



OCLC Award for Innovative Cooperation Initiatives in the Caribbean

Award Guidelines.....

1) **Name of the Award:**

OCLC Award for Innovative Cooperation Initiatives in the Caribbean:

OCLC's commitment to international cooperation, research, and innovation promotes the advancement of librarianship. This award recognizes and distinguishes a school, academic, public, or national library for an innovative cooperation accomplishment in the planning and implementing of a program or service, ideally using technologies, for the benefit of its clientele or community.

Nature of the award: A plaque and \$500 US credit towards a subscription to any OCLC product. The winning library and its representative will be expected to write a short article for OCLC to publish.

2) **Goal of the award:**

The objective of the award is to provide visibility to innovative, cooperative initiatives in libraries, information, and archival services in the Caribbean. It aims to recognize the improvement of the services offered within those institutions for the good of their users and/or community.

3) **How the award is granted:**

The award is given to a library, information, or archival service. The award is granted annually during the Red Carpet Evening – ACURILEAN Evening of Awards. The award is given to an institution, not an individual. The jury reserves the right to not attribute the award if the proposals presented do not meet the basic criteria. The [proposals can be submitted](#) by an institution or by one or a group of individuals on behalf of a given institution as long as the management of that institution is in agreement with the submitted proposal.

The institution should be informed ideally two months before the ACURIL Conference so that someone from the institution can come to receive the award and present on their project.

4) **Who is eligible:**

This award is open to all projects showing some form of innovative cooperation in libraries, information, and archival services. These institutions however need to be located within the ACURIL territories and be an ACURIL member.

The institution or the individual(s) should submit a proposal that will include the following:

- A brief description of the institution.
- Explanations of the goals and objectives of the proposal/project.
- Methodology, means, and tools used during the project.
- Results and benefits received to the institution(s) and end users for this project.

5) **Covered areas:**

The jury will consider innovative cooperation coming from the eligible institutions described above. The achievement might cover an internal operation as well as external services to end users. The proposed innovative cooperation project should not be older than two years from the time of the upcoming ACURIL Conference (Ex.: For the June 2014 ACURIL Conference, the project needed to take place between March 30th, 2012, and March 30th, 2014).

6) **Selection criteria:**

- **Originality and innovation:** What is original and innovative about the project? (by its theoretical bases, in its application, by the use of new technologies and in comparison of other similar projects, its impact, can it be done somewhere else, etc.).
- **Improvement of the services:** In what way is the innovation improving the services of the institution to their users and how is it better? What are the measuring elements supporting the fact that this is improving the services?
- **Cooperation:** Has this been done in cooperation with other units, services, libraries, or else?
- **Proposal's presentation:** Quality of the proposal (clarity, quality of the writing, overall presentation of the project).
- **Explanations:** Is the description clear and precise, is it convincing that this is a great project.

7) **Selection committee:**

OCLC and/or ACURIL's Award Committee will be in charge of receiving and reviewing the applications. It is recommended that both ACURIL and OCLC are closely involved and informed with the process every year. The members of the Award Committee must respect the set rules for the award. Any proposed changes to the rules should be submitted to the sponsoring entity, OCLC. The jury's selection is final and without appeal.

8) **Awarding the prize:**

The winner is announced publicly at ACURIL. A plaque will be given to the winning institution. The award will be publicized in as many media and places as possible by OCLC and ACURIL.

The winning library/project needs to be informed ideally two months ahead of time so they can make arrangements to travel and prepare to present as the winning organization may be asked to present its projects during the OCLC Update Lunch.