



ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

MAX LUPO, PRESIDENT

OLITA

This past year I was lucky enough to be President of OLITA, and it has been great to collaborate with a dedicated team of councillors who all worked to make OLITA the best it could be in 2023. Thanks to a huge amount of support from the OLA staff—for which I am immensely grateful, it was a smooth year which I think makes way for more good things to come.

Much of OLITA's time is devoted to supporting Digital Odyssey, our annual conference. This year's title was 'Data In Sight: Exploring the Power of Data Visualization, Privacy and Impact Through a Library Lens', and we saw 81 registrants for the virtual event. With sessions ranging from "Decolonizing Data to Expand the Narrative in Library Systems" by Dr. Jacqueline Quinless through to "Dazzling Data: Tools and Strategies for Presenting Data" presented by a range of Library staff in various sectors, I think we brought both big ideas and practical information to our attendees. Thank you to all the Library staff who presented, and participated in Digital Odyssey this year!

This was an important year for OLITA's Technology Lending Library, as the collection found a new physical home, obsolete items were removed, and now, the collection has been re-launched and lending is available! Some recent additions include a Cricut Joy, a new green screen, and 35 micro:bit v2 Starter Kits!

I hope you will join us at Super Conference for our OLITA Spotlight Speaker: Avery Swartz, on Thursday at 10:45 AM, and we will be awarding Halton Hills Public Library the OLITA Technology Advancing Libraries Award, at the Public Library Award Gala on Thursday evening.

Finally, this is our last chance to give a fond farewell to our Past President Michelle Goodridge, and Councillor-at-Large Aaron DeVries—who both put in extra years of service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks again Aaron and Michelle, and thank you to all of the councillors and staff who made OLITA work this year.

I'm looking forward to a busy and bright 2024!

With Thanks,

Max Lupo