

News Release



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Craig Buthod Named National Librarian of the Year

Cited for leadership on expansion, flood recovery and community response

LOUISVILLE, KY (January 11, 2010) --- The *Library Journal*, the country's premier library publication, has awarded Louisville Free Public Library Director Craig Buthod its Librarian of the Year Award for 2010. Mayor Jerry Abramson made the announcement today amidst cheering library staff, volunteers and board members. The award will be presented to Buthod on Friday in Boston as part of the annual American Library Association Conference.

"Craig Buthod has been our Librarian of the Year for many years right here in Louisville," said Abramson. "It's a tribute to Craig and to Louisville to have the rest of the country recognize his many accomplishments."

M-O-R-E

Buthod, nominated by a number of his peers throughout the country, is featured in a cover story in the January issue of *Library Journal* (www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6713125.html) where he is cited for a series of successes, including:

- Commitment to the library's Master Capital Expansion Plan, despite the rejection of a dedicated library tax, which resulted in the opening of the Newburg Branch in August, a facility that has become instantaneously successful.
- Energetic response to the devastating flood of 2009 resulting in more than \$7 million in damage to the Main Library which was able to re-open to the public in less than 23 days.
- Unique partnership with Louisville schools which provides Student Power Plus Cards to all students, including access to library services as well as access and discounts for many other goods and services including bus service, after school activities and GED and SAT test preparation.).

Buthod came to Louisville as library director in 1998 from the Seattle Public Library. A native of Tulsa, Buthod began his career at the Tulsa City-County Library System where he worked for 17 years.

“As exciting and deeply gratifying as this is for me,” said Buthod, “I stand here as merely a representative of the many staff, volunteers, patrons, board members, friends and colleagues who have helped and guided me as we have worked together to build a culture of success at all of our libraries.”

The Louisville Free Public Library connects the residents of Louisville and Jefferson County to knowledge and information at 18 locations and on the Web at www.lfpl.org. For more information, go to www.lfpl.org or call 502-574-1611.