Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  

AGENDA

March 15, 2024  
OLC Offices  
10:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda (#)*

2. Approval of Minutes  
   A. Jan. 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting (#)*  
   B. Jan. 12, 2024 – Executive Session (#)* [Board Members Only]

3. 2024 OLC Board Orientation  
   A. OLC Board of Directors – Roles and Responsibilities  
      (Jason Elvers, OLC Legal Counsel; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP)  
   B. OLC Board of Directors Conflict of Interest Policy (#)

4. Reports for Action  
   B. Nominating Committee Appointment (#)*  
   C. Endorsement – Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Candidate PLA President (#)*

5. Reports for Discussion  
   A. OLC Board of Directors Elections – 2024 (#)  
   B. Amazon Business Prime for Ohio’s Public Libraries  
   C. PLA 2024  
   D. New Association Management Software and Website

6. Reports for Information  
   A. ALA Councilor Report (#)  
   B. State Library of Ohio Report (#)  
   C. OPLIN Report (#)  
   D. Executive Director’s Report (#)  
   E. Staff Reports  
      1. Government and Legal Services Report (#)  
      2. Professional Development Report (#)  
      3. Communications Report (#)  
      4. Membership Services Report (#)

7. Announcements – Next Meeting: May 17 – OLC Office

8. Adjournment

(#) Report included in background packet  
* Action Item
CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 10:02 a.m. Wilson welcomed new Board members, Travis Bautz, Sandra Hedlund Tunnell and Stacey Russell. Wilson noted that the Board would take a moment of silence in honor of Beth Ann Yablonski, OLC Receptionist. Francis thanked the Board members who sent emails and notes. Flowers were sent and a Spoonful of Comfort gift was sent to the family. Wilson noted that Jason Elvers, OLC’s Legal Counsel from Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP will be attending the March Board meeting for the Board’s orientation on fiduciary responsibilities and conflicts of interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Wilson reported that Wendy Knapp will was unable to join the meeting, but a written report from the State Library is included in the background materials. ICZEA MOVED AND SLONE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
RUBIN MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2023, MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

FIFAREK MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2024
The Executive Committee submitted the following nominations for the 2024 officers:
Mary Ellen Icaza, Vice Chair of the Board/Chair-Elect
Stacey Russell, Secretary-Treasurer

No other nominations were received. FIFAREK MOVED AND SLONE SECONDED TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SLONE MOVED AND FIFAREK SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wilson congratulated Icaza and Russell on their elections and thanked them for accepting their leadership roles in the organization. Wilson then turned the meeting over to Sarah Clevidence as the 2024 Chair of the Board. Wilson thanked the Board for their work in 2023.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING CHAIR
Clevidence thanked Laura Lee Wilson for her service to the Board, and as 2023 Chair. A gift in honor of her recognition will be shared with her at the March meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH-END NOVEMBER 2023
Francis presented the financial report for month-end November 2023.

Revenue. Institutional Dues are over budget $61,756 and Individual Memberships are slightly under budget $572. Continuing Education was over budget $30,060 due to increased attendance. Convention and Expo was over budget $23,740 due to sponsorships. Contract income is over budget $2,819 due to an increase in purchasing. Other Income is over budget $80,410 due to returns on short-term investments and rebound in the market in value of long-term investments. Worker’s Compensation is over budget due to timing of payments.

Expenses. Salaries and benefits are under budget due to the timing of payments. Consultants and Contractors are under budget due to timing of payments of Legal Services, and Speaker Honoraria. Expo Contractors are over budget due to the cost of Wi-Fi and security at C&E. Supplies are over budget due to kitchen faucet repairs. Communications are under budget due to decrease in mailings. Printing and design are under budget due to reduced printing and copying. Maintenance and Equipment are over budget due to C&E AV costs, and one-year AMS renewal. Space Rental over budget due timing of payment and CAM. On that note, we are now in our 4th year, we still have 3 more years on this lease. Travel and meals are under budget due to virtual meetings. Staff travel is under budget. Management expenses - Investment Fees were broken out under Banking expenses. Catering was over budget due to timing of payments and coding.

The net change in assets is over budget by $167,611.

BEDEL MOVED AND FIFAREK SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MONTH-END NOVEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLC BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
RUBIN MOVED AND ICAZA SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE 2024 BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLC BOARD LIAISONS
RUSSELL MOVED AND SLONE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE OLC
ASSIGNMENTS

BOARD LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 OPERATING BUDGET

Francis thanked the Finance Committee who met via Zoom on Jan. 5 to review the proposed operating budget for 2024. The Committee is recommending the following budget.

REVENUE:
Dues – Institutional $1,068,000-based on the current dues formula of 0.27% of the 2023 PLF distribution plus the 0.055% of 2023 property tax receipts - assuming retention of 247 member libraries. We did see an average increase of PLF funding in 2023 of about 1.55% as compared to 2022. Other Institutions: includes membership dues for Associate Members and Other Institutions; assumes no increase in $450 Associate Membership Dues; and assumes no increase in $275 Other Institutional Dues category. Individual Dues assumes slight increase in membership revenue due to PLA. No increase is being proposed in Friends membership dues.

Publications – projections based on sale of publications in 2023. Most of our publications are free and downloadable.

Continuing Education – Legislative Day revenue is estimated at $9,000 based on a registration fee of $45 per person for 200 attendees to cover the cost of breakfast, space rental, AV equipment, etc. at the Sheraton in a non-state budget year. PLA Pre-Conference Workshop revenue is estimated at $15,000 and assumes possible net revenue after expenses. Planning & Leadership Conference revenue is estimated at $10,500 for an in-person event at Columbus Metropolitan Library Main with a $60 registration fee to cover the cost of breakfast and lunch for 175 attendees.

Contract Income – Projected revenue of $5,000 based on past performance and increasing use of services.

Other Income – Projected revenue of $72,750 based upon past performance.

TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE: $1,551,500

EXPENSES:
Salary and Benefits:
Staff Salaries – Includes an average increase of approximately 4.5% in staff compensation as compared to 2023 (effective March 2024); no increase in Executive Director’s compensation. Includes bonus pool equal to 1.5% of salaries. Retirement Contribution – Maintains OLC's contribution to employees’ 401(k) plan at 7% of salary for all qualifying employees. This was reduced in 2010 with the cuts to state funding from 10% to 5%. In 2023, the Board raised it to 7% in a good faith effort. Health Insurance assumes the possibility of a 16.73% increase in health insurance premiums for 2024; and no increase in dental or vision premiums.

Consultants/Contractors:
Auditor – Assumes a $100 increase in audit fees for 2023 financials. Speaker Honoraria – Includes $2,000 in anticipated costs for “non-library” speakers at stand-alone conferences and Leadership. Convention and Expo Contractors – Assumes no decorator contract and no Experient contract due to PLA (C&E cancellation).

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES: $1,493,155
FIFAREK MOVED AND RUSSELL SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE 2024 OPERATING BUDGET AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Clevidence thanked Francis and her team for their work on the budget.

AMAZON BUSINESS PRIME

Francis reported the OLC staff has had several meetings with Amazon Business for Government regarding Amazon's Associated Accounts Program (AAP). Amazon Business currently has about 95 associations participating in AAP. Two other state library associations currently have AAP partnerships with Amazon Business for their member libraries. This would be a specialized program as a benefit to Institutional Members. They have a rebate program, as non-dues revenue source. There are different tiers to the rebate program. Most is 3%, the least is 1%. We would look at this partnership for one year. Many of our members already have an Amazon account. There is no cost to OLC, and no cost to Institutional Member Libraries. The estimated value for the Business Prime Medium Plan – up to 100 members would be $1299.

Discussion

SLONE – Shared concerns about partnerships with Amazon and collecting digital data. She expressed concern about damages to publishers.

RUBIN – Asked about advantages/disadvantages. Rubin asked Francis about Amazon partnering with another organization in Ohio and if they would go to one of OLC’s competitors. OLC would have an exclusive agreement for public libraries in Ohio. They will collect data, but OLC will receive aggregate data. Any vendor is going to collect data for purposes of marketing. Francis also mentioned ALA and publishers as an example. ALA still works with publishers for sponsoring authors, etc., but they don’t necessarily agree with publishers on their terms. Recommended a one-year partnership to see how it goes.

RUBIN – If the Board does approve the partnership, he would like OLC to be the exclusive provider and it needs to be closely monitored.

BAUTZ – His library is already a Business Prime user. It is helpful for purchasing certain titles that are hard to find. There is some direct benefit to patron services. Individual libraries can pick or choose. They are a good vendor for non-traditional collections.

BEDEL – Her library has been in the program for number of years. Invoicing can be a nightmare. She asked about a reduction in benefit to the individual libraries who already belong. Francis indicated that staff would include that in the next meeting.

SLONE – Express concern with Audible and indicated that libraries don’t have a chance to loan certain titles. She asked about the impact on book publishers.

FIFAREK – Noted awareness of the impact that Amazon has had on audiobooks, but there are things libraries can’t get effectively without Amazon. Amazon can create content that is unavailable to libraries. The choices are exclusion or engagement. Libraries are assets to business.

CLEVIDENCE – If OLC doesn’t agree to this partnership, Amazon will work with another organization. If it’s going to happen, who do we trust to be the leader?

RUBIN – If we do this, how do we evaluate it after one year? A sub-group from multiple perspectives?
FRANCIS – Reminded the Board that it is a completely voluntary program and Institutional Member Libraries would have to opt-into the program to participate. They would not be automatically included.

WILSON MOVED AND BAUTZ SECONDED TO ALLOW OLC STAFF AUTHORITY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE AMAZON ASSOCIATED ACCOUNTS PROGRAM AND INCLUDE IT AS A BENEFIT FOR INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN OLC FOR 2024. MOTION PASSED WITH 10 YEA VOTES, 2 NAY (SLONE AND BEDEL) JENKINS WAS NOT ON THE CALL AT TIME OF VOTE.

Francis noted that staff plans to highlight the program this week with a major launch March 1. She reported that as OLC moves forward, staff will keep track and evaluate the program. Rubin noted that Amazon needs to know that there are reservations with those of us who voted yes.

OLC CHAIR REPORT
Clevvidence noted she is looking forward to a great 2024. She appreciates the Board’s involvement and dedication.

ALA COUNCILOR REPORT
In addition to his written report, Tepe reported on the following:

LibLearnX 2024, ALA Council is meeting and there are some concerns about the revision of the ALA Core Values. A resolution is being put forward in response to a situation in another state where the official ALA Chapter is the state’s public library association, with separate associations for school and academic libraries. The resolution seeks to have the ALA Chapter Relations Office work with the non-ALA chapters in states where this is the case, including Ohio. OLC has built connections with OELMA and ALAO and we give regular reports on ALA activities to them.

There is a memorial resolution moving forward for George Needham.

STATE LIBRARY REPORT
A written report was available in the absence of Wendy Knapp and Evan Struble.

OPLIN REPORT
Yarman reported on the following:

LSTA Funds. There is ongoing support from LSTA funds from the state library supporting NorthStar.

OPLIN Board – Jenny Eyink, Fiscal Officer at Auglaize County District Library has been appointed to a replacement term that ends June 30, 2025. This is the first Fiscal Officer on their Board.

Resource Sharing. OhioLink is migrating to a new ILS System. Innovative has some announcement of a product that is running these programs. There are discussions around the current state of resource sharing and planning what the next couple of years will look like.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
In addition to her written report, Francis reported on the following:

Institutional Dues. Forms were sent out to 88 county auditors. OLC has had 73 responses to date.

