



***Awards & Honors
Past Recipients***

About

The Ohio Library Council presents major awards honoring individuals and organizations that make significant contributions to Ohio's public library community. Award recipients are chosen based on nominations and recommendations received from the Ohio library community. This program has a long tradition of celebrating the innovative and dedicated people who make Ohio's public libraries successful and vibrant. If you know of a great co-worker or team, please review the evaluation criteria and categories on the OLC website and nominate a deserving colleague.

Awards categories:

- **HALL OF FAME LIBRARIAN**
- **LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR**
- **SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD**
- **OHIO FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY RECOGNITION**
- **TRUSTEE/BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT**
- **JOHN PHILIP OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD**
- **DIANA VESCELIUS EMERGING LEADER AWARD**
- **LIBRARY INNOVATION AWARD**
- **CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

Award descriptions and criteria available at
olc.org/about-us/awards

Award Recipients

Hall of Fame Librarian

- 1970 - Carl Vitz
- 1971 - Harriet Long
- 1972 - Mildred Sandoe
- 1973 - Dr. Jesse H. Shera
- 1974 - Rose L. Vormelker
- 1975 - Margaret Kaltenbach
- 1976 - Ruth Hess
- 1977 - Dorothy I. Strouse
- 1978 - Walter Brahm,
Margaret S. Skiff
- 1979 - Helen M. Focke
- 1980 - William Chait
- 1981 - Paul H. Bixler
- 1982 - Dr. Lewis C. Branscomb
- 1983 - Charlotte Leonard
- 1985 - Erwin J. Gaines
- 1986 - A. Chapman Parsons
- 1988 - Robert F. Cayton
- 1989 - John H. Rebenack
- 1990 - Frederick G. Kilgour
- 1991 - Joseph F. Shubert
- 1992 - Hannah McCauley
- 1993 - Ardath Danford
- 1994 - R. Russell Munn
- 1995 - Rachel Wayne Nelson
- 1996 - Greg Byerly,
Patricia H. Latshaw
- 1998 - John N. Storck
- 1999 - Marilyn Gell Mason,
Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee
- 2000 - John S. Wallach
- 2001 - Jeffrey A. French
- 2003 - Holly Carroll
- 2004 - Joseph C. Palmer
- 2005 - Richard Rubin
- 2007 - Martha Gardin
- 2009 - Kathy East
- 2011 - Meribah Mansfield
- 2013 - Celia Huffman
- 2014 - Don W. Barlow
- 2015 - Deborah F. O'Connor
- 2016 - Clyde S. Scoles
- 2017 - Kimber L. Fender
- 2018 - Missy Lodge
- 2019 - Alan Hall
- 2021 - Tim Kambitsch

Notable Ohio Hall of Fame Librarians

Elected in 1975

William H. Brett, 1846-1918
Electra C. Doren, 1861-1927
Linda A. Eastman, 1867-1963
James C. Foutts, 1907-1964
Charles B. Galbreath, 1858-1934
Thirza E. Grant, 1886-1970
Chalmers Hadley, 1872-1958
Herbert S. Hirshberg, 1879-1955
Julia Wright Merrill, 1881-1961
Paul A. T. Noon, 1905-1971
Azariah S. Root, 1862-1927
Burton E. Stevenson, 1872-1962
Alice S. Tyler, 1859-1944
Joseph L. Wheeler, 1884-1970

Elected in 1980

George J. Blazier, 1886-1970
Marilla W. Freeman, 1871-1961
Nathaniel Hodges, 1852-1927
Olive Branch Jones, 1863-1933
Effie L. Power, 1873-1969
Paul North Rice, 1888-1967

Elected in 1985

Florence Craig, 1901-1980
Annie S. Cutter, 1877-1957
Raymond Embree, 1905-1968
William J Hamilton, 1884-1974
Hannah S. Hunt, 1903-1973

Elected in 1985 *(continued)*

Earl N. Manchester, 1881-1954

Gilbert W. Ward, 1880-1944

Amy Winslow, 1890-1980

Elected in 1990

Hugh C. Atkinson, 1933-1986
Ernest I. Miller, 1907-1972
L. Quincy Mumford, 1903-1982
Elnora M. Portteus, 1920-1983
A. Robert Rogers, 1927-1985

