



Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) Awards Program:

J. Allen Oakum Scholarship

PURPOSE

The J. Allen Oakum Scholarship is awarded to an Ohio resident enrolled in an accredited library school program, who's pursuing certification in school library/media. This scholarship is intended to help defray educational costs for future library media specialists as they complete their studies.

THE AWARD

The J. Allen Oakum Scholarship was established in 1985 through the philanthropy of the late J. Allen Oakum, an OELMA Past President. The Scholarship recipient receives a \$ 500 stipend and a framed commemorative certificate. The honoree will be recognized during OELMA's Awards Luncheon at Annual Conference. The scholarship recipient's name will be posted on the Scholarship & Awards section of OELMA's Web page and announced via OELMA's E-mail list.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

OELMA's Scholarship & Awards Committee is charged with reviewing applications for all Association awards. The Scholarship and Awards Committee is comprised of a representative from each OELMA Region, the Immediate Past President, and the Scholarship and Awards Chair, who is appointed by the President. Although this Committee makes award recommendations, OELMA's Board of Directors makes the final decision at the May Board meeting.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The J. Allen Oakum Scholarship recipient will be selected from applicants and nominees who meet the following criteria:

- OELMA membership is preferred, but not required;
- Is a permanent Ohio resident, who can demonstrate financial need;
- Enrollment as a full-time or part-time student at an accredited library program, leading to school library media certification and/or a library graduate degree; and
- Evidence of a commitment to a career in school librarianship.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application packets should include the following materials:

- Completed OELMA Scholarship & Awards Program Application Form;
- Official transcript from the college or university in which the applicant is enrolled;
- Nomination letter, which explains how the applicant meets scholarship selection criteria; and
- Letter of support providing specific evidence of the applicant's commitment to a career in school librarianship.

All application materials must be submitted to the OELMA Office in a single packet or .pdf file. The following three submission methods may be used:

- **Hand-deliver the Awards submission materials to the OELMA Office by 5 p.m. April 15;**
- **Mail the Awards submission materials, which must be postmarked by 5 p.m. April 15; or**
- **E-mail the Awards submission materials to kate@assnoffices.com by 5 p.m. April 15.**
Submission materials MUST be attached to the E-mail as a single .pdf file.

Late materials will not be accepted.

Send completed application materials to: OELMA Office, c/o Scholarships & Awards Committee, 17 South High Street, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43215 E-mail: Kate@assnoffices.com