Institutional Membership Survey. The Institutional Membership Satisfaction Survey results were shared with the Board. We received 79 responses. Francis will follow up with a few individually.
Staff Notes. D’Andrea’s 31st Anniversary was on January 11.

Francis noted that some libraries have seen a spike in safety and security issues within the past few months. Within the past week OLC has received five calls on general grievances. We are having conversations at the state level.

PLA Registration. Overall registration for PLA so far is 3727. Registrations from Ohio residents was under 300 at the beginning of December. Determination of whether the pre-cons continue will be decided next Friday. The publishers are holding an event free to all on the day of the pre-cons.

Cleveland thanked D’Andrea and noted OLC is incredibly lucky to have her on staff.

In addition to his written report, Smith reported on the following:

GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES REPORT

PLF. The Ohio Department of Taxation posted the December 2023 PLF distribution of $44,150,436 – which is $1.3 million above ODT’s estimates issued in December 2022.

CY 2024 PLF Certification Update. The Ohio Department of Taxation posted the December update to the Calendar Year 2024 PLF Certification. The official updated statewide PLF estimate of $486,742,158 is $5 million less than the initial estimate of $491,781,756 that was provided in July 2023. According to ODT, the estimates reflect the current best projection of state tax revenues for CY24.

Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform. The committee is authorized to hold hearings and make recommendations on pending legislation related to property taxation. A final report from the committee must be submitted to the General Assembly by Dec. 2024.

HB 187. Legislation seeking to counter the increases in local property values. The Senate moved forward with a substitute version of the bill offering a temporary expansion of the Homestead Exemption.

HB 344. Seeks to eliminate the authority of political subdivisions to levy replacement property tax levies beginning with the elections held on or after Oct. 1, 2024. The rationale for eliminating this option is to alleviate voter confusion over whether they are the same as a renewal levy.

Issue 2 – Marijuana Law. Legislation is currently being debated at the Statehouse that would make several changes to the new law, including increasing the excise tax from 10%-15%, altering the tax distribution, reducing THC content limits, modifying home grow provisions and prohibiting public consumption. It includes provisions that establish the Division of Cannabis Control within the Department of Commerce which will regulate and license where marijuana can be commercially cultivated, tested and sold.

HB 257 – Virtual Meetings Bill. Legislation to provide certain public boards, including library boards, with the opportunity to have virtual meetings. Since its introduction a few amendments have been added. HB 257 was voted out of the House chamber and now awaits further action in the Ohio Senate. Currently, trustees of library boards are still required to have their meetings in-person.

Legislative Day. OLC’s Library Legislative Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24 at the Sheraton on Capitol Square.
Strategic Community Investment Bill. It is not too late to reach out to your House and Senate members regarding the one-time strategic community investment fund. Smith strongly encouraged libraries to make submissions.

Solar Eclipse 2024. We are 3 months away from the solar eclipse. The state is anticipating drastic increase in tourism. The Ohio Department of Homeland Security used OLC’s Solar Eclipse resources from our website. Francis gave congratulations to Jacobsen, Annamarie Carlson, and Smith for their work on those resources.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

In addition to her written report, Miller reported on the following:

PLA. Miller noted today is the last day for the PLA Early Bird discount. There is an additional fee attached to the pre-conference workshop. As OLC prepares for other workshops and conferences, we are mindful of costs going up between 30-35%.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

In addition to her written report, Jacobsen reported on the following:

2024 Planning and Leadership Conference. Leadership resources were updated and posted to the website. Divisions and Committees continue to submit their meeting minutes, goals and objectives and annual reports.

PLA 2024 Conference. Information about the PLA 2024 Conference continues to be shared on the OLC website.

Book Challenges. Additional information was shared with members on how to prepare for and respond to book challenges. Sample policies and templates were also provided.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

In addition to her written report, D’Andrea reported on the following:

2024 Membership. Individual memberships are coming in at an increase mostly due to the early bird deadline for PLA. Jacobsen and D’Andrea are working on a plan so that new members see the value and keep their membership for years to come. The Membership Committee is scheduled to meet via Zoom on Jan. 25.

Awards and Honors. It was the sense of the Board to agree with the Awards and Honors Committee’s recommendation to not present Awards in 2024, and for the Committee to work to review the criteria and processes for the Awards program.

Governance. D’Andrea thanked Jacobsen for her continued work on updating the website to reflect the Committees and Divisions Action Councils, 2024 Goals and Objectives and 2023 Annual Reports.

Clevidence thanked staff for mentioning each other in their combined efforts.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be March 15, 2024, at the OLC Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

FIFAREK MOVED AND SLOANE SECONDED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:28. FRANCIS WILL ATTEND THE BEGINNING OF THE SESSION, AND THEN WILL BE EXCUSED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

FIFAREK MOVED AND ICAZA SECONDED A MOTION TO EXIT ADJOURN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:53 PM. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
ADJOURNMENT

SLONE MOVED AND BAUTZ SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 12:54PM. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ITEM NO.: 3.B  MEETING DATE: March 15, 2024
SUBJECT: Conflict of Interest Policy and Acknowledgement Form  SUBMITTED BY: Michelle Francis

BOARD ORIENTATION

In 2008, the Ohio Library Council Board of Directors adopted the following Conflict of Interest Policy:

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

This conflict of interest policy is designed to help directors and officers of the Ohio Library Council identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest and to provide the Ohio Library Council (“OLC”) with a procedure which, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a director or officer has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction. The policy is intended to comply with the procedure prescribed in Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.301, governing conflicts of interest for directors of nonprofit corporations. In the event there is an inconsistency between the requirements and procedures prescribed herein and those in ORC Section 1702.301, the statute shall control.

1. Definitions

1.1 Interested Person. Any director or officer who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.

1.2 Financial Interest. A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment or family:

a. An ownership interest in any entity with which the OLC has a transaction or arrangement;

b. A compensation arrangement with the OLC or with any entity or individual with which the OLC is negotiating a transaction or arrangement; or

c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the OLC is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under Section 2.2, a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the Board decides that a conflict of interest exists.

2. Procedures
2.1 **Duty to Disclose.** In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and all material facts related thereto to the Board or committee of the Board considering a proposed transaction or arrangement.

2.2 **Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists.** After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the Board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining Board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.

2.3 **Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest.**
   a. If the Board determines that a conflict of interest exists, the interested person may make a presentation at the Board or committee meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the conflict of interest.
   b. The chairperson of the Board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.
   c. After exercising due diligence, the Board or committee shall determine whether the OLC can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
   d. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the Board or committee may proceed with the proposed transaction or arrangement only if it determines, by a majority vote of the disinterested directors, that the proposed transaction or arrangement is in the OLC’s best interest, for its own benefit, and is fair and reasonable.

2.4 **Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy**
   a. If the Board or committee has reasonable cause to believe a director or officer has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the person of the basis for such belief and afford the director or officer an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
   b. If, after hearing the director or officer’s response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the Board or committee determines the director or officer has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

3. **Records of Proceedings**
   The minutes of the Board and all committees with Board-delegated powers shall contain:
   a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of
interest was present, and the Board’s or committee’s decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.

b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

4. **Compensation**

a. A voting member of the Board who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the OLC for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member’s compensation.

b. A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the OLC for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member’s compensation.

c. No voting member of the Board or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the OLC, either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.

5. **Annual Statements**

Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with Board delegated powers shall:

5.1 annually sign a statement which affirms such person:

   a. Has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy,

   b. Has read and understands the policy,

   c. Has agreed to comply with the policy, and

   d. Understands the OLC is an entity described in Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes; and

5.2 annually disclose information concerning possible conflicts of interest.

Each member of the 2024 OLC Board of Directors is asked to sign the attached form to acknowledge an understanding of the policy and to agree to comply with it.
Ohio Library Council
Board of Directors

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
2024

As a member of the 2024 OLC Board of Directors:

I hereby confirm that I have read and understand the Ohio Library Council Board of Directors’ Conflict of Interest Policy and pledge to act in accordance with the policy to the best of my information and belief.

I understand that I shall disclose to the Board, preferably in writing, the material facts as to the personal interest in the transaction and in any corporation, partnership, association, or other organization involved in the transaction prior to the meeting at which the Board acts upon the transaction.

I understand that I shall disclose any interests that could give rise to conflicts of interest, including names of family members, substantial business, or investment holdings, and other transactions or affiliations with businesses and other organizations or those of family members.

I understand that I will excuse myself from the meeting while the transaction is discussed and acted upon.

I agree that if I become aware of any information that might indicate that I am no longer in compliance with this policy, I will notify the Executive Director or Chair of the OLC Board of Directors immediately.

__________________________________________  ____________________
Print Name                                      Date

__________________________________________
Signature
ITEM NO.: 4.A  MEETING DATE: March 15, 2024

REPORT FOR ACTION

REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Center</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
<td>$ 1,262,613</td>
<td>$ 1,200,100</td>
<td>$ 62,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>795</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>-205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>351,715</td>
<td>322,330</td>
<td>29,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Income</td>
<td>5,819</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>1,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>149,605</td>
<td>52,950</td>
<td>96,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,770,547</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,580,380</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 190,167</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dues Income (+ $62,513)
- Institutional Membership: over budget (+ $61,756).
- Other Institutions: over budget (+ $1,275).
- Personal Memberships: slightly under budget (- $594).
- Friends: on budget (+ $75).

Publications (- $205)
- Sales: slightly under budget (- $205).

Continuing Education (+ $29,385)
- Legislative Day: over budget due to increased attendance (+ $2,220).
- Convention and Expo: over budget due to sponsorships and attendance (+ $23,785).
- Workshops: over budget due to increase in attendance (+ $3,380).

Contract Income (+ $1,819)
- Sourcing Office: over budget due to an increase in purchasing (+ $1,819).

Other Income (+ $96,655)
- Interest and Dividends: over budget due to returns on short-term investments (+ $50,671).
- Worker’s Compensation: under budget due to rebates (- $3,244).
- Unrealized Gain/(Loss): over budget due to returns on long-term investments (+ $49,094).
- Jobline: on budget for out-of-state postings (- $40).
- Management/Consulting Revenue: over budget due to background checks (+ $160).
## EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Center</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$864,743</td>
<td>$865,020</td>
<td>($277)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultants and Contractors</td>
<td>202,791</td>
<td>213,080</td>
<td>(10,289)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and Resources</td>
<td>43,813</td>
<td>41,875</td>
<td>1,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>22,605</td>
<td>23,201</td>
<td>(596)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing/Design</td>
<td>10,902</td>
<td>14,975</td>
<td>(4,073)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance and Equipment</td>
<td>84,636</td>
<td>73,720</td>
<td>10,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Catering</td>
<td>35,907</td>
<td>48,500</td>
<td>(12,593)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Expenses</td>
<td>172,663</td>
<td>161,409</td>
<td>11,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$1,592,134</td>
<td>$1,579,871</td>
<td>$12,263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Salaries and Benefits** (- $277)
- Staff Salaries: under budget due to timing of payments (- $5,212).
- Accrued Vacation: reflects accrued vacation (+ $3,127).
- Retirement: under budget due to timing of plan contributions (- $1,065).
- Health Insurance: under budget due to selection of plan (- $8,309).
- Worker’s Compensation: under budget due to BWC rebates (- $748).
- Payroll Taxes: over budget (+ $11,630).

