**OLA Mission Statement**

**OLA provides advocacy, education, leadership and collaboration to continually strengthen Oregon's libraries and the communities we serve**.

*The Oregon Library Association’s core values represent the values of our professional association as a whole. OLA actively works to further professional librarianship in Oregon. We recognize that our association is made up of professional individuals with many points of view including those on politics and religion and we celebrate the diversity of viewpoints within our association while finding common ground in the following core values.*

**OLA Core Values**

* **Intellectual Freedom**

We advocate for all people to freely exercise their right to read and learn and resist all efforts to censor library resources.

* **Equitable Access**

We serve all library patrons at the same level of service and resources and strive to be diverse and inclusive in our collections, staffing, and programming.

* **Lifelong Learning**

We believe it is the right of all people in Oregon to have opportunities for lifelong learning and support learning for all ages as a fundamental right in a democracy.

* **Literacy**

We collaborate with other community groups, including schools and early learning centers, recognizing that literacy is a core tenet to success in life for learners of all ages, especially for children developing literacy skills.

* **Individual Privacy**

We protect user privacy and confidentiality in support of intellectual freedom.

* **Diversity**

We strive for diversity and inclusivity for all in library staff, collections, and programming, while informing and engaging with the OLA membership and library community around core tenets of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

* **Stewardship of Public Resources**

We strive to use our resources in ways that best serve our communities.

* **Service**

We promote the highest level of service to all library users.

* **Professionalism**

 We are committed to integrity, competence, and service for the continuing professional development of all library staff to meet the evolving service needs of our communities while providing ongoing opportunities within the library profession for development, connection, and collaboration.