

2006 Audrey Friend Scholarship Award

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By Reba Tierney, Quincy High School

Maranda Bastarache (Awards Committee), Donna Mason, Laurie Belanger (Awards Committee) and Kathy Lowe (MSLA President)

Donna Mason is one of the very deserving recipients of the 2006 Audrey Friend Scholarship Award. Donna has an extensive background in the education system, and is currently working towards completing her Masters of Education (M.Ed.) degree in Library Media Studies from Salem State College.



Donna already holds a degree in elementary education, and has previous work experience in the Medway School system. Her interest in becoming a library teacher blossomed when she served as a parent volunteer in her son's classroom. She remembers listening to the teacher read and the response of the children. She was inspired by the effect that reading aloud had on the children.

One thing that appeals to Donna about librarianship is the concept that librarians can "do anything and find anything." She recalls the time when her son chose to do his big 6th grade project on NASCAR. Being the intrepid researcher that she is, Donna found a traveling NASCAR car and driver that would be in the area. She arranged a visit to the school, fleshing out her son's project in a pretty amazing way. Undoubtedly, all the students probably wished that their mom or dad was an "information expert" on that day.

Donna began her graduate program at Salem State in the fall of 2003. She has overcome great personal obstacles to push on and nearly complete her degree. With the finish line in sight, hopefully the Audrey Friend Scholarship will give her a little extra boost. Future students will be lucky to be taught by someone with so much knowledge and enthusiasm. Congratulations and good luck Donna!