

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **6.E.3**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 17, 2025**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Planning and Leadership Conference

Leadership resources were updated and posted to the Member Info Hub. Division and Committee members were able to submit their meeting minutes, goals and objectives, and annual reports online.

State Budget

Advocacy materials have been updated in preparation for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 state budget process. This includes new Ohio House and Senate information, Legislative Network contacts, fact sheets, frequently asked questions about the Public Library Fund, and other tools and templates for members to utilize. Resources will continue to be added such as webinar recordings and talking points.

Awards and Honors

The 2025 Awards and Honors program officially launched on Jan. 8, 2025. Online nomination forms were created for each award category. The nomination process will continue to be promoted in Access, the OLC website and social media. The nomination period runs through April 30, 2025.

2025 Convention and Expo

The Call for Programs for the 2025 Convention and Expo will open mid-January. Information about the event is available at olc.org/2025-convention-and-expo. A call for committee members for the Program, Expo, and Local Arrangements committees ran in Access.

2025 Stand Alone Conferences

Information about the new 2025 conferences and a call for planning committee members ran in Access. The Unconventional to Conventional Conference will be held in the spring and will focus on providing innovative materials, programs and services and how to get all staff engaged with something they've never done. The New to Libraries Conference will be held in the fall and will focus on developing new library staff and helping them gain a better understanding of the library's mission, their role within it, and intricacies of library operations. A Call for Programs will be issued for each conference.

Division/Committee Projects

- Articles on the OLC New Member Referral Program and Individual membership renewal were included in *Access* and the OLC website. The “Get Involved” member participation form was updated.
- Names and libraries of new and recently renewed Certification holders (CPL and CPLS) were listed in *Access* and the OLC website.
- The Children’s Services Division’s e-newsletter was created and distributed on Dec. 10.
- A member satisfaction survey was created and distributed to all Institutional Member Libraries on Dec. 9, 2024.

New Website and Member Info Hub

The new OLC website and Member Info Hub officially launched on Nov. 20, 2024.

Resources continue to be added. The following webinars were added to the Member Info Hub and can be accessed for free by OLC members:

- Intellectual Freedom – A Foundation Webinar
- Addressing Race in Public Libraries Webinar
- Advancing Racial Equity within Public Libraries Webinar:
- Crisis Communications Webinar: Planning for the Unpredictable
- Message Dissemination During a Crisis Webinar
- Science of Reading Webinar Series for Public Libraries (3)
- Sensory Storytime Webinar
- Stress First Aid Webinar