Celebrate Archives Month By Honoring the Accomplishments of an Ohio Archival Institution

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board Achievement Award recognizes significant accomplishments in preserving and improving access to historical records in any format by an Ohio archival institution.

All Ohio institutions responsible for archival records that provide public access to at least a portion of their collections are eligible. Eligible accomplishments include recent special projects or on-going programs that:

- build significant collections
- implement successful preservation strategies
- enhance access to archives
- develop effective digitization programs

Preference will be given to projects or programs that can be adapted for use by other institutions.

Because the award recognizes institutional achievements, individuals are not eligible. Departments employing members of OHRAB are not eligible, but other departments in their institutions are eligible.

Nominating letters should be no longer than two pages, 12-pt, single spaced, describing the institution’s program/project along with its goals, accomplishments, and significance. Each must include the nominee’s institutional name along with a contact person’s name, mailing address, phone, email address.

Send nominations via email or U.S. mail to:
Janet Carleton
Ohio University Libraries
Alden 322
30 Park Place
Athens, OH 45701
carleton@ohio.edu

Nominations must be received by October 14, 2011.
Self-nominations are encouraged. Winner(s) will be selected by OHRAB at its October 28 meeting.

Questions? Contact Janet Carleton at carleton@ohio.edu or 740-597-2527.

Need ideas? Check out the 2010 award winners on the other side of this sheet.

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board is the central body for historical records planning in the state. Board members represent Ohio’s public and private archives, records offices, and research institutions.
http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ohrab
Winners of the 2010 Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board’s Achievement Awards are Cleveland State University’s Michael Schwartz Library Special Collections Department and Montgomery County Records Center and Archives.

Cleveland State’s Special Collections Department has led the Cleveland Memory Project since its beginning in 2002. Institutions as diverse as the Cuyahoga County Engineer’s Office, Berea Children’s Home, Rocky River Public Library, Hathaway Brown School, and Lakewood Historical Society have contributed materials from their collections to Cleveland Memory. Project partners have made more than 42,000 images and other historic items available online. Practicum and internship opportunities provide real world experience to students while bringing fresh from the classroom perspectives to practitioners. Cleveland Memory is a model of multi-institutional collaboration melding local collection knowledge, shared infrastructure, and professional development opportunities. OHRAB congratulates Cleveland State University and its partners for expanding access to Ohio’s historic resources. Visit Cleveland Memory at http://www.clevelandmemory.org/.

In 2006 the Montgomery County Records Center and Archives faced every archivist’s nightmare. Active mold, cracked spines on bound volumes, and inadequate storage threatened the existence of the county’s historic records. Through a systematic program of compliance with neglected records disposal schedules, environmental improvements and monitoring, and conservation treatment, Montgomery County Records Center and Archives staff have demonstrated that even monumental problems can be mitigated if approached with determination and creativity. The results of their efforts include reduced storage costs, improved access, and the confidence that early county records will survive. OHRAB recognizes the Montgomery County Records Center and Archives for preserving Ohio’s public history records. Visit the office’s website at http://www.mcohio.org/services/recordarchives/about.html.

Nominees for the Achievement Award represented small towns and large cities; public and private institutions; universities, historical societies, and records centers; and a full range of historic records – maps, photographs, marriage, birth, death, and estate records, and more. Common to all their successes were collaboration, determination, creativity, and a passionate commitment to the preservation and expanded use of Ohio’s historic records. Clearly, Ohio's historic records community is achieving admirable results.

For more information please contact Janet Carleton at carleton@ohio.edu or 740-597-2527.

Could you be a 2011 winner? Turn this page over!