** Consultants and Contractors** (- $10,289)
- Auditor: on budget (- $100).
- Speaker Honoraria: under budget (- $4,850).
- Legal Services: under budget due to timing of payments (- $24,356).
- Expo Contractors: over budget due to the cost of WiFi and security at C&E (+ $18,913).
- Consultants/Contractors: slightly over budget (+ $104).

**Supplies and Resources** (+ $1,938)
- Supplies: slightly over budget due to unanticipated kitchen repairs (+ $4,095).
- Subscription/Resource Materials: on budget (- $49).
- Computer Software/Supplies: under budget (- $2,109).

**Communications** (- $596).
- Telephone: Local/Mobile/Conf. Calls: on budget (+ $1).
- Postage/Courier Service: under budget (- $109).
- Mailing Service: over budget due to additional use (+ $797).
- Internet: under budget due to timing of payments (- $1,277).

**Printing and Design** (- $4,073)
- Printing: under budget due to reduced printing (- $3,339).
- Typesetting: on budget (+ $6).
- Copying: under budget (- $740).
Maintenance and Equipment (+ $10,916)
- Equipment Rental: over budget due to C&E AV costs (+ $2,144).
- Equipment Maintenance: slightly over budget due to unexpected kitchen repairs (+ $548).
- Software Support: over budget due to one-year AMS renewal (+ $8,223).

Space Rental (+ $15,984)
- Office Space: over budget due to common area maintenance (CAM) fees in lease (+ $8,344).
- Workshops / Meetings: over budget due to coding of events (+ $7,639).

Travel and Meals (- $12,593)
- Board: under budget (- $708).
- Staff: under budget (- $3,837).
- Committees and Divisions: under budget due to reduced requests for reimbursement (- $2,845).
- Presenters: under budget (- $5,203).

Management Expenses (+ $11,254)
- Bank Services: under budget (- $4,274).
- Investment Fees: reporting based on auditor recommendation (+ $5,395).
- Depreciation Replacement: under budget (- $2,931).
- Employee Hiring: on budget (+ $25).
- Insurance: on budget (- $11).
- Organization Memberships: under budget (- $400).
- Staff Development and Memberships: over budget due to coding (+ $2,621).
- Catering and Other Meals: over budget due to increased attendance and coding (+ $10,829).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Change in Assets</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 178,413</td>
<td>$ 509</td>
<td>$ 177,904</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Ohio Library Council

**Income Statement**

For the 12 Months Ending Sunday, December 31, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Day</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention &amp; Expo</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>280.00</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$325.00</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sourcing Office</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
<td>17,491.10</td>
<td>1,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Compensation</td>
<td>(6,738.90)</td>
<td>10,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized Gain/(Loss)</td>
<td>17,438.21</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobline</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mgmt &amp; Consulting Revenue</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branded Merchandise</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$28,190.41</td>
<td>$11,945.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$28,515.41</td>
<td>$16,945.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Ohio Library Council
### Income Statement
**For the 12 Months Ending Sunday, December 31, 2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salary &amp; Benefits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Salaries</td>
<td>$65,235.64</td>
<td>$58,241.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Vacation</td>
<td>(6,151.02)</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Contribution</td>
<td>4,254.53</td>
<td>4,021.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>4,647.15</td>
<td>5,410.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers’ Compensation</td>
<td>47.65</td>
<td>85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>8,779.54</td>
<td>3,987.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTD &amp;Life Insurance</td>
<td>381.83</td>
<td>352.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$77,195.32</td>
<td>$72,096.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consultants &amp; Contractors</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Honoraria</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services</td>
<td>1,091.50</td>
<td>8,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expo Contractors</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consult / Contractors</td>
<td>6,603.85</td>
<td>6,889.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$7,695.35</td>
<td>$15,889.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supplies &amp; Resources</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>232.98</td>
<td>439.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions / Res Mat</td>
<td>509.87</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Sftwr / Supplies</td>
<td>989.76</td>
<td>1,458.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$1,732.61</td>
<td>$1,997.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communications</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone - Local</td>
<td>334.74</td>
<td>283.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>143.16</td>
<td>133.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Service</td>
<td>2,097.15</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courier / Special</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>960.60</td>
<td>1,074.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$3,535.65</td>
<td>$1,490.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Printing &amp; Typesetting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>494.15</td>
<td>215.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typesetting</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copying</td>
<td>17.05</td>
<td>141.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$511.20</td>
<td>$356.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Ohio Library Council
### Income Statement
**For the 12 Months Ending Sunday, December 31, 2023**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintenance &amp; Equip</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Variance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rental</td>
<td>$790.87</td>
<td>$866.00</td>
<td>($75.13)</td>
<td>$55,489.41</td>
<td>$53,345.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Maintenance</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>125.00</td>
<td>(125.00)</td>
<td>2,047.86</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software Support</td>
<td>4,398.59</td>
<td>1,572.00</td>
<td>2,826.59</td>
<td>27,098.26</td>
<td>18,875.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,189.46</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,563.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,626.46</strong></td>
<td><strong>$84,635.53</strong></td>
<td><strong>$73,720.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Rental</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Space</td>
<td>10,050.11</td>
<td>9,378.00</td>
<td>672.11</td>
<td>120,935.16</td>
<td>112,591.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention / Expo</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>23,500.00</td>
<td>23,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops / Meetings</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>9,639.48</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,050.11</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,378.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$672.11</strong></td>
<td><strong>$154,074.64</strong></td>
<td><strong>$138,091.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>4,792.25</td>
<td>5,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Travel</td>
<td>950.30</td>
<td>2,250.00</td>
<td>(1,299.70)</td>
<td>26,162.95</td>
<td>30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committees</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>154.56</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divisions</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presenters</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>4,796.87</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$950.30</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,250.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>($1,299.70)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$35,906.63</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,500.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Services</td>
<td>847.64</td>
<td>1,276.00</td>
<td>(428.36)</td>
<td>11,015.96</td>
<td>15,290.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Fees</td>
<td>506.69</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>506.69</td>
<td>5,394.60</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>900.80</td>
<td>1,340.00</td>
<td>(439.20)</td>
<td>13,137.85</td>
<td>16,069.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Hiring</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>(50.00)</td>
<td>625.00</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>640.75</td>
<td>649.00</td>
<td>(8.25)</td>
<td>7,689.00</td>
<td>7,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Mbrshps</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>800.00</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Devel &amp; Mbrshps</td>
<td>483.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>483.50</td>
<td>5,421.48</td>
<td>2,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catering &amp; Other Meals</td>
<td>242.24</td>
<td>3,043.00</td>
<td>(2,800.76)</td>
<td>128,579.17</td>
<td>117,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,771.62</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,358.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>($2,586.38)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$172,663.06</strong></td>
<td><strong>$161,409.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td><strong>$110,631.62</strong></td>
<td><strong>$112,377.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>($1,745.38)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,592,133.95</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,579,871.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Change in Assets</td>
<td><strong>($82,116.21)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($95,432.00)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,315.79</strong></td>
<td><strong>$178,412.58</strong></td>
<td><strong>$509.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Ohio Library Council
## Balance Sheet
### As of Sunday, December 31, 2023

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash and Short Term Investments</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commerce Nat'l Bank - Checking</td>
<td>$76,433.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce Nat'l Bank- Money Market</td>
<td>10,000.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Money Market</td>
<td>2,936.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - TRAK Account</td>
<td>558,194.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Mutual Funds</td>
<td>830,313.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cash and Short Term Investments</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,477,879.90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Current Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>5,164.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Equipment (net of Accum Depr)</td>
<td>19,392.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Postage</td>
<td>1,256.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>52,160.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$77,973.77</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,555,853.67</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$16,143.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances</td>
<td>71,560.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Salaries</td>
<td>26,683.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Vacation</td>
<td>29,961.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued PR Taxes</td>
<td>4,190.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Insurance</td>
<td>407.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$148,946.71</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unappropriated Fund Balance</td>
<td>1,228,494.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>178,412.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,406,906.96</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,555,853.67</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ITEM NO.: 4.B  MEETING DATE: March 15, 2024
SUBJECT: Nominating Committee Appointment  SUBMITTED BY: Michelle Francis

REPORT FOR ACTION

In addition to Laura Lee Wilson, Chair, and Kathy Bach, who represent the OLC Board of Directors, the OLC Nominating Committee includes three At-Large (non-OLC Board members) members who serve three-year terms. Current At-Large members include Nieca Nowels, Director, Marysville Public Library (2024) and Michael Penrod, Director, Wood County District Public Library (2025). A vacancy exists for the third At-Large position as the term of Debbie Saunders, Director, Bossard Memorial Library of Gallia County, expired at the end of 2023.

As is past practice, candidates for this position were considered based upon the current composition of the current committee and the demographic criteria that should be represented – e.g., geographic area of the state, size of library, etc. Staff recommends the following action:

Recommended Action:

That the OLC Board of Directors appoint Tara Sidwell, Director, Kate Love Simpson Morgan County Library, to serve as an At-Large member on the OLC Nominating Committee for a three-year term (2024-2026).
Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Deputy Director, Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library, is a candidate for the position of PLA President. The election will be held March 11 – April 3, 2024. She is currently accepting endorsements for her campaign and has asked for the endorsement of the Ohio Library Council Board of Directors.

Kim’s History with the Ohio Library Council
- 2021 OLC Convention & Expo Co-Chair
- 2021 OLC Management & Admin. Division Action Council Member
- 2019 OLC Library Safety & Security Conference Committee Member
- 2018 OLC Leading Libraries: Strategies for All Levels of Management Conference Chair
- OLC Public Librarian Certification through 2028

Kim’s Biography
Kim DeNero-Ackroyd has worked for eight public library systems, including six in Ohio, as well as the Austin Public Library, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library in North Carolina. She’s been in her current role as Deputy Director of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library since 2011.

In her current role, she is responsible for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public services for the system; supervision of eight public service managers; budget development and allocation; statistical reporting and creation, communication, and reporting of the strategic plan.

Since 2007, she’s been heavily involved in ALA, PLA, the Ohio Library Council, and the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System, with membership and leadership roles in conference planning, virtual and in-person presentations, membership and leadership roles on committees, and five years as an ALA Councilor at Large.

Her specific PLA involvement has included serving on two conference programming subcommittees, four years on the Membership Advisory Group (including two as co-chair), service as a peer reviewer to Public Libraries Magazine, and volunteering as a resume reviewer at multiple conferences.

She has a BA from the Ohio State University and an MLIS from the University of Texas. She’s an administrator of the Facebook group “Librarian Leadership,” which is focused on women in leadership and managerial roles. Outside of library work, she’s an avid reader, jigsaw puzzler, gardener, cat mom, and fan of all Cleveland sports, where she’s learned how to persevere, even through hard times.
Candidate’s Website
https://www.kdaforpla.com/

Personal Statement
“I’m honored to stand election for PLA President-Elect because I care deeply about both the present and the future of our profession and the organization that has represented it so well. In combining my skills, experience, values, knowledge and dedication, I can confidently, diligently and thoughtfully lead the organization into the future, so that we are leveraging opportunities and conquering challenges together. If elected, I would also be dedicated to being a listening ear to membership, keeping your wants and needs at the forefront of my work.

"As PLA President-Elect, I would bring my values of accountability, inclusion, integrity, intellectual freedom, responsibility, service and social justice. These values would guide my work in advancing our organization. As part of my commitment to increasing diversity, equity and inclusion, I worked intentionally to help develop concrete initiatives that launched my library’s DEI plan in 2020. Continuing the important work that PLA has already started in this area would be a key focus area for me, so that we can reach and serve all people wherever they are in their lives.”

