Guidelines

Since 1960, the Ohio Local History Alliance, in partnership with the Ohio History Connection, has led the state in recognizing excellent projects, programs, and publications produced by Ohio's historical societies, museums, and related organizations, as well as the individuals who make them happen. Submit your nominations so others can be inspired by your achievements.

General Rules

- All nominations must pertain to Ohio state, regional, or local history.
- Any person or project is eligible to be nominated for the program; however, the nominator (person or group) must be a member of the Ohio Local History Alliance.
- Ohio Local History Alliance members may nominate their own projects.
- Submitted materials become the property of the Ohio Local History Alliance unless return is requested and a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided. Materials will also be available for pickup at the OLHA annual meeting.
- Nominations may be described or reviewed in the newsletter and electronic publications of the Ohio Local History Alliance without specific permission.
- Each nomination must be presented in a three-ring binder indexed into sections titled: 1) Nomination Form, 2) Description of Project/Individual’s Contributions to Local History, 3) Budget, 4) Letters of Support, and 5) Publicity. (Please note: “Budget” not applicable for Individual Achievement Awards)

Deadline

The nomination form and necessary supporting materials must be postmarked no later than August 1, 2016. The mailing address can be found on the nomination form. The Ohio Local History Alliance does not assume responsibility for nominations lost or delayed in transit.

Process

Soon after the deadline, a group of reviewers will evaluate the nominations. It is anticipated that the review will be completed in August and the award recipients announced by the end of the month. The awards will be presented at the Ohio Local History Alliance's annual meeting, which will be held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus – Dublin Ohio on Saturday, October 8, 2016. The recipients or their representatives should attend to accept the award. Award projects will be on display at the annual meeting.

Join the Ohio Local History Alliance


Your membership opens the door to inspiring ideas, resources, and opportunities. These include discounts to the regional and annual meetings and a subscription to the bi-monthly newsletter.

Organizational Member

Operating budget:
Over $200,000 a year: $100 ($190 for 2)
$100,000-$200,000 a year: $75 ($140 for 2)
$25,000-$100,000 a year: $60 ($110 for 2)
Under $25,000 a year: $35 ($65 for 2)

Individual Member

Affiliate: $35 a year ($65 for 2)
Individual: $50 a year ($90 for 2)
Student: $20 a year

Business Member

$100 a year ($190 for 2)
Categories

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Individual Achievement Awards recognize people who have made outstanding contributions to Ohio's historical societies or history museums or to the understanding and appreciation of state or local history. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Be involved in a historical society, museum, or related organization for at least five years.
- Demonstrate activity and excellence in more than one area of the organization's operations.
- If involved in teaching, demonstrate creativity in teaching methods and expertise in local and state history.

Support Material / Individual Achievement Awards

Nominations must be accompanied by letters of recommendation for the award and, for publicity purposes, one or more color or black-and-white photograph of the nominee. Support material is very important. The review panel needs news clippings, activity information, lesson plans, publicity, and other material to help them gain a clear picture of the nominee's contributions to local history, historical organizations, or teaching.

HISTORY OUTREACH AWARDS

History Outreach Awards recognize outstanding projects that have educational content, that have contributed to the promotion and understanding of local and state history, and that have had an impact on the community— in other words, projects that inspired, connected, and educated their audiences to local history. Nominations will be accepted for projects in the following categories:

Public Programming

These include, but are not limited to, school programs, workshops, tours, and lectures. Programs will be judged on their historical and educational value and on their implementation. Please include in the award nomination materials a written description and photographs of the program. The judges will determine whether your public program is award-worthy based on your nomination materials.

Media and Publications

This is a broad category that includes local and regional history publications in the form of books, brochures, websites, newsletters, calendars, and posters, among other formats. Nominations must demonstrate that the publication accomplished its goal, reached its intended audience, and stimulated a greater interest in history. Style, creativity, and content will be considered. Please include a copy of the publication in the nomination materials.

Exhibits / Displays

Exhibits will be judged on the basis of historical significance, factual and contextual accuracy, organization, design and “look” of the exhibit, and understandable narrative. Please include in the nomination photographs and a physical description of the exhibit, brief excerpts from the exhibit script, and sample labels. Keep in mind that the judges will have to decide whether your exhibit is award-worthy based on these materials without having seen the exhibit in person.

Support Material / History Outreach Awards

For all projects nominated for History Outreach Awards, please include:

- Detailed budget with itemized expenses. These costs may include, but are not limited to, salaries, in-kind expenses (outside institution or individual volunteer costs), postage, supplies, printing, construction costs, equipment, refreshments, transportation and rentals. Nominations will not be considered without a budget.
- Copies of publicity: press releases, articles, and photographs of the project and public who participated in the event.
- Letters of support from people who thought that the project benefitted the community.
- Brief narrative about the people involved in creating or implementing the project.

About the Ohio Local History Alliance

The Ohio Local History Alliance was organized under the sponsorship of the Ohio History Connection in 1960. The Alliance recognizes that Ohio's history is collected, preserved, and interpreted by a variety of organizations: local historical societies and history museums, historic preservation groups, archives, libraries, and genealogical societies. The Alliance's mission is to inspire, connect, and provide educational opportunities for Ohio's community of local historians. Visit the Alliance online at www.ohiolha.org.