

OPLA Children's or Youth Services Librarian of the Year Award

Description

The Children's or Youth Services Librarian of the Year Award (formerly the Children's Librarian of the Year award, and prior to that the Children's Services Merit Award) is given to honour a children's librarian who has made a positive impact on children's or youth services librarianship.

Criteria / Eligibility

- Nominees must be a member in good standing of OLA/OPLA.
- The nominee must have made a significant contribution in the following areas:
 - Active involvement in the public library profession.
 - Enhanced service to children and youth in the local library.
 - Innovation.
 - Strong advocacy for service to children and youth.
 - Modeling children's and youth services librarianship as a rewarding career.
 - Being a positive role model to colleagues and the wider community.

Nomination Procedure

- The nominator must be a member in good standing of OLA/OPLA.
- The nomination form is accessed through the OLA Website on the award information page.
- The nomination package should include evidence to support the nomination.
- Other support can be letters of support, samples of the nominee's work, photographs, news clippings etc.
- Nominations will be accepted between: February-March.
- The closing date for nominations in any given year is: March 15.
- Once the winner has been chosen, the OPLA President will contact the successful nominator.
 - The OLA office will contact all unsuccessful nominators.
- Unless otherwise arranged, the OPLA President will also contact the successful nominee and request a photo for promotion purposes.
 - The OLA office will later connect with the nominator and the winner for award presentation logistics.
- If desired, nominators may be involved in the award presentation such as creating and/or writing the presentation speech. Please indicate your interest to do so in the nomination form.

Selection Process

- The OPLA Council will appoint the Selection Committee. It will be composed of the Child and Youth Service Committee and two other members of OPLA.
 - Supervisors and co-workers of nominees are not eligible to sit on the selection committee.
- Nominees who are not selected may be re-nominated in subsequent years with the submission of updated documentation.
- The OPLA Awards Committee will review all of the applications and assess candidates' eligibility. Eligible applications will be assessed according to the criteria as above and any supporting the documentation.
- The OPLA Awards Committee will present all qualified candidates to the OPLA Council for consideration. The Council will consider all potential candidates, including those nominated from the membership.
- The presentation of the award is at the discretion of the OPLA Council and is not necessarily presented on an annual basis.

Award Presentation Information

- This award is presented at the annual Child and Youth Blow Out Event with recognition at the annual OLA Super Conference.
- The winner will be notified in advance of the award presentation.
- At the presentation, an introductory speech will be delivered outlining the achievements of the award winner.
- The recipient will prepare a short acceptance speech.