

IFRT REPORT

Intellectual Freedom Roundtable of the American Library Association

Burning Man @ IFRT-Annual Program

By Lauren Christos, IFRT/Chair

"The First Amendment runs riot out there" Larry Harvey, Executive Director and Founder of Burning Man once said in an interview discussing the temporary city built and erased within a month, the elaborate civic society that is created and re-created for one week each year before Labor Day in the Black Rock Desert of Nevada. It is a temporary autonomous zone, a place of radical expression, a community. Black Rock City, or BRC, is home to an incredible diversity among people. Says Harvey, "We're all over the demographic map. It's remarkable that the only thing these people seem to have in common is a spirit of adventure because the timid don't do a thing like that." No, the timid don't go and live on an unforgiving barren ancient lakebed of a



Participation is the heart and soul of the Burning Man community. Courtesy of Will Roger Peterson.

desert without shade and water and together choose to live and create art, culture, and

community. No, the timid also don't typically struggle to pro-

Continued on page 2

Intellectual Freedom Concerns and the Proposed Amended Google Book Settlement

By Doug Archer, Member, ALA Task Force on the Proposed Google Books Settlement (GBS)

Most IFRT Report readers are probably well aware of the Google Book Search project and of the class action suit challenging the project by the

Association of American Publishers, the Authors Guild, and several individual authors and publishers. The project was announced in 2004; the suit was filed in 2005; and a tentative Google Book Settlement was announced in 2008, now

known as the GBS. After considerable comment from the wider public including ALA, an amended GBS was approved in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York in November 2009. More comments were

Continued on page 4

Issue 74

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Inside this issue:

Resources for understanding the Google Book Settlement. **4**

Starting a Conversation on Privacy in Your Community. **5**

IFRT and Choose Privacy Week. **6**

IFRT Pre-Conference. **7**

Intellectual Freedom events at ALA annual. **8**

Merritt Fund Celebrates 40 years! **9**

The IFRT Report is compiled by the Publications committee of the IFRT, and contains information on upcoming events and meetings, IFRT activities, and other intellectual freedom news.

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Burning Man @ IFRT, Continued.

Continued from page 1

protect freedoms guaranteed in the Bill of Rights in order to promote the exercise of freedom.

Burning Man first began in 1986 in San Francisco with a small group of people on a beach surrounding a wooden figure of a man. Since then it has moved to its present location in Nevada and is attended by upwards of 50,000 people gathered

from around the globe. Participants gather to create an extraordinary temporary metropolis complete with a semi-circular grid of streets that stretch over a mile from end to end. There are distinct neighborhoods of camps and villages, peace keepers known as Black Rock Rangers, professional medical services, a daily newspaper, dozens of radio stations, a recycling center, Earth Guardians – Burning Man is a “Leave No Trace” event, a municipal airport, and a large central café. And at the heart of all of it is a 50 foot structure of neon, wood, and pyrotechnics that serves as the axis mundi of the city’s design and which is set aflame at the event’s culmination. Trying to explain what Burning Man is to someone who has never been to the event is a bit like trying to explain what a particular color looks like to someone who

is blind. I’ve been going out every year save two since 1997 and nothing I can say could describe the place and I think that’s because it is something you experience.



Aerial view of Black Rock City, the temporary metropolis created by the citizens of Black Rock City. Courtesy of Will Roger Peterson.

I can tell you, there is no other place like it, and in my opinion, it is the only place to be in the world at that time of year. Yes, the years seem to have rolled into each other, but each year brings new and astonishing sights and sounds. I sometimes find myself dreaming of those playa days and nights weeks before and after the event. Each sojourn out there is different, in part because each year, I too, am different. All

the same, it is fantastic. I can tell you I have seen, felt, heard, experienced things there that I have never seen before and have not witnessed since. The most amazing art is created, the most amazing people attend, and I find that I readily call this place my home. As do many others.

“Citizenship is not a spectator sport,” says Roger Putnam. Here, in Washington, D.C at our conference, we have the confluence of fervent intellectual freedom advocates and Burning Man – a uniquely interactive non-spectator social phenomenon. Indeed, participation is the heart and soul of living in this community where free expression, free speech, and in sum, unabashed freedom is celebrated with spontaneous joy and piercing delight. Like the citizenry of Black Rock City, librarians across the country also volunteer and ardently participate in civic engagement discourse and intellectual freedom policy decision-making. Like librarians, Black Rock City’s inhabitants participate in their

city “bringing it alive with human effort, and all of it is volunteered by those who also have a passion for the Public Thing – *Res Publica*, as the Romans once called it.

