

Trustee Newsletter

Winter 2018

IN THIS ISSUE...

Library Trustee Workshop - 1

Legislative Day - 1

OLC Collaborates with State Agencies to Address Workforce Training - 2

Nominate a Colleague for an OLC Award - 2

Library Ballot Issues: Updates and Analysis - 2

PLF Distribution In Line with ODT Estimates - 3

Trustee Dinners To Be Held at Six Locations this Spring - 3

OLC Board Elects Officers - 3

Important Dates for Library Trustees - 4

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Annual Library Trustee Workshop Scheduled for March 10 in Columbus

The OLC's Annual Library Trustee Workshop will be held Sat., Mar. 10, from 9:30 am to 3:45 pm at the Quest Conference Center in North Columbus. Although this workshop is designed for relatively new library trustees, those with years of experience will find this program to be a good refresher. You will learn how to be an effective board member and how to work with your library's director and staff. You'll also gain a better understanding of your library's finances and how libraries are funded in Ohio.

The workshop will also include a legislative update on issues at the Statehouse including information on the Public Library Fund (PLF) as well as legal questions library trustees often ask and the services that OLC provides to trustees. The registration fee is \$80, and new for 2018, all attendees will receive a free copy of the *Ohio Public Library Trustees' Handbook*. A complete agenda is available on the OLC website at <http://olc.org/blog/event/library-trustee-workshop/>.

For a list of hotels near the Quest Conference Center, please contact olc@olc.org or call 614-410-8092. Visit the OLC website at olc.org for more information. Register online or call the OLC office to reserve your seat. The registration deadline is March 5, 2018.

OLC's Legislative Day Scheduled for April 11

Plan now to attend OLC's Legislative Day on Wed., April 11, in downtown Columbus. Don't miss this opportunity to meet with your legislators and share the essential work your library is doing in the community. Michelle Francis, OLC's Director of Government and Legal Services, will kick off the event with a morning briefing about pressing legislative issues impacting Ohio's public libraries and how you can be an effective advocate.

This year, Legislative Day registration and plenary sessions will take place at the Capital Club in downtown Columbus, across the street from the Statehouse.

As an incentive for library trustees to attend and to acknowledge libraries' support of their professional organization, the OLC Board of Directors has decided to waive the registration fee for trustees and staff of OLC Institutional member libraries. Learn more at <http://olc.org/legislative-day/>.



Pictured here from last year's Legislative Day (from left): Chad Seeberg, Trustee; Nieca Nowels, Director; and Anita Tiller, Trustee, from the Marysville Public Library.

OLC Collaborates with State Agencies to Address Workforce Training

The OLC is working with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation and other state agencies on several projects to recognize the role of public libraries in Ohio's adult workforce system.

OhioMeansJobs

The FY18-19 state budget requires OhioMeansJobs (OMJ) centers to establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with one or more public libraries in each county. The purpose of the MOU is to facilitate collaboration and coordination of workforce programs and education and job training resources. The partnerships between the OMJ centers and public libraries will vary greatly depending on the needs of library customers, size of the library system and capacity of the library.

Volunteers Needed

To meet the urgent need for a qualified workforce, Ohio high school students can now earn recognition by showing they are prepared to contribute to the workplace and their communities. The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal is a formal designation students can earn on their high school diplomas indicating they have the personal strengths, strong work ethic and professional experience that businesses need. Students earn the seal by working with at least three mentors. The program is looking for business leaders to serve as mentors. More information can be found at <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/New-Skills-for-Youth/SuccessBound/OhioMeansJobs-Readiness-Seal>.

Nominate a Colleague for the OLC's Trustee/Board of Trustees Award of Achievement

If you're amazed by how your library system seems to keep running in the middle of building projects, levies and staff changes, chances are you have a team that's worthy of the OLC's Trustee/Board of Trustees Award of Achievement. This prestigious award recognizes an individual library board member or entire board of trustees that demonstrates distinguished service and innovative leadership within the community or across Ohio.



The OLC is now accepting nominations through April 30, 2018. The Awards and Honors Committee has designed a new, more streamlined process for submitting your nominations. Detailed award descriptions, eligibility information, and nomination instructions are available on the OLC website at <http://olc.org/about-us/awards/>. If you have a great colleague in mind, please tell us about them and help us recognize the best of Ohio's public library community. Award winners will be recognized during a special ceremony at the 2018 Convention and Expo, set for Oct. 3-5, at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky.

