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The OLA President's Award for Exceptional Achievement

The President's Award for Exceptional Achievement acknowledges an outstanding action or contribution that has in a major or unique way enhanced or furthered librarianship in Ontario. The selection is at the full discretion of the President of the OLA. Awards are only given if there is something of true historic significance to recognize.

Past Recipients

2025	Anastasia Shawnoo, Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation
2024	Shelagh Paterson
2023	First Nation Public Library Librarians
2022	2021 Super Conference Planning Committee
2020	John Paul and Kaleb – Fay and Fluffy
2019	Mary Lou Souter, Mississippi Mills Public Library Board
2018	Dr. Guy Berthiaume, Library and Archives Canada/ Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
2017	Forest of Reading® Program, Ontario Library Association
2016	OLA Governance Review Committee, Ontario Library Association
2015	Leading Learning Project, Canadian Library Association
2014	Liz Kerr, Super Conference Coordinator, Ontario Library Association
2013	Together for Learning Project (T4L)

Contributors:

Anita Brooks Kirkland, Waterloo District School Board
Robertta Henley, Grand Erie District School Board (retired)
Carol Koechlin, Library Consultant
Diana Maliszewski, Toronto District School Board
Larry Moore, Ontario Library Association (retired)
Ester Rosenfeld, Ontario Library Association ((2007 President)
Peggy Thomas, Ontario Library Association ((2009 President)
Michael Budd, Professional Learning Facilitator
Timothy Gauntley, Toronto District School Board (retired)
Cathi Gibson-Gates, OISE
Wayne Hamilton, Toronto District School Board (retired)
Michelle Regina, York Catholic District School Board
Michael Rossettis, York Catholic District School Board
Hetty Smeathers, York Catholic District School Board
Lisa Weaver, Toronto District School Board

Advisory Consultants:

Ray Doiron, Faculty of Education, University of Prince Edward Island
Ken Haycock, School of Library and Information Science, San Jose State University
David Loertscher, School of Library and Information Science, San Jose



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State University

Ross J. Todd, Department of Library and Information Science, Rutgers University

Debra Wallace, Knowledge and Library Services, Harvard Business School

David Warlick, The Landmark Project

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2012 Jim Brett, University of Guelph

2011 Wendy Newman, University of Toronto, Faculty of Information

2010 Eric Walters and Deborah Ellis

2009 The "Working Together" project. Project partners: Vancouver Public Library, Regina Public Library, Toronto Public Library and Halifax Public Libraries.

2008 Knowledge Ontario

2007 The Partnership

2006 The Ontario Council of University Libraries for The Scholar's Portal
Be the Change Project

2003 Roch Carrier, National Librarian of Canada and Charles Baillie, TD Bank
Financial Group

2002 To library teams that have worked together to provide extraordinary
leadership and remarkable results in the legislated amalgamation of library
systems and services.

1991 Peel Board of Education, the first school board in Canada to put a full-time
teacher-librarian in every school.

1990 Elizabeth Hoffman, Chair, Ontario Public Library Strategic Planning Group,
for the creation of Ontario's first public library strategic plan and for the
innovative involvement of the Ontario public library community in its
development.

Lionel Koffler, Firefly Books, for his innovative advocacy against the
application of the Goods and Services Tax to books, most specifically for
the creativity and investment in the innovative "I Tax Books" postage
stamps.