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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**Press Release**

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## **College Hill Children's Librarian Arnice Smith Named One of *New York Times*' Librarians of the Year**

Arnice Smith, Children's Librarian for the College Hill Branch, was named one of the winners of the *2005 New York Times' Librarian Awards*. Now in its fifth year, the program honors librarians from around the country who have provided outstanding public service. In 2004, nearly 1,500 nominations were sent from 47 states. The *New York Times* will hold a reception in honor of the winners in late November at which each winner will be given \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque.

Candace Simpson, who worked as a part-time Library Services Assistant with Arnice at the College Hill Branch for one year and was recently promoted to a full time Library Services Assistant at the Covedale Branch, nominated Arnice for this award. In her nomination, Candace cited the energetic personal service Arnice provides to over 200 children who inundate the branch after school and the untiring extra effort she puts into completing teacher collections. She noted Arnice's professionalism, passion for her work, her ability to motivate and encourage young library users, and her excellence as a role model to co-workers and customers. But it is Arnice's own words that sum up her philosophy and approach, "I tell every child that I read a book to or tell a story to that my purpose as a children's librarian is to plant a seed in their heads that will grow into a love for reading in their hearts."

A separate plaque featuring the winner's name and title will be sent to the library where each winner works. In a statement from last year's award announcement, Alyse Myers, Vice president of Marketing

Services for The Times said, "This program demonstrates, year after year, how crucial libraries and librarians are to people in every part of the nation. From big cities to small towns, people look to their local libraries for information, education, entertainment, culture and community, and the librarians are there to help them find it all. The *Times* is proud to honor the work of these librarians who bring people together over books around the common belief that access to information is part of the bedrock of our society."

Ms. Smith started working at the Library 22 years ago as a shelver and is very grateful for Library trust funds that enabled her to complete an undergraduate degree and then earn her master's degree from library school.

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org).**