Hall of Fame Trustee

1970 - Elsie Bennett Wilson
1971 - James J. Weadock. Jr.
1972 - George W. Coen
1976 - Jean M. Coleman
1977 - Arthur W. Marr
1980 - Brooks W. MacCracken
1983 - Emelyne Ely Reed
1989 - Frank W. Steere. Jr.
1992 - Robert Jenkins
1993 - Dennis G. Fedor
1994 - Mary Obenour
1995 - Morton M. Thomas
1996 - Pauline Bennett
1997 - H. Baird Tenney
2001 - Terry L. Casey

Librarian of the Year Award Recipients

- 1959 - Walter Brahm
1963 - Helen K. Sunnafrank
1964 - Dorothy Strouse
1965 - R. Russell Munn
1967 - Raymond Embree
1968 - Mary Zimmerman
1969 - Dr. Jesse H. Shera
1970 - Clara E. Lucioli,
Ernest I. Miller
1972 - Elnora M. Portteus
1973 - Frederick G. Kilgour
1974 - Lewis C. Naylor
1975 - William Chait
1976 - Dr. A. Robert Rogers
1977 - Doris Wood
1978 - H. Paul Schrank
1979 - John H. Rebenack
1980 - Hannah McCauley
1981 - Doris Jyurovat
1982 - Kathy East, Ervin I. Gaines
1983 - Robert H. Donahugh
1984 - Maryann Sadlier
1985 - Ardath Danford
1986 - Jeanne Dykins
1987 - Hwa-Wei Lee
1988 - Nancy Wareham
1989 - Alan Hall
1990 - Floyd C. Dickman,
Phyllis Gallo
1991 - Gregory L. Reese
1992 - Philip Koons
1993 - Wallace White
1994 - John J. Philip
1995 - James F. Bouchard,
Millie Covey Fry
1996 - John S. Wallach
1997 - Anthony G. Yankus
1998 - Stephen D. Wood
1999 - Judith Ellen Riggie
2000 - John W.P. Storck
2001 - John A. Lonsak,
Andrew A. Venable, Jr.
2003 - Meribah Mansfield
2004 - Patricia Hillmer
2005 - Margaret C. Danziger
2007 - Nancy J. Kelley
2009 - Kimber L. Fender
2011 - Donna L. Perdzock
2014 - Mary Jane Santos
2015 - Heidi Daniel
2017 - Debbie L. Saunders
2018 - Andrea C. Legg
2019 - Jeff Winkle
2021 - James Hill

Trustee of the Year Recipients

- 1942 - Elsie Bennett Wilson,
James J. Weadock, Jr.
- 1945 - Mrs. Max Hellman,
Mrs. R.P. Parkhurst
- 1946 - Bertha Trebein Flynn,
H.M. Jacobs
- 1947 - A. E. Gower, J.E. Argetsinger
- 1948 - E. A. McCuskey,
Jessie J. Smith
- 1950 - Rebecca F. Gayton,
Ella G. Lupton, MD
- 1951 - Arthur W. Fiske,
Fred M. Fuller
- 1952 - Mrs. Agnes Hirsch,
J. S. Masson
- 1953 - Robert J. Brown,
Mrs. Karl B. Hoke
- 1954 - Mrs. Leonard Church
- 1956 - Clyde C. Henderson,
George Wiseman, MD
- 1957 - H. William Lilley
- 1958 - Aubrey Billings,
Ethel G. Swanbeck,
Dr. Walter A. Zaugg
- 1959 - Ina Warner Broeman,
Jacob A. Meckstroth,
George W. Murdock
- 1961 - William F. Maag
- 1962 - Bernice A. Warner
- 1963 - George W. Coen
- 1965 - Mrs. Dorothy Smucker
- 1966 - Joseph E. Hurst
- 1967 - Mrs. George Harding III,
Clarence D. Steffy
- 1968 - Mrs. Leland Spore
- 1969 - Arthur W. Marr
- 1970 - Charles E. Blakeslee
- 1971 - Mrs. Jean Coleman
- 1972 - Thomas H. Anderson
- 1973 - Raymond R. Brown
- 1974 - Emelyne Ely Reed
- 1975 - Brooks W. MacCracken
- 1976 - Lee C. Howley, Jr.
- 1977 - Florence Gault
- 1978 - Guion Osborn
- 1979 - L. Eugene Byers, DVM
- 1980 - Raymond Gaier
- 1981 - John T. Nolan, Jr.
- 1982 - Mrs. Avis Cullen
- 1984 - Dennis G. Fedor
- 1985 - James B. Stubbins
- 1986 - Easter Straker
- 1988 - Alice Wilson
- 1989 - Bonnie J. Cordell
- 1990 - Ralph L. Moore
- 1991 - Richard Danford
- 1992 - James R. Kimmel
- 1993 - Dr. William D. Baker
- 1994 - Robert F. Sullivan
- 1995 - David C. Miller
- 1996 - JoAnn Vance
- 1997 - Amos J. Loveday
- 1998 - Ian Haberman
- 1999 - Harold V. Felton
- 2001 - Harold B. Cooper

