

The Honor Award annually recognizes local, student, and special interest chapters that organize and conduct well-rounded programs serving the chapter members, the community, the state/provincial chapter, and the International Literacy Association (ILA). Chapters are recognized for accomplishments of the previous year.

## Reminders

- The applicant must be recognized as a local chapter within the state or province.
- Chapters are recognized for accomplishments during the previous year (**July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024**).
- Applications for the 2025 Honor Award are due by **December 31, 2024**, and must be submitted electronically.
- Criteria can be met through virtual or in-person activities.
- Attach one document for each section. Only a short summary is needed for each and should be combined into one document for each required/optional section in Parts I–IV. The uploaded file must be smaller than 50MB.

*Note: If your file is larger than 50MB, send the attachments via email to [chapters@reading.org](mailto:chapters@reading.org) with the subject line HONOR AWARD ATTACHMENTS.*

Please contact [chapters@reading.org](mailto:chapters@reading.org) if you need assistance with your award submission.

## PART I: Service to Chapter Members

### Required Criterion

#### A. Long-Range Plan

Provide a written plan for chapter work. Include the mission, goals, strategies, meetings, and activities for the next one, two, or three years.

### Optional Criteria (CHOOSE 3)

#### A. Image Brochure

Develop an image brochure that reflects the chapter mission and highlights affiliation with ILA and the state/provincial chapters.

#### B. Video/Slideshow

Develop a video/slideshow that highlights the chapter's history and accomplishments. Explain how the video/slideshow is used to promote the chapter.

#### C. Website/Social Networking

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Maintain a website or social networking site that is current, relevant, and contains up-to-date information about activities, opportunities to expand member involvement, and information and access for potential members interested in joining.

#### **D. Newsletter**

Create a newsletter or similar communication piece containing information about chapter activities, highlighting professional resources, and promoting membership.

#### **E. Future/New Educators Support**

Document chapter support for the professional growth of future/new educators. Examples include college scholarships; conference registration; complimentary/discounted memberships; providing teacher resources/instructional materials; and offering meetings, workshops, webinars, institutes, etc. designed to service future/new teachers.

#### **F. Professional Development for Chapter Members**

Document support for the professional development of chapter members. Examples include college scholarships, conference registration, and offering meetings, workshops, webinars, institutes, etc. based on the current needs of chapter members.

### **PART II: Service to Local Community**

#### **Optional Criteria (CHOOSE 3)**

##### **A. Celebrate Literacy Award**

Recognize an organization, institution, or individual that has made significant literacy contributions at the local, state, or provincial level with a Celebrate Literacy Award. Information regarding this award can be found on the ILA website at [literacyworldwide.org/awards](http://literacyworldwide.org/awards). Accomplishments may include 1) direct teaching at any level, 2) organizing local literacy programs, 3) promoting public support relative to enhancing literacy, 4) producing teaching materials or special media for literacy programs, 5) conducting research in literacy, 6) conducting special surveys for literacy planning, 7) providing young people with opportunities to help with literacy activities, and 8) conducting informal educational activities of a social, cultural, economic, or political nature in which literacy activities are included. Each chapter should develop specific selection guidelines for the award. Recognition certificates may be requested from ILA.

##### **B. Community Literacy Project**

Organize and implement a community literacy project. Examples include International Literacy Day, Read Across America events, reading at the mall, summer reading incentive programs, read-a-thons, etc.

##### **C. Advocacy**

Participate in advocating for significant literacy issues. For example, chapter members may be active in educating legislators, provincial officials, or other government officials about literacy issues pertinent to local chapter members.

##### **D. Early Childhood/Family Literacy**

Conduct a program or project that focuses on the important role families play in children's literacy development.

##### **E. Young Authors**

Sponsor or cosponsor an activity that encourages, supports, and recognizes student writers in the chapter's geographic area. Examples include young authors' contests, writing workshops, authors' tea, writing celebrations, etc.

## **F. Community Service**

Perform a service project that brings literacy benefits to community members. Examples include in-person or virtual readings, collecting magazines/books for community programs, assisting with adult literacy programs, etc.

## **G. Media Outlets in Education (MOIE)**

Promote the use of print media for instructional purposes in the classroom and at home. Examples include inviting MOIE to a chapter meeting to share instructional strategies, including MOIE activities in newsletters or on the chapter's website, providing MOIE resources to schools, etc.

## **PART III: Partnership with State/Provincial Chapter and ILA**

### **Required Criteria (ALL, A–D)**

#### **A. Chapter Members**

Have a minimum of ten (10) ILA members in the chapter.

#### **B. State/Provincial Recommendation**

The state/provincial board of directors provides a letter/email of recommendation that the chapter is in good standing with the state.

#### **C. Support State/Provincial Goals**

Summarize how the chapter supports programs and projects that reflect the strategic plan of the state/provincial chapter.

#### **D. Support ILA's Mission**

Describe how the chapter supports ILA's mission. ILA's mission, position statements, and briefs are located on the ILA website.

## **PART IV: Service to International Community**

### **Optional Criteria (CHOOSE 2, A–D)**

#### **A. International Literacy Day**

Participate in an International Literacy Day celebration.

#### **B. Help Support the Global Fund**

As a member of the ILA global network, the chapter has the opportunity to support educators in developing countries. ILA's global fund helps to promote literacy activities around the world. A contribution of \$100 or more can help to support future projects.

***\*If choosing this option, please make your check payable to ILA and indicate "Honor – Part IV B" in the memo section.***

#### **C. Global Literacy**

Donate to or participate in a project that will promote literacy in another country. This project may involve a partnership with other agencies, such as the Peace Corps, Red Cross, Rotary, etc.

#### **D. ILA Global Partnership**

Establish a partnership with an ILA global affiliate. Examples include sharing professional information, providing teaching resources, communicating virtually, etc.

**Begin your online application using the [ILA Honor Award application form](#).**