

The Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/Ohio)
The Kathy Kellums Mentorship and Encouragement Award
Information Sheet for 2026-2027 Federation Year

Kathy Kellums was a leader with a passion for BPW/Ohio and the women who volunteer to support its mission and ideals. No one can question her leadership skills and service in BPW/Ohio. And as such she felt the most important part of leadership was encouraging and mentoring her fellow BPW sisters. From the very beginning of her journey in BPW/Ohio Kathy hit the ground running. She volunteered, encouraged others, and mentored many so they could experience growth in all aspects of their lives personal, career, and community. She mentored them in getting the most out of their experiences in BPW building new leaders for the future. Encouraging many to take advantage of the privilege to hold office at all levels of the organization. Those who were recipients of this attention are eternally grateful.

This is the type of individual the committee is looking for to shine a light and appreciation. If you have experienced mentorship and/or encouragement from a brand new BPW/Ohio member a BPW/Ohio Legend or any BPW/Ohio member, please consider nominating them for this annual honor.

Requirements & Qualifications:

- Any BPW/Ohio member in good standing
- Demonstrates mentorship abilities.
- Encourages others to achieve personal and/or professional growth.

To Nominate:

- Any BPW/Ohio member in good standing may nominate another member in good standing.
- The nominee can be from your own local, another BPW/Ohio local, or a member at large.
- Complete the application and write a 250–500-word essay providing specific examples of how this individual has been a mentor.
- Email or mail both documents to the Mentorship and Encouragement Chair to be received by the deadline.

The committee will review all the nominations and select one person from the nominations to receive the 2026-2027 BPW/Ohio Kathy Kellums Mentorship & Encouragement Award. The selected individual will be recognized at the BPW/Ohio 2027 State Conference.

Applications must be received by: **April 15, 2027**. If you mail your application, please mail it early.

Received by 4/15/27 Email to:	Received by 4/15/27 Mail to:	In Person 4/17/27
Paulette Knazek, Mentorship and Encouragement Chair pknazekbpw@gmail.com	Paulette Knazek, Mentorship and Encouragement Chair 228 Adams Street Zanesville, OH 43701	At the BPW/Ohio Leadership Training on April 17, 2027 *This is in-person only, not valid if received by email/mail

This information sheet and nomination form are available online at <https://www.bpwohio.org>

Sincerely,

Kathy Kellems Mentorship and Encouragement Committee

Region1: Charisse Kellums, Vermilion

Region2: Rene Butler, Youngstown

Region3: Paulette Knazek, PSP, Chair, Zanesville

Region4: Nancy Copenhaver, Logan

Region5: Gail Snyder, Greenville

MAL: Bonnie Crall