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Oklahoma Board Report: April 2008

#### Oklahoma Library Legislative Day

Oklahoma librarians gathered at the capital May 11th. The emphasis was on funding for public and school libraries. We were brought up to date on issues affecting Oklahoma libraries and had tip sheets to help us make our points. Attendees brought messages and pieces of pie to senators and representatives and their secretaries. I feel certain the pie helped get their attention!

#### Student Receptions

The membership committee of the OLA held a reception for graduates in the school library media program at Oklahoma State University April 8th. Students were encouraged to join OLA and programs were available to encourage attendance at the OLA Annual Conference.

#### Oklahoma Library Association Conference

The Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference was held April 21-23 at the Southern Hills Marriott in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The theme was Keys to the Future. Banquet speakers were Attorney General Drew Edmondson and Linda Edmondson.

American Library Association president, Loriene Roy, spoke briefly at the Opening General Session. George Needham gave the keynote address sharing the findings of the landmark reports on ways in which librarians and the public perceive, use, and evaluate information. These reports are available for free download at <http://www.oclc.org/reports>.

#### State Award Winning Books for Children and Teens

The 2008 Sequoyah Children's Award winner is *Angus and Sadie* by Cynthia Voigt.

The 2008 Sequoyah Young Adult Award winner is *The Lightning Thief: Percy Jackson and the Olympians* by Rick Riordan. The winner of the Donna Norvell Award for 2008 is Antoinette Portis for *Not a Box*. Portis' book is also a Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor award winner.

The winners from last year were *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty Birney for children and *Red Kayak* by Priscilla Cummings for young adults. Both authors were at the conference and gave their acceptance speeches to approximately 500 Oklahoma school readers. Their speeches will be available through pod casts from the Oklahoma Library Association web page.