Library Ballot Issues: Updates and Analysis

Ohioans Approve 100% of Library Ballot Issues

Ohioans continue to express their support for public libraries at the polls. Voters approved all 22 public library issues on local ballots last fall. The ballot issues passed by significant margins with the average voter approval rate of 67 percent. The successful library issues included one bond and 21 levies, including seven new levies, nine renewals, two replacements, two renewals with increases, and one replacement with an increase.

Property Tax Levy Analysis

The OLC routinely receives questions related to public library property tax levy historical data and analysis as libraries consider their options for ballot issues. The OLC's library funding and tax consultant, Howard Fleeter & Associates, has updated an analysis of property tax levies for library purposes. The full report is available on the OLC's website at <http://olc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Library-Levy-Report-Dec-2017.pdf>

Levy Resolution Changes

As a result of the state budget bill (HB 49) passed in 2017, additional language is required for all resolutions of necessity when a tax levy is being placed on the ballot. This is the resolution that is passed by the library board of trustees asking the taxing authority to place the issue on the ballot. This language is then used in the resolution passed by the taxing authority. Additional language requirements and sample templates for the revised resolutions (Word versions) are available on the OLC website at <http://olc.org/levies/levy-resolution-changes/>.

Discuss Issues Impacting Ohio's Public Libraries During the 2018 Trustee Dinners

This spring, the OLC will once again host dinner meetings around the state for public library trustees and administrators. The Trustee Dinners are a great opportunity for you to share information and ideas with your fellow trustees throughout the region. The program will include hands-on instruction on how to be an effective advocate for your library as well as plenty of opportunities for networking and peer-to-peer learning during round-table discussions.

Don't miss this chance to learn more about the challenges and opportunities ahead for Ohio's public libraries. The registration fee for each event is \$40 per person. Register online at olc.org or call 614-410-8092. Please note: the deadline to register is seven days prior to each dinner.

2018 Trustee Dinner Schedule:

Columbus
March 15 - Crowne Plaza North

Chillicothe
March 22 - Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library Annex

Wilmington
April 5 - Roberts Centre

Cambridge
April 19 - Guernsey County Public Library, Crossroads Branch

Wadsworth
April 26 - Comfort Inn & Suites Banquet Center at the Galaxy

Bowling Green
May 3 - BGSU Student Union

2018 PLF Distribution in Line with ODT Estimates

When the Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) released the January 2018 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution, the month's total distribution of \$31,204,303 was \$194,657 (0.62%) less than the ODT's projection, and \$1,263,714 (-3.89%) less than the distribution in January 2017.

The ODT updated the PLF certification for calendar year (CY) 2018 in December 2017. The official updated statewide estimate of \$378,921,185 is unchanged from the initial estimate that was provided in July 2017. There was very little, if any, change to the monthly county-by-county estimates. The monthly estimates are available on the OLC website (as an Excel spreadsheet) at olc.org/resources/government-relations/funding/.

OLC Board Elects Officers, Approves Budget for 2018

At its meeting on Jan. 19, the OLC Board of Directors elected its officers for 2018, including

Chair of the Board:

Nick Tepe, Director, Athens County Public Libraries

Vice Chair/Chair-Elect:

Kacie Armstrong, Director, Euclid Public Library

Secretary-Treasurer:

Paula Brehm-Heeger, Chief Strategy and Technology Officer, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

Immediate Past Chair:

Andrew Mangels, Director, Westlake Porter Public Library

The Board also welcomed new members: Tom Dillie, Director, Minerva Public Library; Carol Herrick, Trustee, Washington-Centerville Public Library; and Rick Rubin, Trustee, Cuyahoga Falls Library.

Among other action items, the 2018 OLC operating budget was approved. The next Board meeting is March 16, 2018 at the OLC headquarters in Columbus.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
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Upcoming Events for Library Trustees

Library Trustee Workshop

March 10, 2018

Quest Conference Center (North Columbus)

Trustee Dinners

Six locations around Ohio

March - May (see page 3 for dates and locations)

Legislative Day*

April 11, 2018

Capital Club (across from Statehouse)

**No registration fee for 2018*

Look inside for more details or go online at olc.org/library-trustees/