

# Ohioana Library Association

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- Ohioana is supported through a combination of memberships, subscriptions, contributions, and a GRF subsidy
- Since FY 2002, Ohioana's state subsidy has been reduced 11% and its staff has been reduced approximately 20%

## OVERVIEW

### Duties and Responsibilities

The **Ohioana Library Association** encourages and recognizes the creative accomplishments of Ohioans; maintains and preserves a permanent collection of books and music by Ohioans or about Ohio; and disseminates information about the work of Ohio writers, musicians, and other artists. These goals are accomplished through the Ohioana Collection, the Ohioana Quarterly and other educational resources, and the Ohioana Awards. Each of these three services relies upon and is dependent upon the others. The Collection is at the core of Ohioana but depends upon both the *Quarterly* and the Awards to generate visibility and support for writers and, subsequently, further monetary and in-kind donations and services to the Collection.

### Ohioana Collection

The Ohioana collection consists of approximately 45,000 books, including a wide range of literature, fiction, history, biography, poetry, humor, children's literature, county atlases, and local, church, and family histories; 10,000 pieces of sheet music; scrapbooks; and biographical files on more than 23,000 Ohio writers, artists, musicians, and other notable Ohioans. Approximately 1,000 new book titles are added every year. Either the author or publisher donates most books added to the collection. Ohioana houses older and rare books, in addition to many newer books, that are often unavailable to the public anywhere else.

In January 2000, Ohioana's book holdings began to be added to the State Library of Ohio's electronic catalog, and in March 2002 they were released to the 90 OhioLINK institutions. This makes information about the collection easily accessible to anyone who has access to the Internet. The public access to the Ohioana electronic catalog and the facility has increased the use of the Ohioana collection in recent years.

### Ohioana Quarterly and Educational Resources

The Ohioana Library has published the *Ohioana Quarterly* four times a year since 1958. The *Quarterly* contains reviews of new books received by the library. More than 2,000 copies of each issue of the *Quarterly* are distributed to members, subscribers, and friends each quarter. Ohioana staff, primarily the editor, secures new books for review; works with volunteer reviewers; edits and writes material for the quarterly; designs and oversees the production, printing, and distribution of the quarterly; and develops all other educational materials.

Ohioana also provides nine educational resource lists that detail information about Ohio authors, musicians, artists, and books about Ohio. These lists are updated yearly and are distributed free of charge to educators, librarians, and the public upon request. Ohioana has also published the book *Ohio Authors and Their Books* and the Ohioana Ohio Literary Map, as well as other educational resources. Ohioana continues to sponsor the Ohioana Ruth Mount Internship. This internship provides a community learning experience for an Ohio college or university student. This internship pays a stipend to the student.

### **Ohioana Awards**

The Ohioana Library provides recognition to Ohio writers, musicians, and other artists for their creative accomplishments through the annual Ohioana Awards. The Awards recognize excellence in the areas of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, juvenile literature, and "About Ohio or an Ohioan" as well as distinguished service in music or in other areas of the arts and humanities. Awards are also given to high school students and young writers under the age of 30 who have not yet published a book. An award is given each year to an Ohioan of national or international significance who has made a unique and outstanding contribution to our culture and to a native Ohioan whose meritorious career has added distinction to Ohio's heritage and to the nation. In addition, regional events in Cincinnati and Columbus honor local authors of newly published books. These programs are cosponsored by local libraries, which provide the location and cover the direct expenses for the events. Ohioana staff members provide research, planning, and administrative support for the events.

Designated grants or endowments provide the funds for all of Ohioana's monetary awards. Some costs of the awards program, such as printing costs for the invitations and programs and luncheon costs for award winners and a guest are underwritten or are provided as in-kind services by local businesses. The fee for those who attend Ohioana Day covers the direct costs for the luncheon. Ohioana covers staffing costs related to conducting the Awards.

### **Summary of FYs 2006-2007 Budget Issues**

Ohioana's GRF subsidy, which represents the majority of Ohioana's operating budget, was eliminated by the House in Am. Sub. H.B. 66 of the 126th General Assembly, partially reinstated by the Senate, and restored to 99% of FY 2005 spending levels by Conference Committee. This subsidy, which is \$200,000 in each fiscal year, will be used to support Ohioana staff in carrying out their responsibilities related to the Ohioana Collection, the *Ohioana Quarterly*, and the Ohioana Awards. In addition, the subsidy supports staff efforts to raise additional revenue through other sources. In the last biennium, membership, donations, and usage continued to increase. While beneficial to Ohioana's visibility and ability to leverage additional funds, the increased responsibility has been difficult to absorb with current, reduced staffing levels. The responsibilities associated with these core services have made it difficult for Ohioana's staff to sufficiently focus on further fundraising. Increasing Ohioana's funding base will continue to be both a priority and a challenge in this biennium.

**Agency in Brief**

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Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
4	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

\*Employee count obtained from the Ohioana Library Association as of August 2005. Ohioana Board members are not paid and are not included in this table.

**Vetoed Provisions**

There are no vetoed provisions associated with the Ohioana Library Association.

**ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET**

For budget purposes, as detailed below, the Ohioana Library Association is considered a single program series agency and its activities are not subdivided into separate programs.

**Program Series 1****Ohioana Library Association**

**Purpose:** To recognize and encourage the creative accomplishments of Ohioans; preserve and expand a permanent archive of books, sheet music, manuscripts, and other materials by Ohioans and about Ohio; and disseminate information about the work of Ohio writers, musicians, and other artists to researchers, schools, and the general public.

Ohioana receives all of its state funding through the following line item.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
<b>General Revenue Fund</b>				
GRF	355-501	Library Subsidy	\$200,000	\$200,000
<b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>Total Funding: Ohioana Library Association</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

This state subsidy covers the majority of the Association's operating costs and supports the following three programs:

- **Ohioana Collection**
- **Ohioana Quarterly/Education**
- **Ohioana Awards**

**Ohioana Collection**

**Program Description:** The Ohioana Collection is the first service and the foundation upon which all of Ohioana's other services are built. This area includes the development, maintenance, and

preservation of the collection, as well as the in-house use of the collection for responding to public inquiries and reference requests.

### **Ohioana Quarterly/Education**

**Program Description:** The *Ohioana Quarterly* is the main source from which Ohioana generates its independent funding. Nearly 400 books are reviewed in the *Quarterly* each year, and all books are listed and annotated as they are received, with the Ohio connection noted for all books. Ohioana also provides educational resources for Ohio schools, libraries, and the general public.

### **Ohioana Awards**

**Program Description:** The Ohioana Awards program is a key factor in helping to recognize and promote Ohio's writers, artists, and musicians. The program honors Ohioans who have contributed to the literary and cultural life of the state and provides state and national recognition to these individuals, as well as for Ohio.

### **Implication of Enacted Budget**

The enacted budget will allow Ohioana to retain its core staff (four members). At this staffing level, it will be difficult for Ohioana to focus on the leveraging of additional funds and in-kind donations and services while continuing to support the mission and core programs of Ohioana associated with developing, maintaining, and preserving the Ohioana Collection; producing the *Ohioana Quarterly* and developing and providing educational resources; and providing recognition to Ohio writers, musicians, and other artists for their creative accomplishments through the Ohioana Awards. Ohioana indicates that it is evaluating all of its programs to determine where costs can be reduced and revenues can be increased. The Ohioana Board is in the process of evaluating Ohioana's programs and developing a long-range strategic plan.