Trustee Award of Achievement Recipients

1976 - Troy-Miami County

Public Library

1977 - Public Library of Columbus and Franklin County

1978 - Summit County Trustee Council

1979 - Minerva Public Library

1980 - Fairfield County District Library

1981 - East Cleveland Public Library

1982 - Loudonville Public LibraryLibrary

1983 - Burton Public Library

1984 - Lorain Public Library

1985 - Community Public Library, St. Marys

1986 - Geauga County Public Library

1987 - Flesh Public Library

1988 - Portage County District Library

1990 - Washington County Public Library

1991 - Pickaway County District Library

1992 - Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County Library

1993 - Clermont County Public Library

1994 - Dayton and Montgomery County Public Library

Trustee/Board of Trustees Award of Achievement

(combined in 2003)

2003 - Queen Lester

2017 - Thomas R. Uhler

2004 - Charlotte Kessler

2018 - Michael W. Kilbourne

2005 - Doris Lawler

2019 - Barbara Denison

2007 - Patricia T. Holter

2021 - Dr. Garalynn Tomas

2009 - Gregory Clifford, Esq.
Louis Dudek

2011 - William J. Moran

2013 - William Shkurti

2014 - Bob Plantz

2015 - Kathleen Hickey Green

2016 - Benjamin Chinni

John Philip Outreach Award Recipients

- 1995 - John Philip
- 1996 - Cheryl Kreiner
- 1997 - Jean Roberts
- 1998 - Elizabeth "Betsy" Fried
- 1999 - June Huss
- 2000 - Julianne Matasich
- 2001 - Mercier Robinson
- 2003 - Abigail Noland
- 2004 - Deborah Dubois
- 2005 - Deborah DiGennaro
- 2007 - Carol Ann Carmack
- 2009 - Anne Juhasz
- 2011 - Kris Netzel
- 2013 - Elizabeth Hatton Zuelke
- 2014 - Ann Plazek
- 2015 - Tammy Long
- 2016 - Delaware County District Library, Community & Family Outreach Services Department
- 2017 - Cathy E. Hunter
- 2018 - Linda Toohey
- 2019 - Stephanie Brown and Brittany Labinger

John Philip Outreach and Community Engagement Award

(name change 2021)

- 2021 - David Siders

A. Chapman Parsons Award Recipients

- 1998 - John S. Wallach
Dayton and Montgomery County Public Library
- 1999 - Amos Loveday, Former Trustee
Worthington Public Library
- 2000 - Larry Black
Columbus Metropolitan Library
- 2001 - Frances Black
Southwest Public Libraries
- 2002 - George W.S. Hays
Salem Public Library
- 2003 - Holly Carroll
Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library
- 2017 - Kimber L. Fender
Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

