

Report

August 11, 2011

To NLLN Scholarship Committee
RE: Branch Out 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to attend Branch Out 2011. The conference was appropriately titled "Beyond Your Comfort Zone," inviting me to expand my thinking and reserve judgment.

I found the conference very enlightening and feel I gained skills which will help me directly on the job, in addition to gaining new tools for managing stress. I attended workshops on "Readers Advisory Non-Fiction", in which I gleaned tips on assisting patrons in finding reading suggestions; "Hands On Genealogy" provided excellent online resources which I can share with co-workers and patrons interested in this growing trend; "Beyond Books: Library Programs for the non-reader" gave me much needed exposure to new, exciting, hands on technology.

Additionally, in the "Gentle Yoga" session I learned new breathing for relaxation techniques; during the lunchtime author spotlight I thoroughly enjoyed Northfield's own Dan Jorgenson; and was inspired by Interplay coach Judith Froemming during the second morning registration session.

Unexpected highlights included a visit to the Northfield Public Library for a relaxing evening of harp music and gourmet desserts.

Thank you again for your consideration in reimbursing me the full amount of the conference plus one meal, totaling \$219.50 (forms attached).

Sincerely,



Rhoda Jackson