

New UBC SLAIS grads celebrated

By Michelle Mallette.

Approximately 80 guests attended the 2012 Meet the SLAIS Grads event on Friday, March 30, held at the Alice Mackay Room of Vancouver Public Library's Central branch.

SLAIS Alumni Association Dawn Ibey congratulated the more than 30 new graduates who were on hand, and SLAIS Director Caroline Haythornthwaite lead the toast to all of the 2011/12 graduates, who number in total (one PhD, four Masters of Art in Children's Literature, eight Masters of Archival Studies, 63 Masters of Library and Information Studies, and 16 Dual MAS/MLIS).

Guest speaker was Shannon Ozirny, Head of Youth Services at the West Vancouver Memorial Library, and herself a double alumni of the School, holding a Master of Arts in Children's Literature from 2008, and a Master of Library and Information Studies from 2010.



SLAIS Professor Edie Rasmussen and SLAIS Director Caroline Haythornthwaite. Photo by Jenny Borland.



Guest speaker Shannon Ozirny. Photo by Jenny Borland.

She encouraged the audience, regardless of position or career stage, to strive to remain passionate and committed to excellence, finishing with YA author John Green's advice, DFTBA (Don't Forget to Be Awesome).

This event is organized annually by the SLAIS Alumni Association, with alumni and friends buying tickets and sponsoring graduates who are hosted for the evening. The Gem Support table raises funds for scholarships, and anyone with unwanted jewelry to donate is invited to contact an Alumni Association executive member, or visit <http://blogs.ubc.ca/slaisalumni/>.

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