

The Ontario Library Association Announces 2025 Award Recipients

NEWS RELEASE

TORONTO, ON (January 30, 2025): 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 2025 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. 29 - Feb. 1, 2025, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The OLA Super Conference will also feature an introduction to the 2025 OLA Board of Directors.

The Association is pleased to announce the recipients of the following awards:

Ontario Library Association President's Award for Exceptional Achievement:

Anastasia Shawnoo, Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation

OLA Archival and Preservation Achievement Award:

Leeds and the Thousand Islands Archives, Leeds and the Thousand Islands Public Library

OLA Technical Services Award:

Lorraine Gordon & Sherri Bennewies, Stratford Public Library

OLA Media and Communications Award:

White Coat, Black Art, CBC Radio

Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award:

Johanna Gibson-Lawler, Greater Essex County District School Board

OLITA Technology Advancing Libraries Award:

Technical Services Team, Lincoln-Pelham Public Library

OSLA Teacher-Librarian Of the Year Award:

Johanna Gibson-Lawler, Greater Essex County District School Board

OSLA Award for Special Achievement:

Lynn Goodwin, Halton District School Board

OSLA School Library Professional Of The Year Award:

Library Services Team, Near North District School Board

OSLA Administrator Of The Year Award:

Rosemary Caruso, Makwendam Public School, Halton District School Board

OPLA Lifetime Achievement Award:

Andrea Cecchetto, Markham Public Library

OCULA Award for Special Achievement:

Yanli Li, Wilfrid Laurier University

Ken Haycock Award For Promoting Librarianship:

Susan Haigh, Canadian Association of Research Libraries

OLA Les Fowlie Intellectual Freedom Award:

Annie McClelland, Book and Periodical Council

ABO-Franco Le Prix Micheline-Persaud:

Véronique Caron-Biron, Émilie Leblanc, École élémentaire publique Marie-Curie

OLBA W.J. Robertson Medallion:

Karthi Rajamani, Pembroke Public Library

OHLIA Lifetime Achievement Award:

Lori Anne Oja, University of Toronto - Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto

OHLIA Outstanding Achievement Award:

Amanda Ross-White, Queen's University

OPLA James Bain Medallion:

Adrian Graham, Springwater Township Public Library Board

OLBA Joyce Cunningham:

McKellar Public Library Board

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About the Ontario Library Association: The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with nearly 4,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA enables members to 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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