



Kay Poustie OAM Scholarship 2013

Information for Applicants & Application Form

State Library of Western Australia Foundation

February 2013

Introduction

The **Kay Poustie OAM Scholarship** was established by the State Library of Western Australia Foundation in honour of her immense contribution to the library profession throughout her long career.

The scholarship takes the form of an international study grant which recognises Kay Poustie's commitment to, and belief in an international perspective for the library profession. The scholarship enables a Western Australian-based library practitioner to gain the wider perspective and global experience in innovative library practices essential for effective librarianship. The aim is to implement ideas obtained from the study into a Western Australian library network setting.

Friends, colleagues and the community have been generous in providing donations to the Foundation to build the scholarship fund which will enable Kay Poustie's lifetime of dedicated service to the profession to be honoured and her legacy to enrich future generations of librarians and library users.

Kay Poustie OAM (1944 – 2010)

Kay first joined the Library Board of Western Australia in 1990, serving until 1993 as a representative for the Local Government Association. She returned in 1998 and served for a further eight years as representative of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) on the Board. Her ability and experience was recognised when she was elected Chairman of the Library Board initially for four months in 2001, and then later between 2002 and 2006.

During this time, Kay oversaw major developments in relations between the State Library and WA public libraries, including the signing of the Framework Agreement and the acquisition of a further \$10.3 million in local government funds for library resources. Other achievements during this time include the launch of the Better Beginnings program and the establishment of the Historical Records Rescue Consortium.

Kay was a role model and mentor for many members of the Western Australian public library profession. This passion for library education saw her serve on the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Board of Education, for four of those years as its chair, and in 1997 she was conferred with a Fellowship of the Association. She was invited to be an inaugural member of the Bertelsmann International Network of Public Libraries in 1996 contributing to scholarly research in the profession.

Kay worked tirelessly to see the State Library of Western Australia Foundation become a reality. A lifelong contributor to non-profit ventures, Kay also served in a variety of roles as a member of Zonta International and also for Meath Care. In 2008 she was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the general division, and was recognised as a Library of WA Board Fellow in 2010.



About the State Library of WA Foundation

The State Library of Western Australia Foundation is a not for profit organisation with tax deductibility status and was established in 2009 to support the aims of the State Library of WA.

The State Library is a place of learning and discovery and also holds the largest collection of documentary heritage recording the history and culture of Western Australia, music and film archives, oral histories, photographs and maps. The State Library provides many free resources in hard copy and digital formats, provides public events, and stages public exhibitions of items in its collections. As such, the State Library is one of the most important cultural institutions in WA.

What we do

The Foundation raises funds from those who share the vision for a literate State. Literacy is central to our lives. The fundamental skill of reading enables us to discover the world we live in and create our futures, which in turn leads to healthier and more robust communities. The opportunities for the Foundation to raise funds are diverse; from sponsorships, corporate partnerships and grants; and from the community as one-off and regular gifts, and bequests. These vital funds enable us to add value to the State Library to:

- Enhance or develop literacy programs for all ages,
- Continue collecting items relevant to our State's history and make them accessible to the general public,
- Provide access to knowledge, in a range of formats, and
- Develop scholarships.

Through grants and public donations we have worked in collaboration with the State Library and other stakeholders to bring the following to the community:

- ***Love to Read Café*** - outdoor reading café set up outside the Library doors.
- ***Laundry Reads*** - the placing of mini-libraries into laundromats.
- ***Read Out Loud*** - a one-day State wide reading marathon (Nov 2012) to promote awareness of literacy and the joy of reading in celebration of the National Year of Reading 2012.
- ***I'm Not stupid*** - a public awareness radio campaign regarding adult literacy.
- ***Our Page in History*** – an online portal for sharing community stories.
- ***Spelling Bee*** – an online spelling program for 9-13 year olds.
- ***Kay Poustie OAM Scholarship*** – an international study grant awarded to librarians in WA for professional development.

To find out more about the State Library of WA Foundation go to www.statelibraryfoundation.org.au

The Scholarship

An international travel scholarship of **up to \$8,000** is available.

The scholarship provides an opportunity for a library practitioner to travel overseas on a study tour to explore ideas and initiatives of relevance that could potentially be applied to the Western Australian public library network. The scope of the scholarship includes:

- Leadership - of the profession generally and public library services in particular
- Professional development of staff
- Innovation in library practice
- Client service initiatives

Eligibility Criteria

The scholarship is open to Librarians and other professionals working within the public library network in Western Australia. Those eligible to apply are Librarians, Librarian Technicians, and others with degrees working in the public library network.

(Note: hereinafter the term “library practitioner” is applied for the purpose of this document)

You must be:

- an Australian Citizen over the age of 18,
- a library practitioner with at least three years’ experience,
- be employed within the WA public library system (for the purposes of this scholarship this includes practitioners employed by the State Library of Western Australia).

In addition:

- your proposed study tour should be completed by 31 December 2013 (not including reporting etc),
- you must be willing to share your research findings with the broader Western Australian library profession, and
- you must not have previously been awarded a similar scholarship within the last five years.

