

President's Report

Welcome back to your 2017-2018 school year! The OSLA Council has continued to be busy advocating for school libraries. Here are a few highlights:

Summer Professional Learning Led By OSLA Council Members

The OSLA Council members applied to teach two ETFO Summer Academy courses and one OTF Summer Institute back in July so that our OSLA members could have an opportunity to connect to other school library professionals from Ontario. I would like to thank Kelly Maggiras, Diana Maliszewski, Joel Krentz, Kate Johnson-McGregor and Caroline Freibauer, who took time out of their busy summers to plan and run engaging summer sessions for their peers. The three-day sessions were filled with practical ideas and allowed participants to further develop their personal learning networks.

Alanna King was also busy this summer with her TeachOntario Book Clubs. If you didn't get a chance to participate in the discussions this summer you are welcome to read them on the TeachOntario Explore portal.

Time to Renew?

Although you may renew your OLA membership at any time, many of us choose to renew in the fall as we return to our school libraries. Renewing or joining OLA, and thus supporting OSLA initiatives, is easy. Simply click here or type this URL in your browser to join or renew: bit.ly/oslarenew.

Why Should I Become An OLA Member?

Here are all the benefits that you can take advantage of once you join OLA:

- Access to the OLA website containing advocacy and teaching resources to support you in the library
- Volunteer opportunities in committees/council to promote reading and librarianship across Ontario
- Discounted registration to OLA Super Conference
- Discounted Forest of Reading® registration

- Award-winning *The Teaching Librarian* magazine
- Wilson Web database access
- OLITA Tech Lending Library
- Access to mentoring support through online MentorMatch program
- Personal perks-discounts with GoodLife Fitness, Rogers, Perkopolis and The Personal Insurance

Do You Know Someone Who Is New To The School Library?

I joined OLA in 2001 (my first year in the school library) and I have been a member ever since! I have accessed many perks and professional learning opportunities and connected with like-minded school library people from all across Ontario to enhance my school library program.

Don't forget to ask new teacher-librarians about accessing their free OLA membership. If they have not been part of OLA before and have completed an AQ in Librarianship recently, then they may be eligible for a free OLA membership this year. Email Michelle Arbuckle (marbuckle@accessola.com) at the OLA office for details.

Registration for the Super Conference 2018!

If you have not been to our annual Super Conference before, then you must go this year! The theme is Fearless by Design and registration opens in November! There are approximately 5,000 delegates from all library sectors who attend each year. The vendor displays, keynote speakers, and peer-led workshops are always engaging, practical, and thought-provoking. This year's conference is Jan. 31 – Feb. 3, 2018 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Upcoming Changes to the OSLA Council

Council members volunteer for a three-year period. There are a few positions that will be opening up for November elections for the February 2018 cycle. Are you passionate about school libraries? Why not nominate yourself or others for a council position? The advocacy initiatives are worthwhile and the professional growth opportunities are limitless!