About the Election
In the 2024 PLA election, six nominees will stand for three positions – PLA President and two Directors-at-Large. These are crucial leadership roles that will guide PLA into the next several years, ensuring that PLA delivers on its core purpose to strengthen public libraries and their contribution to the communities they serve.
In the 2024 OLC elections, five positions on the Board of Directors will be on the ballot, including one MLIS position, one Trustee position, and three At-Large positions. Current Board members serving in these positions (and their eligibility for re-election) include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>Term(s) of Service</th>
<th>Eligible for Re-Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MLIS</td>
<td>Laura Lee Wilson</td>
<td>2022-24</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>Rick Rubin</td>
<td>2022-24</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>Aimee Fifarek</td>
<td>2022-24</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>Cheryl Kuonen</td>
<td>2022-24</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>Jennifer Slone</td>
<td>2022-24</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current members of the Board eligible for re-election are asked to indicate whether they wish to be candidates for re-election. However, we have 5 members of the Board this year who are not eligible for re-election. The OLC Nominating Committee will be responsible for identifying and recommending candidates for election, including new candidates for election to the Board.

In the past, a call for candidates interested in being considered for election to the Board has been included in *This Week* and *Access* and posted on the OLC website beginning on the Monday following the March Board meeting and continuing through April. The posting includes a link to an online form that interested members are asked to submit. It includes contact information, details about their library and OLC experience, and a statement regarding their interest in serving on the OLC Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee uses this information to select the nominees and create the election slate.
Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ITEM NO.: 6.A  MEETING DATE: March 15, 2024
SUBJECT: ALA Councilor Report  SUBMITTED BY: Nick Tepe

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

LibLearnX 2024 Recap
Council sessions at LLX all went largely as expected. Council passed a streamlined membership fee structure as recommended by the Membership Committee, updated the structure of the Committee on Appointments, and passed the first amendments to the new Bylaws, ensuring that virtual participation in Council and Executive Board meetings will always be allowed.

Following some lively debate about the changes to the ALA Core Values, Council adopted the new Core Values (more on that below). Council also adopted a resolution put forward by the International Relations Committee condemning the destruction of libraries and other cultural institutions in Gaza. This resolution matched similar resolutions adopted during previous global conflicts. Council declined to adopt a more broadly worded resolution on the Gaza conflict.

I mentioned in my January report that a resolution was being put forward to have the ALA Chapter Relations Office work with the non-ALA chapters in states where this is the case, including Ohio, and also to formalize a relationship between the state’s Chapter Councilor and the non-ALA chapters in the State. The individuals working on this resolution chose to withdraw the resolution from the LLX agenda based on feedback they had been receiving about the resolution. They will be working to take all the feedback they’ve received into account and plan to bring an updated version to the floor at the Annual Conference.

Core Values
As mentioned above, at LLX the Council approved updated Core Values for ALA. These core values are meant to be foundational principles that we can then build on to create policies, make decisions, set goals, and prioritize our actions. This means that we will now need to develop interpretations of the core values for different aspects of our work, the same way we have developed interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights and other foundational principles.

In order to do this work, the Council has asked the Executive Board to appoint working groups to develop these interpretations. More details on the Core Values and this process can be found on the ALA website here:
https://www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy/intfreedom/corevalues

Executive Board Elections
Following LLX, Council voted on new members for the Executive Board. This was the first election for Executive Board under the new composition laid out in the new Bylaws, with designated seats for specific groups within ALA. The open seats in this election were for a
member at-large, a member from the Rainbow Round Table, and a member from an ALA Division. The winning candidates were:

- **Nick Buron**, At-large
- **Peter Coyl**, Rainbow Round Table
- **Dr. Corinthia Price**, Division (AASL)

**ALA Presidential Candidates**
The candidates running for the 2025-26 Presidential term are Sam Helmick, Community & Access Services Coordinator at Iowa City Public Library, and Raymond Pun, Academic and Research Librarian at the Alder Graduate School of Education in California.

Helmick is a current member of the ALA Executive Board and president of the Iowa Library Association. They previously served as chair-elect on the Freedom to Read Foundation and chair of the Iowa Governor's Commission of Libraries. They have served on committees for the Network of the National Library of Medicine, the Stonewall Book Awards, the ALA Policy Monitoring Committee, Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Michael L. Printz Committee, on the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) Sophie Brody Award Committee and on the YALSA Fundraising Task Force. Helmick is a 2017 Emerging Leader as well as an author, consultant, and instructor for social media marketing and graphic design.

Helmick holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Services from Wesleyan University and a Master of Science in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois.

Pun currently serves as the immediate past president of the Chinese American Librarians Association and was past president of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association. Pun previously served on the ALA Council, ALA Policy Corps, and as a member of the advisory committees for two ALA past presidents. Pun is a member of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). Pun is a member of the California Library Association (CLA) Advocacy and Legislation Committee, the Library Freedom Project (LFP), and other ALA affiliates including the American Indian Library Association (AILA), the Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA), the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL), the Association of Rural and Small Libraries, and REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking. Pun is also a member of the International Relations Round Table (IRRT) and the Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT). In addition to librarianship, Pun is a member of the Committee of 100’s Next Generation Leaders program and a speaker for The Weave Speakers Bureau.

Pun holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno; a Master of Library Science from CUNY Queen College; a Master of Arts in East Asian Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in History from St. John's University in New York.

Helmick and Pun engaged in a virtual candidates’ forum on Thursday, February 8, 2024. Each candidate shared a statement and answered questions from members. A recording of the forum can be viewed on ALA’s YouTube channel here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9JS3T8HgTo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9JS3T8HgTo)
Ballot mailing for the election will begin Monday, March 11, 2024, and will run through Wednesday, April 3, 2024. Individuals must be members in good standing to vote in the 2024 ALA elections. For more information, visit the ALA Election webpage.

**ALA 150th Anniversary**
The American Library Association (ALA) will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2026. The association will recognize and commemorate the leadership and support that ALA has provided to library workers, library users, library trustees and supporters throughout the United States and the world. ALA has been an essential professional venue for learning, sharing, networking, and advocacy.

The ALA Executive Board has created two member-led committees to lead the association in the planning for the anniversary:

- **The 150th Commemoration Committee** will develop and guide events, programs, products, and a public awareness campaign related to the yearlong anniversary in 2026. It will focus on the impact the association has made and will take a forward-looking approach to exploring a vision for the next 150 years. Co-chairs are Martin Garnar, Amherst College library director, and Courtney L. Young, ALA past president and university librarian at Colgate University.

- **150th Fundraising Campaign Committee** will establish a campaign goal, partner to create campaign strategies, provide opportunities for donor engagement, host events and meet with potential donors. Co-chairs are Jim Neal, ALA past president and university librarian emeritus at Columbia University, and Christina Rodriques, ALA Executive Board member and OCLC senior program manager.

More information can be found on the ALA website [here](#).
AARP Tax-Aide Program
- The State Library of Ohio will be a site for the AARP Tax-Aide Program this year from February 1 – mid-April located in Room 108.
- This is a program open to taxpayers of all ages and AARP membership is not required. The AARP volunteers are IRS-Certified and will prepare taxes for citizens free of charge.
- Appointments are offered at the State Library from 9am – 3pm on Thursdays by calling 614-547-2442.

Acquisitions and Cataloging
- Reference/Cataloging Librarian Josh Jones researches, acquires, and catalogs new print titles for our department. Recently, acquisitions have focused on topics such as Healthcare, Management and Voting. New Books are highlighted on our website monthly.

Announcements
Email Listserv
- Registration now open for the next Reimagining School Readiness Workshop. February 6, 2024.
- Eric Taggart Appointed to Serve on State Library Board. February 6, 2024
- WhoFi Suite of Services webinar for public libraries is February 2. February 8, 2024.
- Library Leadership Ohio Returns in 2024. February 8, 2024

Website – What’s new announcements
- Ron Woods Joins Our Staff. February 2, 2024
- Eric Taggart Appointed to Serve on State Library Board. February 6, 2024
- State Library Now Location for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide. February 7, 2024
Ohio Deaf History Month Begins March 13th. February 15, 2024

Library Leadership Ohio is Back. February 20, 2024

Collaboration
- Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch assisted Otterbein University chemistry major Owen Gregg with his project “Analysis of 19th century books for pigments containing toxic metals using x-ray fluorescence.”
  - Shannon helped Owen identify 10 books from our Rare Book collection that Owen tested for arsenic based pigments and heavy metals.

Collection Tours
- Research and Catalog Services staff gave several tours of the State Library of Ohio’s collection. Tour attendees included State Board of Education Board Member Dianna Fessler, staff from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Central Ohio High School Librarians, and Students from St Joseph Montessori School.
  - These tours included the State Library of Ohio’s Rare Book Rooms which include many rare and unique items such as original letters written by President George Washington, Medieval Manuscripts and early Federal and State Documents.

Government Documents
- The State Library of Ohio is a Congressionally designated depository for U.S. Government Publications and the official Ohio government documents depository, and our Government Documents Librarian Elissa Lawrence is the Regional Depository Coordinator for Ohio. If you have questions about Government Documents, feel free to contact Elissa with questions at elawrence@library.ohio.gov.

Guiding Ohio Online
- Applications are now open for the upcoming 2024-2025 Guiding Ohio Online (GOO) program year. The deadline to submit applications is March 25 at 11:59 pm. The GOO grant initiative provides funds for libraries serving rural populations to hire a dedicated technology trainer/contractor for their patrons and staff.
  - Libraries applying for the GOO grant are encouraged to submit a draft of their proposal for review prior to submission. Drafts will be accepted through Monday March 18, and can be e-mailed to: LSTA@library.ohio.gov.
- State Library staff recorded an informational webinar in January about the Guiding Ohio Online application process that can be viewed here.
- State Library staff hosted a live, virtual Open Office Hour for Guiding Ohio Online on February 23 from 1-2 p.m. in order to answer questions about the program and the application process.
- If you have any questions regarding the funding or budget of Guiding Ohio Online, please contact the LSTA Office at LSTA@library.ohio.gov.
• If you have any questions regarding Guiding Ohio Online trainers (hiring, best practices, etc.) please contact Anne Kennedy, Technology Consultant, at akennedy@library.ohio.gov or by calling 614-466-1710.

Library Leadership Ohio (LLO)
• Library Leadership Ohio (LLO)—a partnership between the State Library of Ohio and OhioNet—will take place July 23-25, 2024, at the Cherry Valley Hotel and Conference Center in Newark, Ohio. LLO is an individual-based, in-person, residential library leadership program for Ohio library staff at all position levels and library types.
  o Applications are being accepted through Wednesday, March 20; full information on what is expected as part of the application process can be found here.
  o State Library and OhioNet staff hosted an LLO 2024 Info Session on February 22. A recording of that session can be viewed here.
  o If you have any questions regarding Library Leadership Ohio, please contact Erin Kelsey, Library Consultant, at ekelsey@library.ohio.gov.

List of New Acquisitions
• A list of print books, ebooks, and audiobooks recently added to the State Library’s collection for February is available on our website.

Low Vision Support Group
• The State Library of Ohio is the site for the Low Vision Support Group. They meet here monthly, and their target audience is people who are visually impaired, especially those who have experienced recent loss.
  o Their next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5 from 1-3 p.m.
• Please contact Mike Pitroff with questions or for more information. He can be reached at mike.pitroff@ftsjobs4u.com.

