer for local charities involving children with special needs. The Ann Gibson scholarship is a memorial to Ann’s passionate abilities to share her love of children’s literature and the art of storytelling with thousands of children and adults.

Purpose: To provide financial assistance to a person who has chosen to pursue graduate studies that will lead to New York State certification as a youth specialist in a public library or school media center.

Deadline: May 31, 2012

Notification: by September 1, 2012

Amount: $1,000

Qualifications:

1. Applicant must be a full-time or part-time graduate library student seeking to further their education in services to young people and have completed a minimum of 18 credit hours towards the MLS.

2. Applicant must be a regular or student member of NYLA/YSS at the time of submitting the application.

3. Applicant must be directing their course of study towards youth services.

4. Applicant must NOT be an officer or employee, or relative of an officer or employee, of the New York Library Association, New York Library Association Council, or the Executive Board of the Youth Services Section of the New York Library Association.

5. Applicant must not have completed their course work prior to December of the year of the award.
6. Applicant must be a resident of (or employed in) New York State at the time of the award.

Criteria to Judge Recipient:

1. Two supporting statements that document the applicant’s competence and commitment to youth services librarianship.

2. Involvement (i.e., membership, attendance) in organizations, conferences, and publications related to youth services librarianship.

3. A transcript from an accredited library school that documents the applicant’s good academic standing and completion of a minimum of 18 credit hours.

4. The winning applicant must be willing to share her/his educational experience in some form following the YSS Spring Conference.

Narrative Statement:

Please present a brief statement that cites relevant experience you have had in youth services and your philosophy and/or future goals in terms of youth services librarianship.

To download an application, visit www.nyla.org/yss/ and click on the scholarship information link. For further information, please contact the Scholarship Committee chair.

Send, IN TRIPLICATE, copies of the completed application form, two supporting statements, transcript(s), narrative statement, and verification of your current NYLA membership to:

Grace Riario  
YSS Scholarship Committee Chair  
Valley Cottage Library  
110 Route 303  
Valley Cottage, NY 10987  
845-268-7700  
gonzalez@rcls.org

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 31, 2012.