

OPLA Advocacy in Action Excellence in Children's or Teen Services Award

Description

This award is to honour excellence in the advocacy of Children's or Teen services and who has made a positive impact on children's or teen services librarianship. The award can be given to an individual or group. It can be a service-based project; a unique program, a community partnership, an outreach endeavour or an advocacy effort that should be recognized and celebrated.

Criteria / Eligibility

- Nominees must be a member in good standing of OLA/OPLA.
- Nominees must be working in the public library field in Ontario.
- The individual or project must meet the following criteria:
 - Active involvement in the library profession
 - Enhanced service to children and youth in the local library.
 - Innovation in delivery of children's or teen services
 - 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.
 - Eligibility includes: librarians, library technicians, library assistants, or anyone working directly with children or youth in a public library setting.

Nomination Procedure

- The nominator must be a member in good standing of OLA/OPLA.
- The nomination form can be accessed by visiting the OLA Awards webpage: <https://accessola.com/membership-information/awards/>
- The nomination package should include evidence to support the nomination and must include:
 - A letter of not more than 500 words to the committee from the nominator.
 - Two letters of support.
 - Between 1 and 3 samples of the nominee's work which could include planning or training documentation, marketing materials, program summaries, etc.
 - Not more than three photographs, news clippings, etc. if available
 - The detail provided should be sufficient to ensure the committee has a clear understanding of the nominee's skills, service and leadership related to advocacy in Children's or Teen Services and other important key considerations.
- Nominations will be accepted between: February-March.
- The closing date for nominations in any given year will be listed on the OLA website
- 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 three members of the Child and Youth Services Committee with a spare designated in case of a conflict of interest. OPLA Council liasons will support the process but not actively assist in the selection.
 - Current members of Child and Youth Services Committee and sitting OPLA Council members are not eligible for this award.
 - 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 using a rubric according to the criteria as above and any supporting the documentation.
- 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. Award winners receive 2 complimentary tickets to the conference for the day of the event (travel expenses not included).
 - If the award recipient cannot attend the Child and Youth Blow Out Event, the award will be presented at another OPLA event or at the following 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.
- The recipient may be asked to write an article for HOOPLA about their work, the award they received, and what it meant to them in their careers.