Conditions of Scholarship

The successful applicant is to:

- commence the study tour within six months of being awarded the scholarship,
- write a report of their activities for submission to the Library Board of WA within three months of completion of the study; and
- present findings of the study to the WA public library system either by way of a published article in a recognised professional publication, or by delivering a paper at a suitable professional conference or other gathering - to be negotiated with the successful applicant at the time of awarding the scholarship,
- be available to present at State Library of WA Foundation functions to donors and prospective donors.
- Applicants may be required by the Foundation to participate in photos, recordings, video and or film session(s) (the “publicity materials”) and acknowledge that the Foundation has

the right to use such publicity materials in any medium (including without limitation, the internet) and in any reasonable manner it sees fit.

Eligible Costs

The travel grant will cover the following expenses:

- Air fares (including airport taxes and transfers),
- Domestic travel (including bus, taxi, train etc),
- Hire cars (including insurance and petrol),
- Accommodation,
- Meals and incidental expenses up to the limit defined by the ATO Taxation Determination TD 2012/17.

Inaugural Scholarship Recipient 2013

Kirstie Nicholson, Resources Librarian City of Armadale



Inaugural Kay Poustie OAM Scholarship award presentation: (l-r) Margaret Allen, CEO State Library of WA and State Librarian, Andrew and Zac Poustie (Son and grandson of Trevor & Kay Poustie), Kirstie Nicholson, Resources Librarian, City of Armadale. Philip Hirschberg, Director State Library of WA Foundation.

“My proposal for the 2012 Kay Poustie Scholarship OAM posed the question, “What makes a successful public library?”

The project aimed to identify the features that contribute to a great public library by visiting international libraries that are considered successful and learning from them. I was able to travel to The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and the UK in pursuit of my research goal and to meet enthusiastic library practitioners and visit their inspiring libraries. This experience has given me exposure to the library systems and practices of Europe and the UK, provided me with ideas and inspiration, and given me a personal sense of achievement.

I encourage eligible library staff to take advantage of the professional opportunity the Kay Poustie Scholarship offers.”

Kirstie Nicholson

Photos:

*L: Openbare Bibliotheek
Amsterdam (OBA)*

R: Malmö Library



Application Assessment

There are two stages to the application process. The first requires a written application, and the second requires a presentation to the judging panel.

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Merit of the project:
 - the extent to which the knowledge or skills gained will be of value and benefit to the Western Australian public library system
 - how the applicant proposes sharing the knowledge gained with the wider profession
- Merit of the applicant:
 - is the applicant's current level of achievement, knowledge and expertise sufficient for the proposed project?
 - does the applicant display significant commitment to the profession?
- No late applications will be accepted.
- The scholarship shall be awarded to the top-ranked applicant as judged by the judging panel.
- The decision of the selection panel is final.
- No correspondence with the judging panel will be entered into.
- The Foundation reserves the right not to award a scholarship.

The Judging Panel

Mrs Margaret Allen, CEO and State Librarian

Prof Kerry Smith, Associate Professor, Curtin University

Cr Deborah Hamblin, Librarian, Rockingham Regional Campus Community Library

The Application Process

The closing date for applications for the 2013 Kay Poustie OAM Scholarship is:

5:00pm Tuesday 9 April 2013

Notification Process

- Applications will be shortlisted by the Judging Panel according to the application assessment (above).
- Presentation by nominated applicants to the judging panel takes place week commencing 6 May 2013. The presentation to be a maximum of 10 minutes.
- Winner and finalists advised by week ending 17 May 2013.
- Announcement of award recipient at Award Ceremony during Library and Information Week in May. The awards event takes place on **the evening of Thursday 23 May 2013** hosted by the State Library of WA.

How to submit your Application

Applicants should complete and submit the Application Form (provided on the next page) and include it with the following:

- A written (typed) proposal addressing the following criteria (*please use each criterion as a heading*):
 1. Title of Project (up to 10 words)
 2. Brief outline of the Project (200 words)
 3. Rationale and Justification (500 words)
Outline the aspects of librarianship or library practice your project will explore
 4. Benefits (250 words)
Explain how your project will benefit the Western Australian public library system including how you propose to share your findings with the profession
- Your resume indicating your career path to date, and including a brief statement of your career objectives.
- Proposed tour itinerary and budget.
- Two written references with their full name, title and daytime contact information. One Referee must be your current employer indicating their support for your proposed study tour. Both references should relate to your ability to undertake the research.

Please note a downloadable Application Kit is found at www.statelibraryfoundation.org

Due date for Applications

By 5:00pm Tuesday 9 April 2013 applications must be submitted electronically by email to info@statelibraryfoundation.org with the words "Scholarship Application" in the Subject line.

Further Enquiries

State Library of WA Foundation

Tel: 08 9427 3105

Email: info@statelibraryfoundation.org

KAY POUSTIE STUDY GRANT 2013 APPLICATION

State Library of WA Foundation

Please complete this form and submit with your application

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	
Preferred Name:	
Email:	
Residential Address:	
Postal Address (if different.)	
Telephone:	Work..(.....)..... Home.(.....)..... Mobile.....
Date of Birth	
Australian Citizen:	Yes/No

EMPLOYMENT

Present role title and employer	
Date Commenced	
Previous role title and employer	
Date Commenced	

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Title		
Total Duration of study tour		
Proposed departure date		
Total Travel Expense requested		Not to exceed A\$8,000

APPLICATION CHECKLIST (ensure the following are included with your application form)

- ☐ Written proposal
- ☐ Resume
- ☐ Proposed Itinerary and Budget
- ☐ Two written referees with day time contact numbers

Declaration:

I declare that all information provided in my application is true and correct.

Applicant's Signature:..... Date...../...../ 2013