



March 9, 2026

Emily Montagna
Community Relations Coordinator
Berks County Public Libraries
(610) 378-5260 ext. 2504

Winners Announced in 23rd Annual Berks County Public Libraries Awards Celebration

For immediate release—On March 4, Berks County Public Libraries honored leadership and service excellence during its 23rd Annual Awards Celebration. Presented at the Library System headquarters in front of an audience of 70 attendees, the event recognized individuals and organizations for their support and contributions to public libraries in Berks County.

Members of the library community nominated individuals, groups, or events that demonstrated outstanding commitment or service to their library and patrons. The Berks County Public Libraries Advisory Board considered nominations from 2025 and announced the category winners during the ceremony.

Distinguished guests at this year's event included State Representative Jacklyn Rusnock, State Representative Eric Weaknecht, and Steve Howe, Constituent Specialist to State Senator Scott Martin. Representative Rusnock offered opening remarks to the crowd, noting, "libraries and truly community hubs, and they are welcoming, supportive environments that strengthen the fabric of our neighborhoods." Howe later presented a certificate to Director Carol Donahue for her win of the Outstanding Library Director award.

The full list of award recipients from the 23rd annual awards celebration are as follows:

- Outstanding Elected Official — Mayor David Reimer Sr., Borough of Leesport
- Outstanding Local Business — Castaneda's Mexican Restaurant, Robesonia
- Outstanding Community Organization — Hamburg Grange, Hamburg
- Outstanding Library Director — Carol Donahue, Village Library of Morgantown
- Outstanding Library Volunteer — Marsha Olivia, Kutztown Community Library
- Outstanding Library Staff Member — Kellee Wood, Bethel-Tulpehocken Public Library
- Outstanding Fundraising Effort — 75th Anniversary, Kutztown Community Library

- Outstanding Youth Program — Children’s 12 Days of Crafting, Reading Public Library
- Outstanding Teen Program — Youth-Led Humanities Grant (Teen Reading Lounge), Brandywine Community Library
- Outstanding Adult Program — Bestsellers & Baked Goods, Bethel-Tulpehocken Public Library
- Chet Hagan Memorial Public Relations Award — Boyertown Community Library
- Dreisbach Award for Exemplary Service — Berks Book Bonanza Volunteers

###

For more information and for photo requests, please contact Emily Montagna at (610) 378-5260 ext. 2504 or emily.montagna@berkslibraries.org.

About the Berks County Library System: The Berks County Public Library (BCPL) System is a department of the County of Berks, serving 428,849 county residents across 866 square miles and 72 municipalities since 1986. Through the support of the Berks County commissioners, BCPL staff aids in strengthening the Berks County community by providing centralized support for the 19 full-service member libraries and four branches. For more information, please visit www.berkslibraries.org.