The B.E.S.T. Award (Bringing Excellence in Service by Teens) was established to honor significant contributions by a teenager in library service. Each year there are two winners one from Nassau and one from Suffolk. They are chosen by a committee of members of the Young Adult Services Divisions of the Nassau and Suffolk Library Associations.

Brentwood resident Josh Ramirez is the winner of the Suffolk County award. His tremendous work ethic and dedication to Brentwood Public Library, as well as his ability to connect with fellow staff members and patrons makes him worthy of this award.

“When Josh applied for a page position in the children’s department last summer, I was unsure of how he would work out. While I did not doubt his character, I was wary of hiring someone accustomed to using the library for socialization. In his interview Josh convinced me to give him a chance. He insisted that he was determined to work hard and help out his mother financially as he attended night school to earn his high school diploma,” stated Children’s Librarian Margaret Uset. “Josh’s performance as a page this past year has exceeded my expectations.”

All library employees; from the director to the pages, play an important part in meeting the library’s goal of providing quality services to Brentwood Public Library patrons. Josh, who is able to communicate with patrons in English and Spanish, exemplifies this principle.

A violinist from a young age, Josh plays several other instruments and was a member of Tenealach, an Indie Pop Rock band that played east coast venues. His future plans include pursuing a degree in music from Suffolk Community College.

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