



November 30, 2018

Mr. Felton Thomas, Jr.
Executive Director, CEO
Cleveland Public Library
525 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Mr. Thomas,

On behalf of Ohio Ready to Read (ORTR), thank you for supporting Maria Estrella's and Erica Marks' participation as Ohio Digital Media Literacy workshop trainers in 2018. Maria and Erica generously shared their time and expertise to benefit the Ohio library community, bringing energy and wisdom to this project.

In 2018, ORTR coordinated 5 offerings of the Digital Media Literacy Training workshop, open to library staff across Ohio. The training was based on a train-the-trainer project initiated by Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) and funded in part by a 2016 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. This training equips Ohio's children's librarians to be media mentors for families in their communities. Librarians from 5 systems, who were trained through the CCPL project, served as workshop leaders; their libraries hosted the workshops in 2018.

Children and families use digital media extensively for learning, entertainment, and communication. But many parents and caregivers lack the guidance and support they need to use digital media in ways that are effective and productive to their children's education. Through the Digital Media Literacy Training workshop, Ohio library staff who serve youth and families:

- Learned the difference between using media passively and actively.
- Better understood how to use technology effectively during storytime.
- Increased confidence in their ability to speak to families and coworkers about new media.
- Increased the number of known, trusted sources used for making technology and interactive media recommendations.

Maria's and Erica's investment in the Ohio Digital Media Literacy workshop training project helped provide these learning outcomes to approximately 75 Ohio library staff in 2018. ORTR is very appreciative of Maria and Erica, and their positive impact on the Ohio library community and on Ohio's children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Ingraham Dwyer".

Janet Ingraham Dwyer
Library Consultant

CC: Maria F. Estrella
Erica Marks