

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **6.E.4**

MEETING DATE: **March 14, 2025**

SUBJECT: **Membership Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jeanine D'Andrea**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

2025 Membership

As of Feb. 27, there was a total of 1890 members as compared to 2252 on Feb. 27, 2024. There are currently 1666 renewals and 224 new. Friends groups, other institutions and associate members have recently been billed.

The Membership Committee met via Zoom on Jan. 23 and again on Feb. 20. Agenda items included: Statistics; 2025 Timeline; student update; new member update; Lifetime Membership; Final renewal email, and Access Article possibilities. The Committee is scheduled to meet again on Mar. 13 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

The third and final renewal was emailed on Feb. 26 to 899 members. In comparison the third renewal was sent to 642 in 2024 and 694 in 2023. The date to drop 2024 Individual members for non-renewal is March 10.

The Committee welcomes new Student Representative Raven Fountain who was recommended by Dr. Belinda Boon. Raven has been updated on the Student Representative guidelines and plans to attend our next meeting.

Membership Recruitment and Retention

Many members find joining divisions to be a key part of maximizing their membership benefits. An Access article on walking members through the process of selecting an unlimited number of divisions was published in the Feb. 25 edition of Access.

New members receive an automatic email from OLC when we receive their dues. A second email is being sent to New Members as an effort to continue to promote the value of OLC.

Membership Meetups

Membership Mondays is hosted by PLA the first Monday of each month. They are virtual meetups where PLA members can hear from leaders within the association, discover ways to get involved, ask questions, share ideas and grow their networks.

The OLC Membership Committee is working on a version similar to PLA's for the OLC Membership. They are currently working on details for topics and facilitators and hope to launch in May 2025 as an added member benefit. These meetups would be held once per month for one-half hour; free to OLC Individual members and they must register to participate in the Zoom meet-up.

Lifetime Members

OLC has gained the following three Lifetime Members since January: James Miley, SEO Library Center; Allison Howell, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library and Molly Ernst, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. They were acknowledged in Access and have

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been sent a thank you email on behalf of the Membership Committee. A permanent OLC membership card has also been sent to them.

New Member Referral Program

The New Member Referral Program closed on Feb. 1. OLC received 10 new members who joined through the program. By comparison, there were 8 received in 2024; and 12 received in 2023. Emily Shellhouse, Granville Public Library will receive \$50 in credit toward any OLC Professional Development event in 2025 for referring new member Melissa Wandle. The announcement was made in *Access*.

Nominations and Elections

All OLC Division Action Council Coordinators will be sent a roster of members from their unit along with a list of any members who sent in a membership participation form requesting to serve, to assist them with identifying potential candidates for election. Slates of candidates are due to OLC by April 1. Staff will work directly with these coordinators to answer questions, send broadcast emails and assist them with the nomination process.

Awards and Honors

The Awards and Honors Committee met on Feb. 27 and is scheduled to meet again on March 27. A promotional flyer has been printed to take to all OLC events. The deadline has been changed to May 30 for nomination submissions.