

GREAT NEWS ABOUT RALC

Rochester Area Literacy Council Wins National Award

The Rochester Area Literacy Council's 2009-10 Student Publishing Project, *The Best of Rochester—Past, Present, and Future* was recognized as the first place Community Service Award winner during the International Reading Associations' Convention in Orlando, Florida in May. Project Coordinator, Ginny Phelps, was on hand to accept the award for RALC. This IRA award recognizes the local literacy council who best promotes literacy and service to their community.

The winning local project was sponsored by the Rochester Area Literacy Council to motivate local students in grades Kindergarten through eighth grade to communicate their thoughts on the best of Rochester through written expression and art. Popular topics included Wegmans, Nick Tahou's Garbage Plate, Frontier Field, and Strong Museum to name a few. The book topic was selected to support the city's recent 175th Anniversary Celebration.

The Student Publishing Project is an opportunity for students in grades kindergarten through twelve to share their creative work with a broader audience. This year, RALC continued the publishing project with both an elementary and a secondary book titled, *Everybody Has a Story*. These two books included the work of approximately 100 young authors and artists and each published student received a copy of the book compliments of the Rochester Area Literacy Council. Currently, plans are being made for the 2011-12 books, titled *Storytellers All: Voices and Visuals from Rochester Area Students*. Copies of all books published by RALC are available for purchase at www.whitebarnpress.com.