I attended annual in 2001 in San Francisco after having been to Burning Man twice. I was already involved with the intellectual

freedom community. I remember leaving

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Just another day on the Playa for your IFRT Chair. Courtesy of Sandra Rado.

Burning Man

Continued from previous page. the convention center determined to find Burning Man headquarters. I did and walked into a meeting with Crimson Rose, Managing Art Director, having an ARTery meeting where they were discussing placement of the large scale art installations on the playa. I thought as I was coming home, wouldn't it be fantastic to combine Burning Man cultural ethos with intellectual freedom values. I imagined that this would be something that I could contribute to both of my communities.

The Intellectual Freedom Round Table and Burning Man come together in the program "BURNING MAN, LIBRARIES, AND THE 21ST CENTURY: THE INTERSECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY" on June 26, at 1:30 pm in Washington Convention Center, Room 143 B/C. Come and listen to the sounds of Black Rock City, view stunning images of this extraordinary place, and share in a fascinating conversation with Larry Harvey, Founder and Executive Director of the Burning Man project and Chairman of the Board of the Black Rock Arts Foundation.

Larry Harvey co-chairs Burning Man's Art Department, scripts and co-curates the annual art theme, and collaborates with artists in creating aspects of the art theme and the design of Black Rock City. Larry is also a political planner. He supervises the organization's lobbying efforts and regularly attends meetings with state, county and federal agencies. As a spokesperson for Burning Man, Larry is frequently interviewed and has lectured at Harvard, the Commonwealth Club of California, the Walker Art Center, and the Oxford Union.



Larry Harvey, Burning Man founder, joins IFRT Chair Lauren Christos at IFRT's program at ALA Annual. Courtesy of NK Guy.

Burning Man, Libraries, and the 21st Century: The Intersection of the Individual and Society

Saturday, June 26 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Washington Convention Center, Room 143 B/C

Speakers:

Larry Harvey, Burning Man Founder and Executive Director

Lauren Christos, Chair, IFRT

Program Summary

Can you imagine living in a city where censorship does not exist?

Where your First Amendment rights and liberties are not only tolerated but encouraged and celebrated? That culture is created and that society exists in physical form for one week every August in Black Rock Desert, Nevada in the community known as Burning Man. The Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT) is delighted that Larry Harvey, Executive Director of the Burning Man Project, will join Lauren Christos, Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, in a lively conversation on how intellectual freedom informs the Burning Man experience and our 21st century society. IFRT envisions that our program will challenge and expand the boundaries of currently held intellectual freedom beliefs. Through the social experiment that is Burning Man, the audience may come away with new and creative ideas to explore intellectual freedom in their personal and professional lives. There will be ample opportunity for Q&A from the audience.

Burning Man: The Event

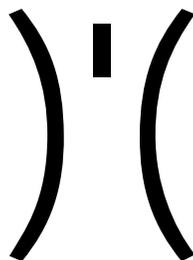
Once a year, a community of up to 50,000 people forms for a week in Nevada's Black Rock Desert.

Burning Man: Ten Guiding Principles

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Radical Inclusion | Communal Effort |
| Gifting | Civic Responsibility |
| Decommodification | Leaving No Trace |
| Radical Self-reliance | Participation |
| Radical Self-Expression | Immediacy |

More than just a week-long event in the desert, the ideas and principles of Burning Man have inspired a year-round community.

For background information on Burning Man, please visit www.burningman.com



Google Books Settlement, Continued

Continued from page 1

solicited and the final (so far) public hearing was held on February 18, 2010.

Most of GBS controversy has surrounded copyright issues such as future compensation for rights holders of orphan works, who is in and who is out the settlement, fair use applications of the Millennium Copyright Act, and general concerns of future access and its costs. While these are extremely important issues of interest to authors, publishers, Google, libraries and libraries users, there are a series of concerns related to intellectual freedom that will be of particular interest to IFRT members.

