

## OSLA Award for Special Achievement

### Description

The OSLA Award for Special Achievement honours individuals or organizations outside individual schools or school boards which have provided significant support to teacher-librarians and school library information centre development in Ontario through exceptional projects and activities.

Nominees for this award may be an individual person or a group/project. When nominating a group/project, please provide details for a primary contact in the nomination form.

### Criteria/Eligibility

- This award is given to individuals or organizations which have made a significant impact in the school library field through some of the following endeavours:
  - Advocacy campaigns.
  - Local leadership initiatives.
  - Professional development.
  - Literacy programs.
  - Literature programs.
  - School library research.
  - Publication of handbooks, guidelines, resource documents, etc.
- Teacher-librarians, library coordinators, teacher-librarians' associations, parent groups and friends of school libraries are eligible for this award.
- The nominee must be a member in good standing of OLA/OSLA.

### Nomination Procedure

- The nominator must be a member in good standing of OLA/OSLA
- The nomination form can be found on the OLA website on the award information page
- The nominator must provide include evidence to support the nomination, potentially including but not limited to:
  - An endorsement by at least one OSLA member.
  - Documented accomplishments of the individual/project/group and a package of appropriate materials to support the nomination.
- Nominations will be accepted between: September – November.
- The closing date for nominations in any given year is: 1 November.
- Once the winner has been chosen, the OSLA President will contact the successful nominator.
  - The OLA office will contact all unsuccessful nominators.
- Unless otherwise arranged, the OSLA 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 selection committee consists of OSLA Council.
- Eligible applications will be assessed according to the criteria as above and any supporting the documentation.
- OSLA Council will review all of the applications and assess candidates' eligibility.
- The Council will consider all potential candidates, including those nominated from the membership.
- Nominees who are not selected may be re-nominated in subsequent years with the submission of updated documentation.
- The presentation of the award is at the discretion of the OSLA Council and is not necessarily presented on an annual basis.

### **Award Presentation Information**

- This award is presented at the OLA annual Super Conference at the end of the OSLA Annual General Meeting.
- 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.
- Guests of award winners are welcome to attend the award presentation, however, must be a registered conference attendees or registered guests. All attendees must have a conference badge to be onsite.
- A description of the award winner's accomplishments is published in the Spring issue of Teaching Librarian and may be promoted through other association publications.