LSTA
• The State Library of Ohio’s Celebrating Ohio Book Awards and Authors (COBAA) grant initiative closed on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The COBAA grant initiative provides libraries and eligible institutions with up to $2,000 in federal LSTA funds to build or expand a collection of books by Ohio authors and books recognized by Ohio-based book award programs. Applications were reviewed, and the following institutions were awarded a grant:
  o Adena Local Schools
  o Arrowhead Primary School
  o Brown County Public Library
  o Central Local School District
  o Central State University
  o Chagrin Falls High School Library
  o Chillicothe & Ross County Public Library
Applications for this year’s Summer Library Program (SLP) LSTA grant closed on Tuesday, February 20. Reviewers are currently evaluating proposals with the intention of providing notifications to applicants in late-March.

- The grant term for SLP awards runs April 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024.
- The SLP grant program allows eligible libraries the opportunity to request up to $2000.00 to enhance their summer program offerings.

Submissions for the State Library of Ohio’s LSTA Open Grant program remain closed. The application is currently undergoing revisions and will be reopened in February. No Open Grants were awarded in January.

Questions regarding the LSTA program should be addressed to Jeff Regensburger, Library Consultant/LSTA Coordinator, at LSTA@library.ohio.gov.

**NASA@ My Library and Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries (SEAL)**

- The State Library of Ohio is currently circulating four kits designed to facilitate Libraries’ Space Science Programming.
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

The Younger Audience kit provides activities geared at younger audiences such as elementary age students. The Kit includes a Sunspotter, Mini Sunoculars and an activity based on the book *MoonBear’s Shadow*.

The Multi-Generational Programming kit is designed to help your library provide programs for all age groups. The Kit includes 2 large Sunoculars, a sun telescope, and activity materials about the sun.

The Sun-Earth-Moon Connections Kit focuses on activities and experiences that better help patrons understand their place in space, and how the Sun and Moon impact our planet. Major content areas in this kit include: modeling both lunar and solar eclipses with easy to use tools, detecting ultraviolet light in a creative way, using sorting cards to explore concepts relating to size, distance, and temperature, and an experiential activity that allows for a greater understanding of the vast scale of our Solar System.

The Be a NASA Detective: Expanding Your Senses Kit focuses on activities and experiences that help patrons be more comfortable using tools of science, and making predictions based on their observations. This kit focuses on things we cannot see with our normal vision on sense with our normal senses.

- Kit reservations may be made on the State Library’s [website](http://www.library.ohio.gov).
- Questions about the NASA@ My Library programs can be directed to Penelope Shumaker, [pshumaker@library.ohio.gov](mailto:pshumaker@library.ohio.gov).

**Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative**

- The [Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative](http://www.library.ohio.gov) (OCAI) is an original, self-paced, collection analysis tool for considering collections that empower children and young adult readers by respecting and appreciating what makes them different and the same. OCAI is a collaborative project of the State Library of Ohio and TeachingBooks.net. The project is funded in whole or in part with Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal funds, granted to the State Library of Ohio. [Register for access here!](http://www.library.ohio.gov)

- Notable highlights from this impactful initiative:
  - Free for staff working in all types of Ohio libraries! It is available at no cost to you.
  - There are no time constraints for completing this program. Set your own goals and progress at your own pace.
  - Personalized support. You have access to a dedicated, full-time specialist for assistance at any time.
  - Unlimited access to a Collection Analysis Toolkit. This toolkit complements the collection development work you already have in place.
  - Unlimited access to a vetted collection of materials about children’s & young adult books and authors.
  - Identifiable action steps. You will receive a custom Implementation Plan that outlines your collection development decisions and next steps.

- [Click here](http://www.library.ohio.gov) to check out recorded workshops and webinars related to the Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative to learn more.

- Through February, OCAI has over 750 users in 88 of 88 Ohio counties!

- Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone (TeachingBooks) continue to host a slate of [thematic webinars and workshops](http://www.library.ohio.gov), teaching users how to enhance their youth-focused library collections.

- Additionally, Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone (TeachingBooks) continue to host drop-in [Office Hours](http://www.library.ohio.gov), where interested parties can ask a quick question or learn more about the initiative.
  - On February 20, Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone co-hosted a drop-in Office Hours.
Drop-in Office Hours scheduled into Spring 2024 are from 11 a.m. to Noon (EST) on the following days:
- March 19
- April 2
- April 16
- April 30

Ohio Digital Library
- In the month of February, ODL patrons checked out 838,891 items. The total for 2024 stands at 1,770,702 checkouts. Here is a breakdown of February’s checkouts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>February Total Checkouts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ebook</td>
<td>419,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>audiobook</td>
<td>330,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>magazine</td>
<td>88,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaming content</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>838,981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The most popular magazine title in February was Women’s World, a weekly lifestyle magazine. The most popular non-magazine was Here For It, a romantic comedy that sizzles with chemistry and the magic of a Mardi Gras backdrop in an adorable opposites attract story.
- In mid-March 2020, ODL enabled the opportunity for Ohioans to take advantage of the Overdrive Instant Digital Card. A user can sign up with his/her phone number and gain quick access to e-content via ODL. Users that sign up via the Instant Digital Card will be directed to their local library to fill out a physical library card. In February 2024, 4,137 registrations took place.
- Curious about what’s being checked out? Take a look at the real-time checkouts and holds.

Ohio Digital Network [Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Project]
- The State Library of Ohio selected 15 staff working in Ohio libraries and archives were selected to complete coursework to earn a Digital Curation Certificate from Library Juice Academy. The group began coursework in February and will complete it by September to earn their Digital Curation Certificate in 2024. This program uses federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded to the State Library of Ohio to cover the cost of enrollment. This award-winning Digital Curation Certificate is designed to build skills for work in digitization, digital preservation, metadata creation, and more, and is suitable for those interested in the work whether they have prior experience or not. The applicants selected were:
  - Jennifer Aloisi, Tiffin-Seneca Public Library
  - Katherine (Katie) Beverly, Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County
  - Stacy Chaney-Blankenship, Ohio Wesleyan University Libraries
  - Alexandra (Ali) Coleman, University of Toledo
  - Pamela Dean, Western Reserve Historical Society
  - Brenda Foster, Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD)
  - Stefani Haas, Toledo Lucas County Public Library
  - Faith Lumbus, Cleveland History Center - Western Reserve Historical Society & Cuyahoga County Public Library
  - Riza Miklowski, Akron-Summit County Public Library
  - Dai Newman, Ohio State University at Newark/Central Ohio Technical College
  - Marnie Pratt, Wood County District Public Library
  - Kimberly Rammel, Fort Recovery Museum

The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

Ohio Memory
- Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch researched and wrote the Ohio Memory blog post: The Story of Your Family: Genealogy, Social History, and Ohio Memory.
- Ohio Memory is the collaborative statewide digital library program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. On this free website, you can explore digital content from over 390 cultural heritage institutions representing all 88 of Ohio’s counties covering a wide range of topics from prehistory to present day.
- Ohio Memory contains over 1,600,000 digital images from a variety of primary and secondary source image types, including:
  - Photographs, maps, drawings, and paintings
  - Manuscripts, letters, diaries, and journals
  - Archaeological artifacts, natural history specimens and historical objects
  - Newspapers, books, and e-publications
  - Audio and video
- Materials are selected for inclusion on Ohio Memory based on their historical significance, scanning potential, complementary value, ownership, and copyright.
- If you have questions about this program, you can contact our Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch at strausch@library.ohio.gov.

Ohio Ready to Read
- Registration is now open for Storytime Foundations, a free, one-day conference on everything storytime, taking place in Columbus on Tuesday, April 30. Keynote speakers Dr. Laura Justice (Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy, The Ohio State University) and Dr. Katie Campana (School of Information, Kent State University) will contextualize libraries’ important work in support of young children and their families. Librarian-led breakout sessions will explore storytime applications of the Five Practices from the Every Child Ready to Read initiative (reading, writing, talking, singing, playing). Storytime Foundations is planned and produced by Ohio Ready to Read.
- Early Literacy 101 is a free, full-day (6 contact hour) hands-on workshop to help library staff build a firm foundation in early literacy. Participants learn how brain development impacts how young children learn; discover effective, research-based early literacy resources and activities; and explore how storytime supports early literacy. Registration for May workshops in Bowling Green and Akron will open in March. Learn more about the Early Literacy 101 workshop.
- Ohio Ready to Read is a partnership initiative of the Ohio Library Council and State Library of Ohio that helps librarians and library workers educate Ohio’s families on the importance of early childhood literacy. Contact Janet Ingraham Dwyer with any questions about Ohio Ready to Read.

Outreach
- On Tuesday, February 13, Manager Ryan Burley presented at Sustainable Ohio and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s yearly kickoff program. Ryan presented the State Library of Ohio’s history, resources, and sustainability efforts to an audience of business leaders, university professors and state officials.
Partnerships with State Agencies

- We continued to partner with the Ohio Supreme Court and the Ohio Office of Budget and Management assisting them with the digitization of their historic materials. We also partnered with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and assisted Director of Policy Melissa Wulliger with the digitization of student artwork for a contest they had organized.

Presentations

- As part of the Library Leadership Ohio (LLO) “launch party” webinar, Erin Kelsey, Jeff Regensburger, Katy Hite, and Penelope Shumaker presented information on LLO—its history and impact on Ohio’s libraries—to more than 70 attendees.
- Jeff Regensburger presented information on the State Library of Ohio’s LSTA grants program to a group of Central Ohio high school librarians. In addition to highlighting those grants of particular interest, Jeff also pointed to examples of how school libraries have been able to use LSTA funds in the past to make a difference for the students they serve.
- Jeff Regensburger presented information on the State Library of Ohio’s Summer Library Program (SLP) grant initiative during the day-long SERLS SLP Workshop, held at the State Library of Ohio. Special attention was given to eligible expenses, what libraries typically use SLP grant awards for, and the value of submitting a draft ahead of the proposal.
- As part of her work with the Ohio Collections Analysis Initiative, Erin Kelsey (along with Jake Stone of TeachingBooks) co-presented the online workshop, “The Power of Teaching Books: Authentic Resources.”

Professional Activities

- Research and Catalog Services Librarians Josh Jones, Stephanie Michaels, and Phil Willke hold the Consumer Health Information Specialist certification from the Medical Library Association and provide support to medical professionals.

Reference Services

- Research and Catalog services staff provided reference services to the public, businesses, and universities.

Reference Services to State Government

- Research and Catalog services staff provided reference assistance to the following state agencies. This included finding and providing articles, finding government documents, answering reference questions, assisting with electronic resources, etc.
  - Ohio Attorney General
  - Ohio Civil Rights Commission
  - Ohio Department of Agriculture
  - Ohio Department of Education and Workforce
  - Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
  - Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
  - Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction
  - Ohio Department of Transportation
  - Ohio Supreme Court
  - Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Reference Statistics

- Reference staff answered 133 questions in January totaling 2,359 minutes of reference research.
Reimagining School Readiness

- The State Library of Ohio is proud to support the Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit, a suite of research-backed resources created for library staff to help families prepare children ages birth to 8 years for success in school and in life. The toolkit was developed by the Bay Area Discovery Museum in collaboration with the California State Library and the Pacific Library Partnership.
- Registration is now open for the Reimagining School Readiness Spring Workshop on March 28, 2024. The workshop will be offered in-person at the State Library of Ohio and registration information can be found on the State Library of Ohio’s Website.
- Please keep an eye on the various library listservs and traditional communication channels for additional workshop announcements and registration openings
  - These workshops cover such topics as:
    - key findings from current cognitive and developmental psychology research
    - the implications of those findings for library staff’s daily work
    - practical ready-to-implement ideas for activities
    - resources for staff training and for parents/caregivers
  - If your library is interested in hosting a Reimagining School Readiness training for your staff, contact Penelope Shumaker, pshumaker@library.ohio.gov
- Additional information about this initiative can be found here. Questions regarding Reimagining School Readiness should be addressed to Penelope Shumaker (pshumaker@library.ohio.gov).

