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**Broward County Library awarded the 2007 Mora Award for the Festival de Libros para Niños event.**

Tenino, WA, December 28, 2007 — The Broward County Library has been awarded the 2007 Mora Award for their outstanding Día de Los Niños event. The Estela and Raúl Mora Award was established by author and poet Pat Mora and her family in honor of their parents to promote *El Día de Los Niños/El Día de Los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day)* known as "Día". This family literacy initiative, now housed at the Association of Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is a daily commitment to link children and books that culminates in celebrations around the country on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Mora Award is presented annually, in partnership with REFORMA, to the most exemplary celebration. The Broward County Library will receive \$1000 and a plaque commemorating their event.

The Broward Festival de Libros para Niños gathered more than 7,000 attendees at three library branches and was "aimed at celebrating all of Broward's diverse and multi-ethnic children and their books" with emphasis on Hispanic literature and the Hispanic community. This program was supported with a mini-grant awarded by the Association of Library Service to Children and Target. The Broward County Library provided 2,200 free books, including books in Spanish, for children to take home.

The celebrations included children's authors, storytellers, puppet shows, music and crafts. Special guests included Ella Jenkins, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2004 Grammys; Dovie Thomason, a Lakota/Kiowa Apache storyteller; Jaime Raiscos, a well known Colombian storyteller; Antonio Sacre, children's author; David Diaz, children's authors; and Diane Ferlatte, winner of the National Storytelling Network Circle of Excellence Award. Notable aspects of the winning program included a strong bilingual publicity campaign; impressive planning and coordination with partners such as the Broward Association of the Education of Young Children and the Broward Public Library Foundation; and importing the message of multi-ethnic and multi-lingual literacy to educators and caregivers.

Questions can be directed to Selina Gomez-Beloz at [selina-reforma@comcast.net](mailto:selina-reforma@comcast.net) or further information can be found on the REFORMA website at [www.reforma.org](http://www.reforma.org).

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