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## **Debbie Robinson Receives Ohio Travel Industry's Highest Award**

Debbie Robinson was recognized with the state's highest travel industry honor, the Paul Sherlock Lifetime Achievement Award in Tourism, during the Ohio Conference on Travel, Oct. 26. Robinson, Executive Director of Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau, was presented the peer award at the Hilton Columbus at Easton.

Robinson has more than 17 years' experience working within the travel industry. In the early 1990s she served as manager of Cambridge Alliance for Progress (the forerunner to Cambridge Main



Street), followed by three years as the general manager of the Kingsport, Tennessee Symphony Orchestra and one year as marketing director of Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center in Cambridge before serving in her current capacity with the VCB. In 2010, Robinson was elected to serve as the president of the Ohio Travel Association and has served on numerous OTA committees.

"Paul Sherlock was Ohio's first tourism director and the first to unite those working in the travel industry," said Melinda Huntley, Executive Director of the Ohio Travel Association. "He believed in leadership, mentorship and the economic value of tourism to local communities. Robinson deserves this award as she embraces all of these beliefs."

Robinson follows another Guernsey County resident, Jonett Haberfield, who was honored with the Paul Sherlock Award in 2007. "To have two individuals from the same small community receive this prestigious award speaks volumes about the Guernsey County tourism partners who freely give of their time, talents and leadership every day to our tourism industry," Robinson said.

The Ohio Travel Association is the nonprofit association representing museums, attractions, hotels, destination marketing organizations, suppliers, restaurants, campgrounds and other businesses who make up Ohio's \$42 billion travel industry. For more information about the Ohio Travel Association and how to get involved with others in the travel industry, visit <a href="https://www.ohiotravel.org">www.ohiotravel.org</a>