

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.:	4.C	MEETING DATE:	March 13, 2026
SUBJECT:	Andrew Carnegie Award	SUBMITTED BY:	Michelle Francis

REPORT FOR ACTION

About the Andrew Carnegie Award

This award is presented to government officials who have exhibited outstanding support of public libraries and their efforts to assure quality public library services to all Ohioans. Previous recipients of this award include Governors, Ohio House Speakers, Ohio Senate Presidents and members of the General Assembly. This award is so named because no one person has given more to public libraries than Andrew Carnegie.

Previous Andrew Carnegie Award Recipients

1995 – Vern Riffe, House Speaker
1995 – Stan Aronoff, Senate President
1996 – Richard Finan, Senator
1997 – George Voinovich, Governor
1998 – Priscilla Mead, Representative
1999 – Roy Ray, Senator
2001 – Randy Gardner, Senator
2002 – Larry Householder, House Speaker
2003 – Mark Mallory, Senator
2005 – John Carey, Senator
2013 – Bill Beagle, Senator
2017 – Ryan Smith, Representative
2020 – Larry Obhof, Senate President
2022 – Jay Hottinger, Senator
2023 – Matt Dolan, Senator

Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine

The OLC Government Relations Committee (GRC) and OLC staff are recommending that the Andrew Carnegie Award be presented to Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine.

The GRC and OLC staff would like to continue our tradition of recognizing individuals who support Ohio's public libraries and advocate on their behalf. Gov. DeWine and the First Lady have never wavered in their support of early childhood literacy, Ohio's public libraries and their efforts to provide quality public library service to all Ohioans. Over the past 7 years they helped to establish the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Ohio:

- More than 25 million books have been mailed since Ohio's program was established in 2019.
- 70% of households with children under five years old are currently participating.
- DPIL has been available in all zip codes since 2020.
- Ohio has the highest enrollment of any state in the DPIL program.

Both Gov. DeWine and Mrs. DeWine have dedicated decades to public service and championed literacy for all Ohioans.

As the 70th Governor of the State of Ohio, DeWine's distinguished career includes service as Ohio's 50th Attorney General, U.S. Senator, U.S. Congressman, Ohio Lieutenant Governor, Ohio State Senator and Greene County Prosecutor.

RESOLVED, That the Andrew Carnegie Award be presented to Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine.