

**Davis McCarn Award 2008
Presented to Nini Beegan
By CML President Bill Wilson
MLA Luncheon, May 16, 2008**

Davis McCarn was a brilliant man who used his considerable knowledge of technology to benefit libraries. In honor of his work, Citizens for Maryland Libraries established an award to recognize effort and achievement in using innovative technology applications to improve library service.

As president of Citizens for Maryland Libraries, it is my great honor to present the 2008 Davis McCarn Technology Award to Nini Beegan.

As the Maryland E-Learning Coordinator, Nini has introduced library staff throughout Maryland to new technologies that increase work effectiveness and better prepare them to assist customers with new technology. She works closely with numerous teams and advisory groups throughout the State to help them utilize online learning and communication tools.

Nini brings a great deal of expertise in instructional design to bear on the implementation of new technologies. She coordinates the successful Leading from Any Position workshops for library staff in Maryland. She helped design the Learning Libraries 3.0 workshops and helps to maintain a wiki to support the project. Currently Nini offers How to Learn Online and How to Design and Develop Synchronous Learning online courses for library staff, and is helping to coordinate SkillSoft online technology and business skill training.

Nini coordinated the very successful 23 Things Project, which more than 1,000 Maryland library staff members have completed to date. The knowledge of web tools learned through 23 Things is having a significant impact on customer service. Staff are creating blogs to communicate with the public, helping customers learn how to manage photos online, and offering programs on blogging and other social networking tools.

Last year Nini developed the MLA Conference wiki and podcasting site, and this year, she negotiated with the vendor and worked with the online conference team to initiate the first ever MLA Virtual Conference, which is allowing our colleagues at home to participate in many of the excellent

programs offered at this conference. This is the first virtual state library conference in the nation.

Nini started her library career in 1996 when she joined the staff of the Baltimore County Public Library. After receiving a Masters in Instructional Systems Development from UMBC, she worked in the private sector designing and helping Fortune 500 companies deliver e-learning.

She then joined the staff of Anne Arundel Community College in the Workforce Development Center where she designed continuing education programs.

She came back to Maryland libraries in 2004 to accept the position of Maryland E-learning Coordinator and I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say we are very glad she did.

Nini practices what she preaches. She will soon be completing her MLS online at Drexel University.

Nini and her husband Mike have two sons, Ben and Chris. They flew to China in January to meet and bring home Chris, the newest member of the family who is 18 months old.

So Nini, on behalf of all customers and staff in Maryland Libraries, thank you very much for your excellent work and we look forward to your continuing efforts to introduce us to new technologies that enhance lifelong learning.