

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **5.E.4**

MEETING DATE: **July 19, 2024**

SUBJECT: **Membership Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jeanine D'Andrea**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

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2024 Membership

As of June 30, 2024, there are 2,613 Individual Members as compared to 2,261 on June 20, 2023. There are 607 new individual members. In addition, there are 102 Friends Groups; 9 Other Institutions and 10 Associate Members.

Proration of individual membership dues for *new* members only, began on July 1. New Members joining between July 1 and September 30 pay one-half annual membership dues. New Members joining after October 1 receive free membership for the remainder of the current year with the payment of full dues for the following year. This applies to individuals who have never been OLC members or who have not been OLC members for five or more consecutive years.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee met via Zoom on June 13. Discussion included ALA/OLC Student Membership; Retention and Recruitment Letters; Member Spotlight articles; Promotion of prorated dues; Committee recruitment needed for 2025 (North, NE, NW and Central). The next meeting is scheduled for October 3 as an in-person meeting for 2025 planning.

New Hire Letter

Lia Birnbaum, Chair of the Membership Committee, drafted a letter that was sent to library directors via email with a request to enclose the OLC New Hire Letter in their library's on-boarding packets. We received several responses to that email expressing appreciation from directors.

Thank You Letters

A thank you letter was sent to directors of libraries that pay all or a portion of OLC dues for their staff expressing OLC's appreciation for their support.

ALA/OLC Joint Student Membership Program

To date there are 36 members who have joined through the ALA/OLC Joint Student Membership Program which offers students the opportunity to join both 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

The start of the online voting process for the OLC's 2024 elections opened on June 30, using our election software Election Runner. Electronic ballots were sent to all individual members who have a valid email address on file. Members without e-mail addresses,

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Friends groups, and certain Trustees were mailed paper ballots. Staff worked on capturing valid email addresses from a test broadcast email.

Once the online voting opened, members have 30 days to cast their ballots for positions on the OLC Board of Directors, ALA Chapter Councilor, as well as the Action Council Members for their respective Divisions. A reminder email will be sent one week prior to voting which closes on July 30.

OLC staff will review the results with the chair of the Nominating Committee a few days after the online election closes to allow time for any print ballots to be received by the postmark deadline. The final results will be sent to all candidates on all ballots prior to posting to the OLC website.

#### Committee Appointments

The 2024 Appointments Committee of the Board will begin their work in late August. Members of the Committee include Aimee Fifarek; Jennifer Slone; and Sarah Clevidence, Ex-Officio. Committee openings will be identified and sent to the Committee by mid-August.