

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **4.B**

MEETING DATE: **May 16, 2025**

SUBJECT: **OLC Citizen of the Year Award**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR DISCUSSION**

The OLC Board of Directors is responsible for identifying nominees and selecting the winner of the OLC Citizen of the Year Award. The criteria for the Citizen of the Year Award is as follows:

*The OLC Citizen of the Year Award recognizes a citizen, or a group of citizens in Ohio who has/have made a noteworthy contribution that has had a positive influence on library services throughout the State of Ohio.*

Nominations for the Citizen of the Year Award will be solicited from the membership through announcements in *Access Weekly*, *This Week*, and on the OLC website. Staff also will suggest possible candidates and make recommendations to the OLC Board at the meeting on July 18.

Previous Awardees:

2023 – Peter Voderberg  
2022 – Benjamin Anderson and Mark Hamlin  
2021 – Terry Fouts  
2019 – Doug Evans  
2018 – Ryan Burgess  
2017 – Stephen Hedges  
2015 – Jon Iten  
2014 – Bill Morris  
2009 – Regina Brett  
2007 – Sibongile (Bongi) Sithe  
2004 – Kathy Catazaro-Perry  
2003 – Marah Walker  
1998 – Dr. Thomas W. Flechtner  
1996 – Joan Bennett  
1995 – Maynard Sauder  
1994 – Robert H. Russell. Sr.  
1993 – Thomas Dennis, Mark Powell