SEO Service Center

- Total automation consortium circulation for the past 30 days—1,021,451
- Total number of new users created in the past 30 days—12,997
- Interlibrary loans initiated for the past 30 days—782
- In-house periodicals filled—23
- Total number of support tickets created for the previous month—925
- Support tickets logged with Integrated Library Software (ILS) vendor SirsiDynix—22

Phone Support

- 1,043 Total calls
  - 403 Incoming
  - 326 Outgoing
  - 314 Internal staff calls
- 59 hrs. 56 min. total call duration
Remote Customer Support On-Demand Access
- 37 on-demand remote sessions

SEO Consortium Libraries App (BCMobile) Stats
- 3,142 new devices
- 28,526 holds placed
- 68,900 app launches
- 81,407 total searches

Click and Collect Curbside service with the Consortium Libraries App
- 32 service locations actively using Click and Collect “Curbside Pickup” to serve their patrons
- 153 Page Loads - number of times the “Curbside Pickup” button was engaged
- 55 Patrons arrived and completed their session

Consortium Service Highlights
- The Brumback Library went live on the SEO Library Consortium as the 99th member library. The Brumback Library has locations in Van Wert, Convoy, Middle Point, Ohio City, Willshire, and Wren.
- On February 2, Jay Miley attended the OCLC Cataloging Community Meeting.
- On February 6, Paula Clark met with staff at Mechanicsburg Public Library and Public Library of Steubenville & Jefferson County to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.
- On February 7, the SEO Management Team met with Hannah Ellinger, Youth Services Supervisor for Licking County Library.
- On February 7, Heather Miller met with Melissa Lattanz from NEO-RLS.
- On February 8, Paula Clark met with staff at Dorcas Carey Public Library to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.
- On February 8, Heather Miller connected with the Ridgemont Public Library Director.
- On February 8, John Stewart and Heather Miller met with the new director from St. Clairsville Public Library.
- On February 8, Jay Miley met with Don Yarman for their monthly touch base to discuss SEO and OPLIN projects.
- On February 8, Jay Miley attended a check-in meeting with Gene Shimshock, COO of Patron Point.
- On February 12, Ron Woods, Michael Postlethwait, Heather Miller, and Jay Miley attended Sure Sailing meeting with Kat Stephens.
- On February 12, the migration team had a call with SirsiDynix to review the project for adding Marvin Memorial Library to the SEO Library Consortium.
- On February 12, the migration team met with SirsiDynix to review the data for adding Brumback Library to the SEO Library Consortium.
- On February 12, Nicole Brown, Brenda Michel, and Jay Miley met with Wendy Bittle & Hannah Ellinger from Licking County Library to review how to use BLUEcloud Analytics.
- On February 14, Michael Postlethwait and Jay Miley attended the Fall in Love with our Kids and Theme Catalogs webinar.
- On February 15, Heather Miller attended the Niche Academy Training meeting.
- On February 20, the SEO Customer Support team held Open Office Hours. The team presented on Advanced Searching Techniques.
- On February 21, Wendy Knapp, Katy Hite, and Heather Miller attended library visits at Pickaway County Library and Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library.
- On February 22, SEO attended the SEO Advisory Committee online meeting.
- On February 22, Jay Miley attended the Meet CommunityIQ Demographics webinar.
On February 26, John Stewart and Jay Miley met with representatives from OCLC to discuss the CatExpress and WorldShare ILL contract.

On February 26, Paula Clark met with staff at Carnegie Public Library - East Liverpool to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.

On February 27, Michael Postlethwait, Jay Miley, and John Stewart met with SirsiDynix Library Relations Manager Kirby Gill.

On February 27 – March 1, Jay Miley, Heather Miller, Don Winland, Ron Woods, and Brenda Michel attended the in-person training/go-live for Brumback Library.

On February 29, Paula Clark met with staff at Carnegie Public Library – Washington Court House to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.

- **Niche Academy Stats**
  - Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views - 995
  - Online Catalog Tutorials views - 534
  - Technical Services Committee - 2
  - ASL Storytime - 15

- **Syndetics Unbound Statistics**
  - **Enterprise Catalog**
    - 12,254,978 cover images loaded in online catalog searches.
    - Syndetics Unbound enriched 96,677 (95%) out of 101,762 pages loaded.
    - 40,362 patron interactions with enriched content.

- **PatronPoint Notices sent to consortium patrons**
  - 108,957 email notices sent
  - 79,924 SMS notices sent
  - 47,681 unique patrons notified

85 display widgets updated.
64,684 widgets loaded
Patrons have interacted with display widgets 10,330 times.
• **Offsite Storage**
  - 7,132 items are housed at SEO for offsite storage.
  - 65 items were sent to fill holds for consortium members

**Services for the Blind and Print Disabled**

Library service for the blind and print disabled in the United States is delivered through a network of libraries and agencies coordinated by the [Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS)](https://loc.gov/loc/nls/). In partnership with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (OLBPD) at the Cleveland Public Library, the State Library of Ohio serves as the machine lending agency for the state providing playback equipment to eligible blind, visually impaired and print disabled residents. To help in this effort, we have machine sub-lending agencies, local public libraries, or social service organizations to help assist eligible residents in their areas.

Contact Tracy Grimm at tgrimm@library.ohio.gov with any questions concerning the Talking Book Program.

**Strategic Planning**

Libraries currently receiving strategic planning services from State Library consultants include:

- Milton-Union Public Library
- Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library
- Williams County Public Library
- Alexandria Public Library

If you have questions about the State Library’s strategic planning services, or would like to be placed on the waiting list for this service, please contact Evan Struble at estruble@library.ohio.gov.

**Summer Food Service Program**

Many libraries in Ohio and around the USA participate in the [Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp), a USDA-funded program that provides free meals and snacks to children ages 0-18 in communities with high levels of need. Besides the obvious benefits of addressing hunger and supporting vulnerable youth, SFSP participation benefits libraries through:

- Access to new user groups, especially underserved and marginalized populations
- Increased visibility of the library as a community asset
- Opportunities for new partnerships
- Positioning of the library as an important stakeholder in community well-being and positive child outcomes
- Support for summer library programming through increased attendance

If you are already an SFSP site or have been in the past, work with your current/previous sponsor to prepare for summer 2024.

If you want to become an SFSP site, the Collaborative Summer Library Program offers a thorough, clear how-to guide: [Libraries and Summer Food](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/library-and-summer-food) provides a step-by-step for libraries interested in becoming SFSP sites, or otherwise getting involved in addressing child food insecurity during the summer.

The State Library also offers a basic guide for Ohio libraries: [library.ohio.gov/summer-food](https://library.ohio.gov/summer-food).

The Ohio Department of Education administers the SFSP in Ohio. Contact the ODE with questions or for assistance in identifying a potential sponsor.

A non-congregate option for rural communities allows sites in rural-designated areas to provide grab-and-go meals. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, Office of Nutrition is developing guidance about this option. More information will be shared via Ohio library listservs in coming weeks. Find out if your library is in a rural-designated area.
Summer Library Program

- Several partners are again supporting Ohio public libraries’ summer programming with incentives and special offers:
  - The 2024 Ohio Renaissance Festival coupon, good for 50% off gate admission for all ages, is available to Ohio public libraries. [Complete this form by March 20 to request Ren Fest coupons](http://library.ohio.gov).
  - The Ohio Expo Center will again provide a printable voucher for free child (ages 5-18) admission to the Ohio State Fair. This incentive will be announced on Ohio Library listservs and the [Ohio Summer Library Program website](http://library.ohio.gov) when available.
  - The Greater Cleveland Aquarium offers a specially discounted virtual program for libraries. Each booking of the Virtual Aquatic Escape program by an Ohio public library comes with two complimentary Aquarium admission passes that you can use as SLP prizes. [Learn more and book a program](http://library.ohio.gov). This offer is available year-round.
- The [2023 Ohio Summer Library Program evaluation report](http://library.ohio.gov) is available (download/print a PDF copy here). SLP participation continues to rise across Ohio libraries and communities. If participation and attendance trends over the past two summers continue, summer challenge participation and event attendance in 2024 will be very near pre-pandemic levels. Some libraries have already reported turnout exceeding their previous records. But the numbers tell only a small part of the story. See the full report for anecdotes, observations, and lots of photos from libraries around Ohio.
- See the [Ohio Summer Library Program website](http://library.ohio.gov) for resources to support summer planning. Contact Janet Ingraham Dwyer with any questions about SLP.

Take 5

- The [2024 Take 5 event](http://library.ohio.gov) will take place at the Huber Heights Branch, Dayton Metro Library, on Friday, May 3. The event features 2022 YALSA Innovation Award winner Grace Hammond, leading a hands-on Whole Learner mini-workshop. The event also features an expert troubleshooting panel and small group discussion breakouts on timely topics and big-picture perspectives. Registration is just $25 including morning refreshments and box lunch. [Register here](http://library.ohio.gov).
- Take 5 is a day of dialogue and discovery for public library teen and youth services specialists, school librarians, and other youth advocates. Take 5 events feature active learning opportunities, speaker sessions with allies outside the library field, hands-on activities, and networking. [Learn more about Take 5](http://library.ohio.gov). This year’s Take 5 event is co-sponsored by SWON Libraries.

WebJunction

- There were 113 WebJunction course completions in February 2024, up from 150 in January. Individuals completing courses in February represented the following types of libraries: 91 public, 15 academic, 2 school, and 5 did not include identity for a library type.

### 2021-2024 Number of Completed Courses in Months & Years

The numbers represent courses completed not individuals.
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

www.library.ohio.gov      274 East First Avenue · Columbus · Ohio · 43201      614-644-7061

### 2021-2023 Number of Completed Courses in Months & Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>172</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>159</td>
<td></td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>177</td>
<td></td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>104</td>
<td></td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>122</td>
<td></td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>178</td>
<td></td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>276</td>
<td></td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>1480</td>
<td>1344</td>
<td>1838</td>
<td>4925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Course Completion in February by Library Type

- Public
- Academic
- School
- State Agency
- None of the above

### 2021-2024 Number of Active Users in WebJunction Courses

Number of unique logins accessing course each month

- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024
WebJunction Webinar Reports are received on a quarterly basis.
- In the fourth quarter of calendar year 2023 (October-December), seven webinars were offered and there were 230 views from Ohio (combined all webinars, live and recorded viewings)—up from 217 views in the third quarter of 2023. The seven webinars included:
  - Climate Justice
  - Revitalizing Morale: Cultivating a Supportive Library Culture
  - Building Community Relationships for Better Library Services
  - Let’s Talk Race: Community Healing through Conversation
  - Living Our Values Out Loud: Programs that Walk the Talk
  - Tools for Reimagining School Readiness
  - Stronger Together: Collective Impact and Climate Action Programming
- Recordings of WebJunction webinars can be found in the WebJunction Course Catalog.