Citizen of the Year Award Recipients

- 1993 - Thomas Dennis, Mark Powell
- 1994 - Robert H. Russell. Sr.
- 1995 - Maynard Sauder
- 1996 - Joan Bennett
- 1998 - Dr. Thomas W. Flechtner
- 2003 - Marah Walker
- 2004 - Kathy Catazaro-Perry
- 2007 - Sibongile (Bongi) Sithe
- 2009 - Regina Brett
- 2014 - Bill Morris
- 2015 - Jonathan D. Iten
- 2017 - Stephen A. Hedges
- 2018 - Ryan D. Burgess
- 2019 - Douglas S. Evans
- 2021 - Terry Fouts

Andrew Carnegie Award Recipients

- 1995 - Vern Riffe, House Speaker
- 1995 - Stan Aronoff, Senate President
- 1996 - Richard Finan, Senator (7)
- 1997 - George Voinovich, Governor
- 1998 - Priscilla Mead, Representative (28)
- 1999 - Roy Ray, Senator (27)
- 2001 - Randy Gardner, Senator (18)
- 2002 - Larry Householder, House Speaker
- 2003 - Mark Mallory, Senator (9)
- 2005 - John Carey, Senator (17)
- 2013 - Bill Beagle, Senator (5)
- 2017 - Ryan Smith, Representative (93)
- 2020 - Larry Obhof, Senate President

James Cook Book Award: Celebrating Diversity in Teen Literature*

- 2021 - Aiden Thomas' Cemetery Boys
- 2019 - Elizabeth Acevedo's The Poet X
- 2017 - Neal Shusterman's Challenger Deep
- 2015 - Jandy Nelson's I'll Give You the Sun
- 2013 - A.S. King's Ask the Passengers
- 2011 - Francisco X. Stork's Marcelo in the Real World
- 2009 - Michael Harmon's Last Exit to Normal
- 2007 - Marina Budhos' Ask Me No Questions

**Winning books selected by the James Cook Book Award Selection Committee*

Supportive Staff Member of the Year Recipients

1976 - Jessie Hall
1977 - Elsetta Ervin
1979 - Ward Murray
1980 - Pauline Wrocklage
1981 - Jean Dolan
1982 - John Edward Soult
1984 - Alice Nodes
1985 - Doris Plaine
1986 - Alice Bakies,
Jessie Don Butcher
1987 - Joanne Guitteau
1989 - Patricia L. Ray
1990 - Manuel Fonseca
1991 - Gretchen Cunningham
1992 - Marguerite Crist Calvin
1993 - Minnie Waters Mackenzie
1994 - Michael Pope
1995 - Robert L. Simon
1996 - Jeffrey A. Yahraus
1997 - Jennifer Bull
1998 - Betty Spyker
1999 - Lori Schrader
2000 - Eva Greenberg
2001 - Terri Frederick
2003 - Paula Banks
2004 - Judith Scaife
2005 - Helen Wilson
2007 - Martha E. Hamilton
2009 - Steve Prater

2011 - Rebecca J. Carroll
2012-13 - Margaret Clarke Simon
2015 - Mary S. Baker
2016 - Martin J. Flynn

Service Excellence Award Recipients

(name change 2017)

2017 - Michael Christian-Budd
2018 - Lynn Mercer
2019 - Grace Walker
2021 - Doug Stout

Diana Vescelius Memorial Award Recipients

- 1972 - Jacqueline Johns
- 1973 - Terry McLaughlin
- 1974 - Judith K. Mowery
- 1975 - Daniel S. Suvak
- 1976 - Elfreda Chatman
- 1977 - Barbara Newmark
- 1978 - Carmen Z. Celigoj
- 1979 - Cheryl Albrecht
- 1980 - Ellen Bell
- 1981 - Julie Steinbrenner Brooks
- 1982 - Walt Lessun
- 1983 - Louise Hamel
- 1984 - Susan Barrick
- 1988 - Sue McCleaf-Nespeca
- 1989 - Carolyn Morgan Burrier
- 1990 - Molly Carver
- 1992 - Beverly Cain
- 1993 - C. Allen Nichols
- 1995 - Karen Laird
- 1998 - Thomas S. Adkins, Tracy S. Ruhaak
- 1999 - Maureen Lerch
- 2001 - Ben Rule
- 2003 - Sandi Thompson
- 2004 - Jessica Crim-Weithman
- 2005 - William Kelly
- 2009 - Sarah (Pillivant) Amazing
- 2011 - Sam Bloom
- 2014 - Shayna Muckerheide
- 2015 - Evan Struble
- 2016 - Sarah R. Clevidence

