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Garnett Public Library wins Best Small Library in Kansas Award

Topeka, KS—The Kansas Library Association is proud to announce the Garnett Public Library as the winner of the 2012 Best Small Library in Kansas Award. The Best Small Library Award was created by regional library consultants, in conjunction with the Kansas Library Association, to recognize creative and excellent library service, program or activity in a service community of less than 5,000.

Among the many letters and comments forwarded to the selection committee, which was composed of five small public library directors and trustees, was this affectionate description of the library in Garnett, a city of 3,222 located about an hour southwest of Kansas City: “Garnett Public Library sits a block off the town square in the bustling town of Garnett in the center of Anderson County, and there is always something happening at the library. The library has cultivated many community partnerships that have promoted and improved the service it provides to the citizens of Garnett.”

Garnett Public Library Director Andrea Sobba accepted the award at the recent Kansas Library Conference in Wichita. She said, “Our library would not be as successful as it is without the dedicated library board members, volunteers, knowledgeable staff and the support of the city commissioners and community. We are celebrating our 100th year in 2012, and we hope to continue our theme *100 Years of Opening Books and Minds* into the next 100 years.”

The award comes with a \$400 prize provided by Auto-Graphics, Inc. Auto-Graphics provides resource management solutions to customers across multiple industries, including a range of library markets such as public, academic, school, special and consortia, as well as finance, publishing, aerospace and manufacturing. Auto-Graphics believes strongly in the positive impact a small library can have in the community and views this award as a way to highlight the importance of libraries to their communities.

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The Kansas Library Association is the common bond, public voice, and collective power for the Kansas library community.