

The Edwards Award: Get Your Teens Reading!



The Edwards Award is sponsored by *School Library Journal* and administered annually by YALSA.

To learn more about the Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime contribution to young adult literature go to: www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists

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While the Margaret A. Edwards Award does honor a specific author for his or her lifetime contribution to young adult literature, it also singles out specific works by that author for special recognition. Here are a few ideas to help you promote those books:

Displays (*don't forget to put the Edwards seals on your books to make them stand out! Seals can be ordered from: www.alastore.ala.org*)

Rotating Display of Margaret Edwards Winners: Set aside a display area in your library that will be the Edwards Award display. Each month choose one or two authors on which to focus. Fill your display with the books of theirs that were recognized as Edwards winners. Enhance your display with a photo of the author(s) and a short bio.

You Can't Beat the Classics: choose Edwards-winning books that have stood the test of time and create a display that features them. Have library workers or teens who've read the books write brief reviews of the titles on the display and attach them to the books.

Retro Reading: create a display that features Edwards winning books from the 1980s and/or early 1990s. Enhance the display with retro items, like the Rubik's cube, posters of hair bands, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles action figures, etc.

Programs

Booktalking the Edwards Winners: Choose 5 or 6 Edwards winning books that you think will interest your teens and prepare a booktalk for each one. Visit English classes and booktalk the ones you've selected. Provide an annotated list of the Edwards-winning books and encourage students to visit the library to check one out.

Edwards Book Group: form a teen book discussion group. Each month have teens vote to select one Edwards winner from a different year to read and meet over pizza or snacks to discuss the book. Prepare discussion questions to spur the teens along.

Every Edwards (or I'm a Maniac for Margaret!): create a reading incentive program that encourages teens to read every one of the books that won an Edwards Award. Provide teens with a reading journal so they can jot down thoughts about each book as they read them. When their journal is complete, give them a prize that you got donated from a local business.