

For Immediate Release

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MACUL RECOGNIZES MICHIGAN eLIBRARY FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

Lansing (MI), February 1, 2012 – The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) has named **Michigan eLibrary (MeL)**, the flagship program of the Library of Michigan, as the recipient of its 2012 President’s Award. The honor is given annually to those who have made an outstanding contribution to further the use of technology in education. MACUL will present the honor to State Librarian Nancy Robertson at the opening keynote session during its annual conference on March 8, 2012 at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids.

MACUL President Mike Oswalt, Assistant Superintendent of Regional Technology Services for the Calhoun Intermediate School District praised the Library of Michigan for its contributions to the field of educational technology and for their support of MACUL through MeL.

"Since its beginnings twenty years ago, MeL has been and continues to be a valuable and relevant resource to the citizens of Michigan. Whether used to access digital resources for supporting teaching and learning, or to access the wealth of materials available between collaborating libraries, MeL is a resource not just for today, but for the future."

Ric Wiltse, MACUL Executive Director added, "Michigan eLibrary has an outstanding history of providing support to Michigan educators. MACUL is proud to recognize MeL for expanding the availability of digital learning resources to benefit students and educators."

When notified of the award, Nancy Robertson, State Librarian commented, "The Library of Michigan is delighted and honored to receive the MACUL President’s Award, and we are pleased to have MeL recognized as Michigan’s preeminent digital library. We have worked hard over the years to ensure that the content in the Michigan eLibrary provides core resources for all Michigan residents especially those who are students and educators."

Over the 15 years that MACUL has bestowed the President’s Award, the honor has been given to various corporations, non-profit organizations and public officials including U. S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Representative Fred Upton, MDE Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan, the Michigan Education Association, Michigan Virtual University, the International Society for Technology in Education, the Consortium for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching with Technology, and the Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan.

“The Michigan eLibrary is a pure asset for our state and its residents,” said state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan. “It provides a unique portal for Michiganders to access a world of information. It truly is deserving of the MACUL President’s Award.”

The Library of Michigan – Michigan’s official state library agency for more than 175 years – is part of the Michigan Department of Education and is dedicated to promoting, advocating, and consistently working to achieve the highest level of library service to the State of Michigan, its government, its libraries and its residents. The Library of Michigan also continues to seek ways to promote teaching and learning through the resources made available statewide via the Michigan eLibrary, www.mel.org. To learn more, visit www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan.

Founded in 1975, MACUL is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization of over 5000 members dedicated to bringing educators from all levels together to ignite learning through meaningful collaboration and innovation. MACUL provides service to its members through an annual statewide conference, regional workshops, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), grant programs, a quarterly journal and online resources. Please visit www.macul.org for more information about MACUL initiatives. Membership in MACUL is free.

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