Privacy. While Google has a pretty good record compared to many large corporations when it comes to privacy, there is really nothing in the settlement that defines the privacy rights of Google Books users. This is of special concern because, in order to be able to pay the appropriate fees to rights holders, Google must track who is accessing what titles, how often and how much. This means that for titles still in-copyright, users will need to set up an account and sign in. Though the account will be free, there are no guarantees that Google will delink personally identifiable information in a timely manner – as readers should be able to expect from a library. Google, to its credit, is fairly clear about its policy and about the purpose of Google Books. It's not a library; it's more of a bookstore or commercial online catalog linking users to suppliers of text – at least when it comes to in-copyright titles.

Access. While the expectation of free access to materials in America's libraries is a given, Google Books, as already noted, is not a library. There will be costs involved in access in-copyright titles. Access as an intellectual freedom concern might arise if Google Books actually results in public

bodies providing less funding (and hence less access) to libraries because, "hey, you can get it from Google." This is pure speculation. The stated goal of Google is to expand access, and as the project is currently structured, every public and academic library in the U.S. will get at least one free access point. Don't ask about schools and large urban libraries. That's a whole 'nother issue. In the long run Google Books could greatly expand free access or restrict it. Only time will tell.

Censorship.

Again, Google has a good record as companies go. Witness its recent challenge to China's Internet restrictions. On the other hand, for some time it went

along with those restrictions. Remember, Google is a commercial enterprise and doesn't enjoy all of the protections that libraries do. It also could be subject to both commercial and government pressure, if enough folks object to it providing access to "offensive" materials.

The GBS explicitly grants Google the right to pull content. Rights holders may also do so. And they may choose to remove or "correct" content. When you access text through Google Books, you are not buying permanent rights to the book. If you go back tomorrow, the text may have changed. Think of the Amazon incident involving 1984. Yes, 1984. Apparently the GBS only provides "library partners" (libraries that are supplying text for Google Books by contract) the right to challenge such "editing" or removal. What recourse will the average user or the average library have if Google or a rights holder decides to do an historical rewrite in the name of accuracy or in the face of public pressure?

Keep your eyes open – for the Judge Chin's decision and for future developments.

The Google Book Settlement explicitly grants Google the right to pull content...Only 'library partners' have the right to challenge such editing.

Resources:

Google's sites about GB & GBS:

<http://books.google.com/intl/en/googlebooks/about.html>

<http://books.google.com/googlebooks/agreement/>

<http://googleblog.blogspot.com>

Wikipedia's entry on GB & GBS:

(Don't scoff; it's actually pretty good)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_books

ALA main GBS page

<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/copyright/googlebooks/index.cfm>

ALA Washington Office GBS Page

<http://wo.ala.org/gbs/>

Two Library Journal summary articles

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6719439.html?desc=topstory>

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6719808.html>

A "What If" Options Flow Chart

<http://www.librarycopyrightalliance.org/bm~doc/gbs-march-madness-diagram-final.pdf>

GBS Administrator (Books Rights Registry) site

<http://www.googlebooksettlement.com/>

Text of the amended GBS

http://wo.ala.org/gbs/wp-content/uploads/2008/12/amended_settlement.pdf

Transcript of the amended GBS hearing

http://thepublicindex.org/docs/case_order/fairness-hearing-transcript.pdf

Jonathan Band's slide show

<http://wo.ala.org/gbs/google-book-settlement-slide-deck/>

Holding a Local Conversation on Privacy

By Carolyn Caywood

What makes a good conversation? Listening as well as talking. Real information and different perspectives. New insights and understandings. Respect. A little humility and a little humor. Trust. For decades, public conversation has been in short supply. Instead we've had slogan-chanting and shouting matches. We've had citizens fighting with government. And how is that working for us, as a nation and as a society?

Because libraries are respected as neutral ground, we can open the door to a different

way of talking about public issues. We can ensure that the conversation includes citizens talking with each other, not just at government.

And privacy is an ideal topic to begin with. Privacy affects everyone and yet what we want to be private is very individual. Privacy cuts across the usual red/blue, liberal/conservative, tea/coffee deadlock. Privacy demands that we look at the trade-offs between what I want to keep to myself and what I want to know about you. New technology has heightened everyone's awareness of privacy, from RFID chips and grocery loyalty cards to Googling your daughter's date to hacked medical records to laptops that spy on students' home life. But the fundamental values aren't all that different from when Louis Brandeis called "the right to be let alone—the most comprehensive of rights and the right most valued by civilized men." http://groups.csail.mit.edu/mac/classes/6.805/articles/privacy/Privacy_brand_warr2.html

In 2006 when ALA passed the resolution on holding a national conversation on privacy none of the usual civic engagement organizations had created a discussion guide on privacy issues. The Intellectual Freedom Round Table and the Fostering Civic Engagement Member Initiative Group took

on the work and volunteer members met with groups of the public to ask them what were their concerns about privacy. People were very appreciative of being asked and listened to and commended the librarians for being interested in their concerns.

