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The Ontario Library Association Announces 2024 Award Recipients
Association recognizes contribution and achievement to Ontario's libraries

NEWS RELEASE

TORONTO, ON (January, 24 2024): The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is thrilled to recognize individuals, organizations, and initiatives that have greatly contributed to Ontario's libraries. From library advocacy to program development, the recipients of OLA's 2024 awards have supported school, academic and public libraries with outstanding service to their institutions and communities.

Awards will be presented to recipients during the annual [OLA Super Conference](#), held from Jan. 24-27, 2024, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The OLA Super Conference will also feature an introduction to the 2024 OLA Board of Directors.

The award winners are:

- **Ontario Library Association President's Award for Exceptional Achievement:**
Shelagh Paterson
Presented at the Thursday Keynote – Julie S. Lalonde, on Thursday, January 25
- **OLA Archival and Preservation Achievement Award:**
Archives and Special Collections (ARCS) on behalf of the Women's Archives Initiative, University of Ottawa
Presented at the Closing Keynote – Eric Klinenberg, on Friday, January 26
- **OLA Technical Services Award:**
Louanne Penny, Niagara Catholic District School Board
Presented at the Opening Keynote - ALA President Emily Drabinski In Conversation with Leslie Weir, on Wednesday, January 24
- **Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award:**
Dr. Sabrina Saunders
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25
- **OLITA Technology Advancing Libraries Award:**
Short Story Dispenser, Halton Hills Public Library
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25
- **OSLA Teacher-Librarian Of the Year Award:**
Aimee Barber, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
Presented at the Celebrating OSLA: Awards & Launch, on Thursday, January 25
- **OSLA School Library Professional Of The Year Award:**



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Victoria Riddle, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
Presented at the Celebrating OSLA: Awards & Launch, on Thursday, January 25

- **OSLA Administrator Of The Year Award:**
Peter Rewega, Toronto District School Board
Presented at the Celebrating OSLA: Awards & Launch, on Thursday, January 25
- **OPLA Lifetime Achievement Award:**
Elaine Bird
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25
- **OCULA Award for Special Achievement:**
The Indian Residential School Survivors' Storybase Team, University of Toronto Libraries
Presented at the OCULA Awards & Social, on Thursday, January 25
- **OCULA Lifetime Achievement Award:**
Cynthia McKeich
Presented at the OCULA Awards & Social, on Thursday, January 25
- **Ken Haycock Award For Promoting Librarianship:**
Rebecca Jones, LLEAD Institute
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25
- **OLA Les Fowlie Intellectual Freedom Award:**
Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library, University of Toronto
Presented at the Opening Keynote - ALA President Emily Drabinski In Conversation with Leslie Weir, on Wednesday, January 24
- **OLA Les Fowlie Intellectual Freedom Award and The Joyce Cunningham Award:**
Durham Region Public Libraries and Durham Region Children's Aid Society For Their Collaboration On Drag Queen Storytime
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25
- **ABO-Franco Le Prix Micheline-Persaud:**
Linda Savoie, Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
Presented at the French Spotlight: Mique Michelle, on Thursday, January 25
- **OLBA W.J. Robertson Medallion:**
Christine Row, Mississippi Mills Public Library
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25



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- **OPLA James Bain Medallion:**
Paul Ainslie, Toronto Public Library Board
Presented at the Public Library Award Gala, on Thursday, January 25

Congratulations to all our award recipients! More information on awards is available at accessola.com/awards.

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About the Ontario Library Association: The [Ontario Library Association \(OLA\)](http://www.ola.org) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with more than 4,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA members advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading® program.

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