

This resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on June 30, 2013

Declaration for the Right to Libraries Resolution

Whereas Goal 1 of the ALA 2015 Strategic Plan states: “ALA equips and leads advocates for libraries, library issues and the library profession, and plays a key role in formulating legislation, policies and standards that affect library and information services”;

Whereas Advocacy for Libraries and the Profession is a key action area of the ALA 2015 Strategic Plan, and states: “The association actively works to increase public awareness of the crucial value of libraries and librarians, to promote state and national legislation beneficial to libraries and library users, and to supply the resources, training and support networks needed by local advocates seeking to increase support for libraries of all types”;

Whereas President-elect Barbara Stripling’s presidential initiative, entitled Libraries Change Lives, is designed to focus on increasing public understanding through the America’s Right to Libraries Campaign;

Whereas the Declaration for the Right to Libraries (attached) is a strong public statement of the value of libraries for individuals, communities, and our nation;

Whereas libraries of all types will have the opportunity in the next year to hold signing ceremonies where community members, organizations, and officials can visibly sign and stand up for their right to have vibrant school, public, academic, and special libraries in their community;

Whereas libraries are essential to a democratic society; and

Whereas the time is **now** to build the public’s understanding of the role and contributions of all types of libraries”: now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. endorses the Declaration for the Right to Libraries; and
2. urges that the American Library Association work to support and engage libraries and communities across the country in signing the Declaration for the Right to Libraries

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Sunday, June 30, 2013

in Chicago, Illinois



Keith Michael Fiels

ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council