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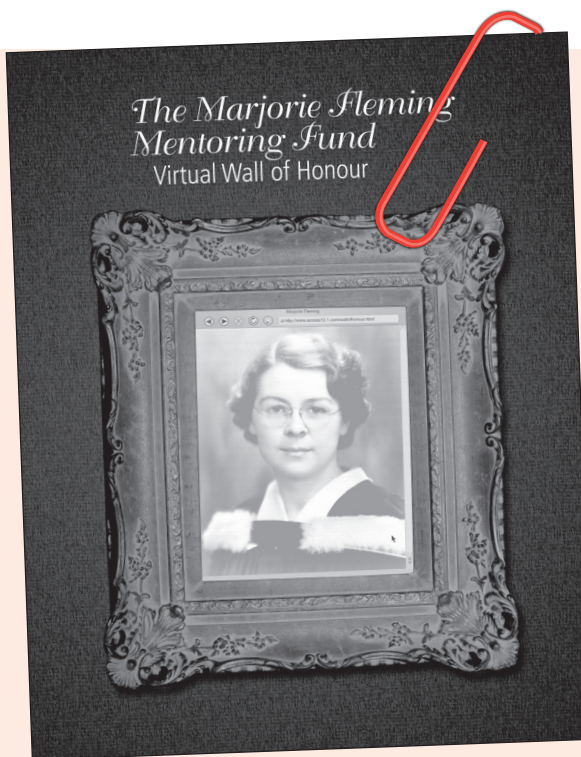
We stand on the shoulders of giants. Every experienced pro began as a “newbie,” needing guidance, support, and assistance. The Marjorie Fleming Mentoring Fund and Virtual Wall of Honour, found at www.accessola.com/fleming was created to pay homage to those who have helped us in our school library careers. We asked OSLA members to name persons who have influenced them and these are just some of the responses.

I'd have to nominate Gene Burdenuk—my first teacher of school librarianship and mentor. Although I haven't seen him for ages, I still hear his voice as I welcome classes into the library seminar room with an individual hello—just like he did to us each morning.

I entered the program at Althouse not knowing anything about school libraries, and thanks to his excellent teaching, I'm hitting year 20 in the library and year 27 in teaching. It has been a wonderful ride so far (a few bumps, of course) and I plan to keep on going until it stops being fun.

Frank Loreto
St. Thomas Aquinas
Secondary School,
Brampton

Jo-Anne Laforty
(Learning Resources
Instructional Leader,
Toronto District School
Board) has been a
tremendous mentor
and role model for me
in my nearly two-year



old library career. She's a cheerleader, a spark plug, and a personal delight. Time and again she's gone out of her way to make sure I have all the tools needed to succeed. She does this nitty-gritty work

seemingly effortlessly without ever taking her eye off the real job of inspiring and challenging us all to tackle the big responsibility of fostering critical thinking that lies at the heart of the job.

Jean Sonmor
Don Mills Collegiate Institute, Toronto

I was fortunate to have had two former teachers as mentors when I first entered the school library profession. They both guided my early teaching years and to them I owe lasting thanks. Jean Vale was my Grade 12 English teacher at North Toronto Collegiate Institute who instilled in me a love of literature and the necessity for detailed analysis of a text. “Miss Vale” encouraged my writing and guided me to enrol in the University of Toronto for its scholarship and diversity. Jean later became a teacher-librarian of renown in the Toronto Board of Education, a formidable reviewer for

our libraries, and my colleague on many a Board committee and library project. Jean taught me to respect the power of a good theory and the warmth of a kind word.

Arthur Livingston was my Grade 13 English teacher, also

