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Library News



Plainfield Public Library Honored for Human Rights Contributions

Individuals, civic and business leaders were singled out for their contributions in stirring ceremonies in Union Township. The fifth annual award presentation by the Union County Human Relations Commission honored citizens for contributions that enhance the spirit and quality of life. The awards were created to recognize the activities and efforts of culturally-diverse individuals and organizations who go "above and beyond" to improve human relations. "Every award recipient offers a life preserver and a bit of hope to someone" said Commissioner Helene Scheuer, who co-chairs the Commission.

"The heart of a community is its library, and the Plainfield Public Library has something for everyone," said Commissioner Barbara Boyer, a Plainfield resident who presented the award to Executive Director Joe DaRold. Responding to changing community needs is what the Plainfield Public Library does best, which is one of the reasons for its recognition. The second largest library in the county, the library provides an enlightened library collection and programs. The Library's focus on the past is invaluable – it houses the largest local history collection in Union County.

Its focus on the present is evidenced by the growing collection of research materials on Plainfield's multiple minority groups, in both English and Spanish. Its focus on the future is also noteworthy, including its award-winning Adult Literacy Program and Children's Services, which provide opportunities for learning life-skills as well as academic tutoring. The Library is a major community center, and, appropriately, a center of Plainfield's community.

Award recipients were also presented with individual personalized resolutions sponsored by the New Jersey Legislature, and the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Plainfield Public Library

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