



CONNECTING READERS & OHIO WRITERS

At the Ohioana Library Association, we work to promote, preserve, and increase awareness of Ohio literature, reaching over half a million people worldwide. Ohio has long been one of America's great literary centers, and the state continues to produce an impressive body of written works and authors. Whether it's through our unique events and programming, our extensive library collection, or our review publications, everything we do is with the goal of connecting readers and Ohio writers.

WHO WE ARE

Ohioana elevates Ohio's written works and the creative minds behind them, celebrating our collective literary history. We also highlight the unique, diverse perspectives that shape the story of Ohio, aiming to inspire the next generation of writers and readers. It all started in 1929 when Ohio's First Lady Martha Kinney Cooper had a vision to preserve and promote the works of the state's authors and creators. Her small collection has grown into a vast library and organization, proudly serving the state for nearly a century.



OUR EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING

The Ohioana Book Festival

As the largest book festival in Ohio, our annual event features over 150 authors in a wide range of genres. More than 4,000 visitors attend each year to talk with these writers, listen to author panels, attend teen writing workshops, enjoy kid-friendly activities, and more. Our sponsors and community partners make this event free for the public.



The Ohioana Book Awards

Every year, we recognize outstanding books by Ohio writers in the categories of Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Juvenile Literature, Middle Grade/Young Adult Literature, and About Ohio or an Ohioan. First presented in 1942, the Ohioana Book Awards have become one of the most prestigious state literary prizes in the nation. Nearly every major Ohio writer from the past eight decades has been honored, including James Thurber, Toni Morrison, Michael Cunningham, Mary Oliver, Rita Dove, and Celeste Ng.



The Ohio Literary Trail

Ohioana compiled more than 70 sites across the Buckeye state, paying tribute to the authors, poets, illustrators, libraries, and creative influencers of the written word who have called Ohio home. Tourists planning a literary-themed outing, as well as Ohioans who want to discover literary treasures in their own backyard, can head to www.ohioana.org to find the downloadable map that provides links to every destination, with details and directions.

OUR LIBRARY COLLECTION

Explore more than 50,000 books by or about Ohioans; 10,000 pieces of sheet music; biographical files on notable Ohioans; personal papers of Ohio authors and artists; and numerous scrapbooks created by civic and cultural organizations in the state. These pieces do not circulate, but they are available for in-person use, and some collections can be viewed online.

Find the full catalog at www.ohioana.org.





“For me, Ohioana has for many years been the “Welcome Home” hug of strangers who became friends then became family. From the work the organization has done with schools, communities, and public libraries to the prestige that comes from its literary awards, this is an organization that is, like me, Buckeye to the Bone.”

— JACQUELINE WOODSON

CONNECT WITH US

To stay informed about Ohioana, attend live or virtual events, and be part of Ohio’s rich literary culture, connect with us on social media or at ohioana.org. We’d love to hear from you.



Media Contact Info

For media inquiries, please contact:

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IN THE COMMUNITY

Publications

Our Ohioana Quarterly magazine and digital newsletter feature book reviews, author interviews, library updates, articles about the literary and cultural arts in Ohio, upcoming literary events around the state, and new books in the library.

Outreach

Whether you prefer a certain genre or are looking to expand your literary network, Ohioana provides great ways to connect with other writers and readers. Our book clubs, writing workshops, and author readings take place across the state, in both in-person and virtual formats.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OHIOANA



If you share our love of books, reading, writing, and Ohio literature, there are several ways you can support the Ohioana Library Association.

Volunteer

Volunteers of all ages can get involved with Ohioana by helping with book reviews, special events, educational programs, research, and countless other projects.

Donate or Sponsor

Although we receive partial funding from the State of Ohio, as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, not-for-profit organization, we are funded primarily by valuable contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, and organizations. Whether a general donation via our online store, or a commemorative or memorial gift, your generous support enables us to carry out our mission and programming.

We are also grateful for the corporate and foundation sponsors that provide major underwriting for Ohioana projects and events. As a thank you, sponsors receive special benefits and recognition for their involvement.

OHIOana
L I B R A R Y

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