

NEWS RELEASE

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Stark County District Library's Tammy Long wins prestigious award from Ohio Library Council

September 10, 2015 (Canton, Ohio) – Tammy Long, Mobile Services Manager at Stark County District Library, is the 2015 winner of the Ohio Library Council's prestigious John Philip Outreach Award.

Each year the Ohio Library Council presents the John Philip Outreach Award to only one library staff member in the entire state of Ohio who has demonstrated excellence in the area of outreach. Candidates are nominated by a colleague in their field and an extensive application is submitted for consideration. In order to be considered for the award Long submitted letters of reference from patrons and colleagues. The references illustrated her impact on both professional peers and the people that she and her programs serve. Long will receive the award at the Ohio Library Council Convention on October 7, 2015 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In Long's role at the Library she oversees Mobile Services, which offers both materials for check out and educational programs via Bookmobiles, Kidmobiles and other outreach vehicles. The program travels to 109 schools, 50 senior centers, and the residences of 70 home-bound Library patrons. Every year over 244,000 patrons are served by Mobile Services as one part of the Library's larger Share Smart initiative to offer free programs and services throughout the community.

According to Tena Wilson, Executive Director of Stark County District Library, Long's award is well deserved. "Winning the Outreach Award is a reflection of Tammy Long's hard work throughout the years as well as the dedication of the Library's Mobile Services staff. This is a big win for Tammy, who is the epitome of what the late John Philip would have recognized as a great advocate for the underserved," said Wilson.

Long has been in her role as Mobile Service Manager since 2004 and is celebrating her 28th year with the Library in December, 2015. She has been working in libraries since 1980 and much of her background includes working with children and teens.

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ABOUT THE LIBRARY

One of the 8 largest library systems in Ohio – and the county’s oldest library -- Stark County District Library serves the community through 10 locations, six mobile libraries, and a 24/7 digital branch.

A 2009 winner of the prestigious National Medal for library service, the Library serves over 100,000 active cardholders, annually circulating 3.5 million items from its 1.2 million item collection and providing access to an additional 66 million items from lending networks throughout Ohio. Each year the library presents nearly 8,000 programs for 170,000 attendees and provides 280,000 computer sessions on the publicly available computers found in each branch.

Today, as it reimagines itself as The Smart Store, where everything is free®, the Library is emerging as a national thought-leader with innovations such as its “no overdue fines” policy, the recently launched BikeSmart bike sharing network, and the Start Smart School Partnership.

For more information, call 330.452.0665 or visit <http://www.starklibrary.org>.

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