

**Lois J. Ehlert**  
**1999 Outstanding Alumnus**

Lois Ehlert a 1953 BDHS graduate. Ehlert, now a Milwaukee resident, has written and illustrated over thirty children's books. She holds many distinguished awards, including the Caldecott Honors Award; the New York Times Best Illustrated Book of the Year Award; American Institute of Graphic Arts Honors; the Dimensional Illustrators Gold Award; Notable Book Awards, American Library Association; Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards; Outstanding Children's Book Art Award, Society of Illustrators; First Place, New York Book Show; Pick of the List, American Book Sellers; and the Elizabeth Burr Award, Wisconsin Library Association. Her childhood experiences in Beaver Dam influenced several of her books, such as "Fish-Eyes" and "Hands." She also produces toys, games, posters, brochures and banners. Three of her banners, hanging in the Beaver Dam Community Library, have the theme of Beaver Dam Lake and its fish. As a strong advocate of children and creativity, Ehlert has given presentations in Beaver Dam schools, at the Beaver Dam Community Library, and other sites throughout the country. The writer/illustrator, who was recently referred to as a "Wisconsin state treasure," received degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Layton School of Art. Nominator Marty Schoenberger says, "Miss Ehlert continues to be a positive role model for the children and adults who have read her books, corresponded with her as an artist, or met her in person during her time in Beaver Dam schools."