Diana Vescelius Emerging Leader Award

(name change 2017)

- 2018 - Amanda Marquart
- 2019 - Pamela Brockway
- 2021 - Sondra Presley

Library Innovation Award Recipients

- 2004 - Cuyahoga County Public Library,
Maple Heights Regional Branch
"Homework Yes!" Youth Experiencing Success Program
- 2007- Training Team of the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library
- 2009 - Partnership between Elyria Public Library and Lorain County
Community College in the Barbara and Mike Bass Library/
Community Resource Center
- 2011 - Wadsworth Public Library
Lending Laptops for Home Use
- 2013 - Consortium of Ohio Libraries (COOL)
- 2014 - Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library
Book Bike Outreach Program
- 2015 - Sandusky Library
Internet and Roku Lending Programs
- 2016 - Stark County District Library
BikeSmart Program
- 2017 - Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
"We Have the Hots for You" Services
- 2018 - Medina County District Library
GED Testing Center
- 2019 - Andrea Francis, Toledo Lucas County Public Library
The Grandparent Project
- 2021 - All Ohio Public Libraries and Library Staff
For their innovative programs and services, remarkable
resiliency and unwavering dedication to serving their
communities.

Ohio Friends of the Library Recognition Award Recipients

- 1987 - Friends of the North Canton Public Library,
Friends of the Sylvania Branch
(Toledo-Lucas County Public Library)
- 1988 - Friends of Kirtland Public Library
- 1989 - Friends of Herrick Memorial Library,
Friends of Middletown Public Library
- 1990 - Friends of Beachwood Library, Friends of West Union Branch
(Ohio Valley District Free Library)
- 1991 - Friends of Lakewood Public Library,
Friends of Columbiana Public Library
- 1992 - Friends of Toledo-Lucas County Public Library,
Friends of Findlay-Hancock County Public Library,
Friends of Portage Lakes Branch
(Akron-Summit County Public Library)
- 1993 - Friends of Muskingum County Library System,
Friends of Geauga West Branch
(Gauga County Public Library), Friends of Chardon Branch
(Gauga County Public Library),
Friends of Tipp City Public Library
- 1994 - Friends of Cleveland Public Library,
Friends of Stark County Public Library,
Friends of Worthington Public Library,
Friends of Pickerington Public Library,
Friends of Columbia Branch (Lorain Public Library)
- 1995 - Friends of Columbus Metropolitan Library,
Friends of Porter Public Library
- 1996 - Friends of South Branch (Muskingum County Public Library)
- 1997 - Friends of Avon Branch (Lorain Public Library),
Friends of Stryker Branch
(Williams County Public Library)
- 1998 - Friends of Milton-Union Public Library,
Friends of Scio Branch (Puskarich Public Library),
Friends of Lorain Public Library,
Friends of Avon Lake Public Library

Ohio Friends of the Library Recognition Award

(continued)

- 1999 - Friends of Elyria Public Library
- 2000 - Friends of Main Library (Akron-Summit County Public Library)
- 2001 - Friends of the Avon Library, Friends of the Brecksville Library
(Cuyahoga County Public Library),
Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Library
- 2003 - Friends of the Pickerington Public Library
- 2004 - Friends of the Burton Public Library
- 2005 - Friends of the Athens Public Library
- 2007 - Friends of Tuscarawas County Public Library
- 2009 - Friends of Shaker Library
- 2011 - Friends of the Columbus Metropolitan Library,
Friends of the Loudonville Public Library
- 2012-13 - Friends of the Public Library of Cincinnati
and Hamilton County
- 2014 - Lake Community Friends of the Library,
Stark County District Library
- 2015 - Friends of the Cooper Community Library,
Paulding County Carnegie Library System
- 2016 - Friends of Washington-Centerville Public Library
- 2018 - Friends of the Delaware County District Library
- 2021 - Friends of Medina County District Library



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