Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System’s 2012 Volunteer Recognition

Library Volunteers Reach New Heights

Atlanta – The value of volunteering topped $1 million at Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, with 2,344 volunteers donating 71,395 hours in 2011 valued at $1,426,607 in donated services. This is the third year library volunteer services have topped $1 million.

The 22nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Award Program was held Saturday April 21, during National Volunteer Week, and over 200 people attended. Special guest speakers included Stephanie Moody, Chair of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System Board of Trustees; John Eaves, Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners who is also a library trustee, and Fulton County Commissioner Joan Garner who is a former Library Board trustee.

Library volunteers serve as adult literacy tutors, English as a second language (ESL) teachers, homework help aides, math tutors, computer assistants, clerical assistants, children’s program aides, special event hosts and more – in any of the library system’s 33 branches. Volunteers with Friends of the Library groups are active in 28 branches.

Some highlights of the volunteer year include:

142 volunteers donated over 100 hours in 2011, including 49 who donated over 200 hours. Three volunteers donated over 1,000 hours in 2011 alone.

Seven volunteers received the Millennium Award for reaching a career total of 1,000 hours.

Pamela Mason, volunteer at the Roswell Branch and Linda Statham, volunteer at the Alpharetta Branch, both won the President’s Call to Service Award for reaching a career total of over 4,000 hours.

Special Volunteer of the Year—Dishelesh Jones, a volunteer at the Central Library is a mainstay of the Library’s Adult Literacy Program. She has volunteered for over three
years, tutoring several students at a time and helping to develop training materials for other tutors.

Youth Volunteer of the Year—Lianna Arah Kang, volunteers at the Ocee Branch and organized a tutoring program, involving other high school students helping younger students with their homework. Ms. Kang also serves on the Teen Advisory Board at the branch.

Staff Award for Effective Work with Volunteers—Kamala Serakan, at the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Branch oversees the young volunteer program there.

#   #   #