Our questions were neutral - one person might be concerned about TSA going through my luggage while another might be concerned about TSA missing something dangerous because of privacy restrictions. We

brainstormed what categories of people we needed to include - "who's not at the table." We talked with teens and senior citizens, librarians and police officers, whoever we could get to talk as a group. The purpose was to hear, in ordinary language, what the general public thinks about privacy. This is important because too often what librarians have to say about a library issue may not be what the public says. The results were not intended to be statistically valid, but rather to help frame the issue of privacy in words and ideas that were meaningful to the public.

What we heard, over and over, was that people do care about their privacy, but they feel uncertain how to protect it and they hate the time and inconvenience they expect it will take. We learned that aspects of the issue that at first glance seem opposed may be interdependent, like security and privacy. After clumping similar ideas together, what emerged is that people are unsure who to rely on to protect their privacy. There seemed to be three

main choices - trust government despite its Big Brother tendencies, trust the marketplace despite its commercialization of personal habits, or trust only myself and maybe like-minded activists despite the effort and despite our desire to be social. That, in essence, is our issue framework.

Now, there is no single "right" frame for each issue, but some frames stimulate more productive conver-

sations than others. We think these three approaches will help people break free of polarizing debate to consider other views and alternatives and to find common ground. This is the kind of conversation called deliberation.

Deliberative forums provide an opportunity for the public to think more deeply and express themselves more thoughtfully on critical issues by weighing different approaches and

considering costs, consequences, and trade-offs. The OIF has prepared a moderator guide and a discussion guide so that you can turn this privacy deliberation into a library program. http://www.privacyrevolution.org/index.php/resources/for_libraries/civic_engagement

If you have never hosted a forum in the library, you may want to investigate what human resources there are in your community. You may find trained facilitators or

Continued on page 6



Privacy cuts across the usual red/blue, liberal/conservative, tea/coffee deadlock.

Deliberative forums provide an opportunity for the public to think more deeply and express themselves more thoughtfully on critical issues by weighing different approaches

Conversation on Privacy, Continued

Continued from page 5

moderators eager to put their skills to use.

In my town, I discovered that the newspaper had gotten involved in civic journalism some years ago and had trained people in the community. Organizations like the League of Women Voters have experience with policy discussions. And partnering with other groups makes it easier to market a forum to the kind of people who will be interested in participating.

What do you need? Flip chart paper, tape and markers, maybe snacks, a circle of chairs, a moderator and a recorder and about two hours. Moderating is not about being an authority or giving a speech. The moderator's role is to get others to talk, and listen, and to keep the conversation moving through each choice to choose a possible course of action that may be a blend. The moderator does push participants to think about consequences and trade-offs, to think deeply about "what is valuable to me that I need to preserve." The moderator asks the group to reflect on what common ground they have found and how their understanding of the issue has been affected.

ALA has become a Kettering Public

Moderating is not about being an authority or giving a speech. The moderator's role is to get others to talk, and listen, and to keep the conversation moving.

Policy Institute and has offered online training on how to hold forums. And Nancy Kranich will lead a pre-conference Thursday afternoon at the ALA Washington Of-

fice that will combine the experience of a deliberation with a workshop on how to hold your own.



Once people start talking about privacy, issues really start to fly!

And why do it? A forum on privacy will increase the number of people in our community who have given the matter some thought and who may be willing to step forward and advocate for library confidentiality policies. And in a broader context, positioning the library as the place where civic-minded people can gather to have a civilized discussion of public policy issues is the very best way I know to put the library at the heart of the community and to make it unthinkable to do without libraries.

This is a role that cannot be outsourced. It helps raise the level of political discourse in our community so that government and citizens together can deal with problems instead of just trading blame. It is good for our communities, good for our libraries, and good for the principles we hold dear.