Note: The number of views does not reflect occurrences when more than one person gathers to view together.
Managed Branch Connections Pilot
For two years, OPLIN has used the E-rate process and our unique position as a statewide consortium to help libraries get better bids for their branch circuits: we collected branch information from interested libraries, posted those locations on an “omnibus” call for proposals, then helped libraries evaluate and select winning bids, order new services, and file for E-rate refunds. The program has been successful, but it is a lot of work communicating back with libraries, sending reminders when they haven’t replied or when deadlines loom. And we’re aware it’s a lot of work for libraries: E-rate isn’t easy.

We’re exploring the next step: provide libraries with their branch circuits for a fee. We’ll pilot this program with the Clark, Geauga, and Harrison County libraries, ordering and paying for branch connections, filing for the E-rate refunds, and billing the libraries OPLIN’s average post-discounted cost (currently $130 per month for a 1G circuit). Look for more news about this program in the summer.

New Webkit Designs
Laura has created a new model for OPLIN’s website hosting service. Instead of the old design based on columnar layouts, the new sites will use a more contemporary design based on horizontal arrangement of elements. Libraries can select from four design templates. More information about the features available in each and the demo sites can be found at https://www.oplin.ohio.gov/webkit/templates.

Database Updates
- OhioNet has negotiated a group discount of up to 15% on LinkedIn Learning renewals for those libraries wishing to pick up the resource after OPLIN’s statewide subscription ends June 30. If you wish to negotiate directly with LinkedIn, the new sales rep is Matt Anderson, matanderson@linkedin.com, (313) 506-5378.
- EBSCO has been moving its subject collections (Hobbies and Crafts, Home Improvement, Science Reference, Small Business) from their legacy platform to the more accessibility-compliant Explora interface. In the process, they’re changing the names, changing “Center” to “Source.” OPLIN staff have updated all the library profiles in EBSCO Admin to reflect the change.
- MASK Authentication has been upgraded to accommodate the new Sierra Patron authentication API, and Derek is working with CLEVNET to improve and streamline authentication with their SirsiDynix system.
Executive Director’s Report

Pla 2024
Registration and planning for PLA 2024 is going very well. Columbus will be hosting the national conference in just a few weeks. Below is a brief update on registration as of March 13:
- Full Conference Registration – 4,868
- Ohio Registration for Full Conference – 1,594 (32.7%)
- Overall Registration for Full Conference (Exhibitors/Speakers/Sponsors) – 6,701
- Registration for OLC’s Pre-Conference Workshop on the Science of Reading – 68

City Club of Cleveland
I was honored to participate in a panel forum at The City Club of Cleveland entitled, “Can Libraries be Everything to Everyone?” Other panelists included Felton Thomas, Jr., Executive Director and CEO of the Cleveland Public Library; Jason Kucsma, Executive Director/Fiscal Officer of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library; and Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, CEO of Baltimore County Public Library and the current President of the Public Library Association. Thank you to all of our members that attended. A recording is available at cityclub.org/archives.

Bricker Graydon Women In Networking Panel
Last week I was asked to participate in a panel discussion for Bricker Graydon’s WIN (Women in Networking) group in celebration of Women’s History Month and on International Women’s Day. It was a panel discussion with some of the top female executive directors of the trade and professional association industry and moderated by Becky Princehorn. I was truly honored to be included with my esteemed colleagues:
- Heidi Fought, Ohio Township Association
- Cheryl Day, Ohio Pork Council

Institutional Membership Dues Billing & New London PL
Invoices for 2024 Institutional Membership dues have been processed. We still have about 21 public libraries where we are working to correct inaccurate information from a few county auditors. Invoices are being sent to all public libraries in the state regardless of their past OLC membership. Most invoices were sent by the end of January, but a few were delayed because of delays in PLF and property tax revenue reports from county auditors.

As of March 14, 204 library systems have paid their 2024 Institutional Membership dues. Also, I am happy to report that the New London Public Library has paid their dues and will
be joining OLC as an Institutional Member Library. Special thanks to Laura Lee Wilson, Past Chair of the OLC Board of Directors, for her work and efforts.

**Lifetime Members**
OLC received another lifetime membership in February. Generally, we may see one a year or every other year. This brings our total Lifetime Members to 29. Lifetime members are acknowledged in Access Weekly, sent thank you notes from the Membership Committee and receive personal thank you notes from me on behalf of the Board and the OLC staff.

- **Mary Dwyer**, Fiscal Officer, Mansfield Richland County Public Library

**2024 Short-Term Reserves**
As has been past practice, about $700,000 from the OLC’s revenue received in the first few months of 2024 will be assigned to the OLC’s advisors at Morgan Stanley to invest in short-term investments. I will be meeting with Brian Moore next week to discuss our CD options.

**OLC Employee Benefits**
As of March 1, the following employee benefits were renewed:
- Health: renewed with Medical Mutual Insurance at a 16.73% increase in premiums (OLC pays 90% of employee premium and 80% of dependent premium, plus makes a $1,000 contribution to each participating employee’s health savings account).
- Dental Insurance: renewed with Ameritas Insurance. It looks like there may be an extremely small increase in the premium but our brokers at SEBO are working to get that reduced. (OLC pays 100% of premium for employees and 90% of premium for dependents).
- Vision Insurance: renewed with VSP Insurance no change in premium (OLC pays 100% of premium for employees and 90% of premium for dependents).
- Life Insurance: OLC is switching from Guardian to OneAmerica. Guardian raised the premium by 18% last year. (OLC pays 100% of premium for employees).
- Long-Term Disability Insurance: renewed with Hartford Insurance with no change in premium (OLC pays 100% of premium for employees).

**OLC Staff Notes**
My 10th Anniversary on the OLC staff was on Feb. 12.

**Activities**
Activities since the Jan. 12 Board meeting include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Meeting w/Rep. Oelslager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting w/Heartland Forward on Digital Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>OH Dept. of Education &amp; Workforce Public Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OLC Small Libraries Division Action Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 19-22</td>
<td>LibLearnX in Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Meeting w/ALA Councilor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting w/OverDrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fighting Censorship in a Changing Landscape Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Using Federal Funds to Move from Digital Equity Plans Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IF Programming for Children &amp; Families Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ALA Chapter Leaders Networking Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jan. 21
PLA 2024 Planning Meeting
Advocacy Remixed Session
Be Prepared for Program Challenges at Your Library Session
Circulating Roku Devices Session
State Library Assoc. Executive Directors Meeting
Jan. 23
House Ways & Means Comm. Meeting
Jan. 24
Imagination Library Meeting
Joint Comm. on Property Tax Review & Reform
Senate Workforce & Higher Education Comm. Meeting
Science of Reading Meeting w/DEW
Jan. 25
Kent State iSchool Advisory Board Meeting
Jan. 26
OLC Legislative Network Meeting
Jan. 29
BWC Group Retro Rating Meeting
Meeting w/North Hill Consulting
Jan. 30
OLC Intellectual Freedom Comm. Meeting
Meeting w/Amazon Business Prime
Meeting w/OLC Legal Counsel
Jan. 31
Meeting w/OLC Commercial Real Estate Representative
Feb. 1
Right to Read Film Screening
Imagination Library Meeting
Meeting w/Senate Caucus Budget Director
Feb. 6
House Agriculture Comm. Meeting
House Ways & Means Comm. Meeting
Feb. 7
Meeting w/North Hill Consulting
Joint Comm. on Property Tax Review & Reform
Feb. 8
City Club of Cleveland Planning Meeting
Feb. 9
OPLIN Board Meeting
Meeting w/OSU Graduate Student/Capstone Project
Feb. 12
Science of Reading Meeting w/DEW
Ohio Appalachian Community Innovation Center Grant Program Mtg.
PLA 2024 Media Outreach Planning Mtg.
Feb. 13
PLA Presidential Candidate Meeting
Meeting w/GrowthZone on New AMS
Feb. 14
Library Panel at City Club of Cleveland Forum
Feb. 15
Meeting w/GrowthZone on New AMS
OLC Diversity Committee Meeting
Feb. 16
OLC Gov. Relations Comm. Meeting
Feb. 20
OLC OTSCIF/One-Time Funding/Cap. Bill Webinar
Interview w/OSU Graduate Student
ICLAE Meeting w/State Library Assoc. Executive Directors
Feb. 21
Meeting w/GrowthZone on New AMS
Meeting w/LTG Husted’s Team
Feb. 22
Meeting w/Amazon Business Prime
Meeting w/OLC IF & Diversity Comm. Chairs
Feb. 23
ETM Meeting @ Upper Arlington PL
Meeting w/Local Gov. Executive Directors
OLC Small Libraries Division Forum - Virtual
Feb. 26
Meeting w/Amazon Business Prime
Feb. 27
Meeting w/Amazon Business Prime
Ohio 250 Meeting

6.D: Executive Director’s Report
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>Joint Comm. on Property Tax Review &amp; Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 29</td>
<td>OLC Amazon Business Prime Webinar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>Meeting w/ALA PPA Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td>Meeting w/GrowthZone on New AMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting w/Garber Connect on OLC Phones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>Imagination Library Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>OLC Intellectual Freedom Comm. Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 8</td>
<td>Bricker Grayden Panel for International Women’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Media Interview w/Statehouse New Bureau – Karen Kasler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>OLC Trustee Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
<td>Meeting w/MDF on PLA 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 14</td>
<td>OH Dept. of Education &amp; Workforce Public Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OLC Small Libraries Division Action Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OLC Science of Reading Webinar I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PLF Update
The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the March 2024 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of $37,210,077 – which is $717,948 (or + 1.97%) above ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2023; and $751,022 (or + 2.06%) above ODT's updated estimate issued in December 2023.

According to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), overall state tax receipts for the month of February came in 1.8% or $38.4 million above estimates. OBM has indicated that this is in line with their expectations.

A look at the PLF distribution for the past three years and a link to an Excel spreadsheet listing each county’s distribution total for March 2024 can be found on the OLC website.

Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform
This joint legislative committee was a provision in the state budget bill (HB 33) which passed last June. The committee is made up of five Senators and five Representatives who are authorized to hold hearings and make recommendations on pending legislation related to property taxation. A final report from the committee must be submitted to the General Assembly by December 31, 2024, making recommendations on reforms to property tax law. The committee is being co-chaired by Rep. Bill Roemer (R-Richfield) and Sen. Louis Blessing (Colerain Twp.). In addition to the co-chairs, the committee comprises Sen. George Lang (R-West Chester Twp.), Sen. Sandra O'Brien (R-Rome), Sen. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus), Sen. Bill DeMora (D-Columbus), Rep. Dan Troy (D-Willowick), Rep. Tracy Richardson (R-Marysville), Rep. Tom Young (R-Dayton) and Rep. Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland). More will be discussed at the board meeting.

HB 344 – Replacement Levies
HB 344 is legislation introduced by Reps. Mathews (R-Lebanon) and Hall (R-Middletown) seeking to eliminate the authority of political subdivisions to levy replacement property tax levies beginning with elections held on or after Oct. 1, 2024. The rational for eliminating this option is to alleviate voter confusion over whether they are the same as a renewal levy. This provision was previously included in HB 33, as passed by the House, but taken out of the budget bill while being considered in the Senate. OLC provided testimony in opposition to HB 344 on January 23. More will be discussed at the board meeting.

