



OELMA Ross J. Todd Collaborative School Library Award Checklist

Description: The OELMA Ross J. Todd Collaborative School Library Award honors the life and contributions of Dr. Todd, a professor of library and information science at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. He was recognized, up until his death in 2022, as an award-winning expert on the transformative role of school libraries. In 2003 and 2004, Todd and his co-author, SC&I Distinguished Professor Emerita Carol Kuhlthau, received a “Certificate of Appreciation for Notable Service and Significant Service to Ohio’s School Libraries” from OELMA for their leading-edge study “Student Learning Through Ohio School Libraries, Part 1 and Part 2.” The purpose of this award is to recognize and encourage collaboration and partnerships between school library media specialists and the school community through joint planning of a program, project, or event in support of the curriculum, using school library resources and incorporating [Ohio’s Library Guidelines for Librarians](#) (2021).

Nominee’s narrative (500 words) and supporting documentation must provide substantive examples from the Partnerships strand (p. 9) of [Ohio’s Library Guidelines for Librarians](#) (2021). Use a specific guideline from the topics “Build Instructional Partnerships” or “Cultivate Community Partnerships” to describe how the program, project or event increased the likelihood of learner success. State the specific guideline used in the examples.

Nominator’s narrative (250 words) must provide a substantive example from [Ohio’s Library Guidelines for Librarians](#) (2021) Partnerships strand (p. 9). Use a specific guideline from the topics “Build Instructional Partnerships” or “Cultivate Community Partnerships” to describe your nominee’s strengths.

Partnerships

Challenging, preparing and empowering learners is a community-wide effort.

Partnerships represent the community supports needed to increase the likelihood of learner success.

_____ Build instructional partnerships (7 Guidelines)

1. Consistently engage with the school community to ensure school library resources, services and guidelines align with the district's mission, vision and strategic plan.
2. Participate in district, building and department or grade-level teams to discuss curriculum development and assessment on a regular basis.
3. Include members of the school community in the development of library policies and procedures.
4. Partner with educators to design and implement evidence-based curricula and assessments that integrate elements of deeper learning, critical thinking, information literacy, digital citizenship, creativity, innovation and the active use of technology.
5. Collaborate with teachers, administrators, learners and others in the school community to develop, implement and assess long-term, strategic plans.
6. Align the library program with the information literacy standards and the school's goals, objectives and content standards.
7. Lead inquiry-based learning opportunities that enhance the information, media, visual and technical literacies of all members of the school community.

_____ Cultivate community partnerships (6 Guidelines)

1. Develop partnerships within the school and local community (families and caregivers, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, public and higher education libraries, businesses) to promote engagement and a community of readers.
2. Promote and model the importance of information-gathering skills by publicizing available library services and resources to learners, staff and the community.
3. Serve on school and districtwide committees and engage in community and professional activities.
4. Provide opportunities for learners to interact with others who reflect a diverse range of global perspectives.
5. Develop and model global awareness by engaging with colleagues and learners of diverse perspectives using digital age communication and collaboration tools.
6. Allow learners to cultivate networks within the global society and their own communities to build on prior knowledge and encourage future learning.