HB 257 - Virtual Meetings Bill
HB 257 is legislation sponsored by Rep’s Hoops (R-Napoleon) and Claggett (R-Newark) to provide certain public boards, including library boards, with the opportunity to have virtual meetings. Since its introduction a few amendments have been added to help clarify certain provisions of the bill. One of the changes includes a requirement for public bodies to define
in their virtual meeting policy what would constitute a “major nonroutine expenditure” or “significant hiring decision,” which are factors that can trigger a requirement to meet in person.

Another change requires a virtual meeting notification to be distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting with an agenda. Objections to agenda items must be sent to the president of the board at least 48 hours before the meeting. If two or more members or the board object to an agenda item, the issue can be discussed, but the public body cannot take action on that item during the virtual meeting. HB 257 was voted out of the House on Nov. 29 and is now being heard in the Senate Government Oversight Committee. Currently, trustees of library boards are still required to have their meetings in-person.

One-Time State Funding (OTSCIF)
OLC is attempting to reframe the conversation at the Statehouse on funding Ohio Public Library Facilities. In February, OLC hosted a webinar on the state’s Capital Bill, One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund (OTSCIF) and how libraries can submit requests for funding. Ray DiRossi, Budget and Finance Director with the Ohio Senate Majority Caucus discussed the requirements and answered questions from library directors and fiscal officers. If you missed the live presentation, a recording and additional resources are available on the OLC website.

All Senate offices are using the Ohio Senate Capital Budget/One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund Application Form for the submission of project requests. We are asking libraries to copy OLC on any communications and proposals submitted so that we can help advocate for these project(s). More will be discussed at the Board Meeting.

Voices for Libraries 2024 – Congressional Fly-In
OLC participated in the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) “Voices for Libraries 2024” event in Washington DC. COSLA collaborated with ALA in this advocacy event to promote support for LSTA funding from congress. Those attending from Ohio included, State Librarian Wendy Knapp, Otterbein University Library Director Tiffany Lipstreu, Lorain Public Library Director Anastasia Diamond-Ortiz, and Jay Smith. Meetings were held with both Ohio senate offices, Rep. Beatty, and Rep. Latta on Thurs., March 7.

OLC Library Legislative Day – Save the Date!
This year’s Library Legislative Day is scheduled for Wed., April 24 at the Sheraton on Capitol Square. This year we’re planning to begin early with a welcome and legislative briefing beginning at 8:15 a.m. The legislative briefing will also be repeated at 10:30 a.m. In addition, we are looking forward to having a property tax legislative panel discussion with Sen. Bill Blessing, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform, and Rep. Dan Troy, ranking member on the House Ways and Means Committee. Additionally, our keynote speaker is Steve Dackin, Director of the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. More information about this year’s event will be discussed at the board meeting.
Stand Alone Conference Updates:
The **2024 Adult Services/Customer Service Conference** will be held on Aug. 23 at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus. The event will focus on best practices and specific skills for providing exceptional library services and programs. Ada Myers, Assistant Director with the Guernsey County District Public Library, will serve as Chair of this conference. The call for programs for this conference will be open April 10 – May 10.

The **2024 Library Management & Leadership Conference** will be held on Oct. 25 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Akron Canton Airport in North Canton. This conference will focus on developing your leadership potential, delegating with confidence, motivating teams, and creating a dynamic workplace where innovation and open communication thrive. Jennifer Buch, Director of the Huron Public Library, will serve as Chair of this conference. The call for programs for this conference will be open June 12 – July 12.

OLC is currently seeking Planning Committee members for both conferences. The Volunteer Form will close on March 15.

Meetings Participation:
Outreach Coffee Chat – Jan. 19, virtual
Site visit to Conference Center at OCLC – Jan. 24
Site visit to The Plaza Hotel Columbus at Capitol Square – Jan. 25
OSAP January Coffee Talk at Grandview Heights Public Library – Jan. 26
Amazon Business Prime Webinar for OLC Institutional Member Libraries – Feb. 29, virtual
Adult & References Services Division Meeting – Jan. 30, virtual
Digital and Media Services Division Meeting – Feb. 5, virtual
Digital and Media Services Division Meeting – Mar. 5, virtual

Member Networking Opportunities:
Outreach Coffee Chat – Jan 19 – Virtual
Small Libraries Forum – Feb 23 – Virtual
Teen Services Talk – Feb 29 – Virtual
IT Division “Rack’side Chat – Mar 1 – Virtual
Teen Services Talk – April 23 – Virtual
Outreach Coffee Chat – April 26 – Virtual
IT Division “Rack’side Chat – June 7 – Virtual
IT Division “Rack’side Chat – Sept 6 – Virtual
Outreach Coffee Chat – Nov 8 – Virtual
IT Division “Rack’side Chat – Dec 6 – Virtual
### 2024 Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2024 Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OTSCIF Webinar</td>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon Business Prime Webinar</td>
<td>Feb. 29</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustee Workshop</td>
<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science of Reading 1 of 3</td>
<td>Mar. 14</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustees Dinner (East)</td>
<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Guernsey County Library, Cambridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLA 2024</td>
<td>Apr. 2-5</td>
<td></td>
<td>GCCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLC Pre-Con Workshop @ PLA</td>
<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>GCCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science of Reading 2 of 3</td>
<td>Apr. 11</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustees Dinner (NW)</td>
<td>Apr. 11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Stone Ridge Golf Club, Bowling Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPIM – Fiscal Officer Conf.</td>
<td>Apr. 18-19</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Nationwide Hotel &amp; CC, Lewis Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Legislative Day</td>
<td>Apr. 24</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Plaza Hotel Columbus (Sheraton on Cap. Square)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustees Dinner (SW)</td>
<td>Apr. 25</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Walnut Grove Country Club, Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustees Dinner (NE)</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science of Reading 3 of 3</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballot Issues Workshop #1</td>
<td>May TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Director Workshop 1 of 4</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Director Workshop 2 of 4</td>
<td>Jun. 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Director Workshop 3 of 4</td>
<td>Jul. 17</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Director Workshop 4 of 4</td>
<td>Aug. TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Retreat</td>
<td>Aug. 9</td>
<td></td>
<td>OCLC, Dublin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Services &amp; Customer Service Conf.</td>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quest Conf. Center, Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Fiscal Officer 102</td>
<td>Sept. TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech Services Webinar</td>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Management &amp; Leadership Conf.</td>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td></td>
<td>Embassy Suites Akron Canton Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballot Issues Workshop #2</td>
<td>Nov. TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>OLC/Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLC Planning &amp; Leadership Conf.</td>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Columbus Metropolitan Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PLA 2024 Conference
The early bird and advance registration discounts have been promoted in This Week, Access, social media and OLC website. A new banner and collateral materials were created for the OLC’s table display at registration. The Host City Welcome Reception has also been promoted.

Legislative Day
Resources and advocacy tools continue to be added to the OLC website for Legislative Day. Talking points and other resources are being developed for the day of the event.

Standalone Conferences
A call for Planning Committee members was published in Access and on the OLC website. An online application form was created for volunteers to submit. The call for programs for the Adult Services/Customer Service Conference opens April 10 and the Library Management & Leadership Conference will open on June 12.

Event Promotion/Projects
- The Library Trustee Workshop and Trustee Dinners have been promoted using This Week, Access and the OLC website.
- A landing page was created on the OLC website for the new Amazon Business Prime member benefit program.
- Science of Reading resources continue to be added to the OLC website.
- Eclipse events and resources continue to be added to olc.org/eclipse.
- What’s Happening in Ohio’s Public Libraries was published on February 1 and March 1.

Media Coverage:
Recent press regarding Intellectual Freedom issues and accessibility:
- Is Ohio banning books? Librarians weigh in
- What’s behind the trend of book banning?
- Can Libraries be Everything to Everyone?

Website
The most popular pages on the OLC website over the past two months are:
1. JOBLine
2. News
3. Conferences, Workshops & Webinars
4. Access LinkedIn Learning Courses with Your Ohio Library Card
5. Event Calendar
6. Certification
7. CPIM – Public Library Fiscal Officer Conference
8. Library Trustee Workshop  
9. PLA 2024 Conference  
10. Amazon Business Prime Webinar for OLC Institutional Member Libraries

Division/Committee Activities
- An Individual membership dues poll ran in the Feb. 5 issue of This Week. The Membership Committee is collecting information for its annual list of Honor Roll libraries (those who pay 100% of OLC dues for all employees).
- Articles on the OLC New Member Referral Program and Individual membership renewal were included in Access and the OLC website.
- The new member Welcome page on the OLC website was updated.
- The Teen Services Division hosted its first Teen Service Talk on Feb. 29. 26 people participated in the online discussion. The next one is planned for April 23.
- CPL or CPLS certification holders (new and renewals) were featured in Access and on the OLC website.
- The Digital and Media Services Division sent a survey to division members on Feb. 15.
- The Marketing and PR Division sent its Marketing Minute (e-newsletter) to division members on Feb. 16.
- The Children’s Services Division sent an e-newsletter to division members on March 11.
2024 Membership
As of Feb. 27, there are a total of 2252 individual members as compared to 1882 in Feb. 2023. There are currently 1718 renewals and 505 new individual members. In addition, there are currently 18 Friends Groups (down from 36 this time last year). A third renewal notice for individual membership was emailed on Feb. 23 to 642 members. Friends groups, other institutions and associate members have recently been billed.

New Member Packets have been sent electronically to members through February 19.

The Membership Committee met via Zoom on Jan. 25 and again on Feb. 28. They are scheduled to meet again on Mar. 14. Agenda items included: statistics; student update; new member update; quick poll of those libraries who pay OLC staff dues; Lifetime Membership; a final renewal email, and Access Article possibilities.

Lifetime Members
OLC received another Lifetime member. Mary Dwyer, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library became a lifetime member in late February. This brings our total Lifetime Members to 29. She was acknowledged in Access and has been sent a thank you email on behalf of the Membership Committee. A permanent OLC membership card has also been sent.

Quick Poll on Libraries Paying Staff Dues
The Committee placed a one-question quick poll in This Week on Feb. 5 asking library directors about their policy on paying individual dues for staff members. A second reminder was sent via email on Feb. 22 to those who did not respond to the first request. We received 145 responses. A final request was sent to 93 directors on Mar. 6. The results will be available at the Board meeting.

New Member Referral Program
The New Member Referral Program closed on Feb. 1. OLC received 8 new members who joined through the program. By comparison, there were 12 received in 2023; 8 received in 2022; 19 received in 2021 and 29 in 2020. Elizabeth Razo, Way Public Library will receive a $50 in credit toward any OLC Professional Development event in 2024 for referring new member Sidney Daniel. The announcement was made in Access.

ALA/OLC Joint Student Membership Program
To date there are 15 members who have joined through the ALA/OLC Joint Student Membership Program which offers students the opportunity to join ALA and OLC for one price of $46. ALA sends out the renewal notices and our Student Representative will continue to promote the program through her professional and personal communications.
Nominations and Elections
All division coordinators have been 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. An email will be sent to all members who have not selected any divisions to verify information prior to voting.

Awards and Honors
The Awards and Honors Committee met on Jan. 31 and again on Mar. 7 to discuss recommendations for simplifying the 2025 Awards program. They reviewed each award, the criteria and requirements. Any recommendations will be referred to the full OLC Board of Directors.

Governance
Committee tracking reports will be run after Mar. 20 to identify any participating members in leadership who have not renewed their 2024 individual membership. They will be notified of OLC’s policy that you must be a current individual member to serve on a Committee or Division Action Council.