IFRT Celebrates Choose Privacy Week!

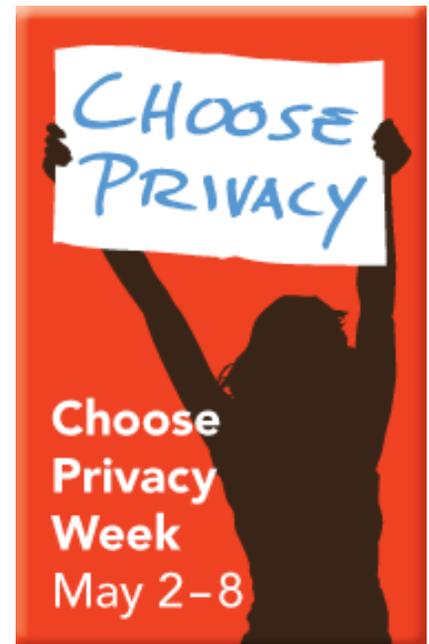
IFRT joined librarians and libraries around the country to celebrate the first annual Choose Privacy Week, May 2-8, 2010.

IFRT devoted our blog (<http://ifrt.blogspot.com>) to Choose Privacy week, posting privacy and privacy week news, articles, thoughts and insights all week.

We also used our Twitter account (http://twitter.com/IFRT_ALA) to share relative links and news items across the Intellectual Freedom community.

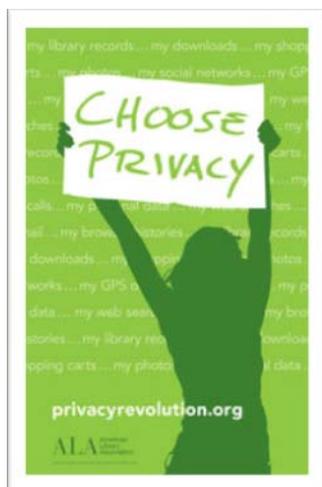
The #chooseprivacy hashtag created to identify tweets relevant to the week is still in use, so the online conversation can continue all year long.

Interested in joining the conversation? Follow @privacyala and @IFRT_ALA!



ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table
The ALA Center for Public Life/
Libraries Fostering Civic Engagement MIG and
The ALA Washington Office
Announce

Who Do I Trust to Protect My Privacy?
Privacy Conversation Deliberative Forum
And Moderator Training Preconference



Thursday, June 24, 1:30 – 5:30
Lunch served at 1:00
ALA Washington Office
1615 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Join an afternoon conversation on privacy Thursday, June 24th, from 1:30 to 4:30 at ALA—Washington Office. The conversation will be structured with an Issue Map. Following the dialogue, participants will learn how to convene and moderate a deliberative dialogue so they can host their own local forums that explore privacy values and concerns.

Price: \$25.00

Includes materials and refreshments

Register: www.ala.org/annual

Registration in advance encouraged; Walk in registration accepted

For More Information, contact:

Nancy Kranich, nancy.kranich@nyu.edu; Jonathan Kelley, jokelley@ala.org



IF Events at ALA 2010 Annual Conference

Who Do I Trust to Protect My Privacy? Privacy Conversation Deliberative Forum and Moderator Training

Thursday, June 24 | 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Round Table
Location: ALA-Washington Headquarters, 1615 New Hampshire Ave NW, 1st Floor
See article, page 5.

FTRF Member Reception

Thursday, June 24 | 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 148

Intellectual Freedom 101

Friday, June 25 | 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 147 B

Professional Integrity and Library Workers: What's the connection?

ALA-APA Program
Saturday, June 26 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 205

Burning Man, Libraries, and the 21st Century: The Intersection of the Individual and Society

IFRT Program
Saturday, June 26 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 143 B/C
See article, page 1.

Murder in Connecticut vs. Cheshire Public Library

ALTAFF Program
Sunday, June 27 | 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
JW Marriott – Cannon

Ethics in a Digital World: Using Policies to Guide Professional and Personal Presence in Social Networking Spaces

Ethics Program
Sunday, June 27 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Renaissance Washington Auditorium

Not in My Library! Self-Censorship Alive and Well

Youth Division IFCs
Sunday, June 27 | 1:30 – 3:30pm
Washington Convention Center, Room 150B

IFC/FTRF Issues Briefing

Sunday, June 27 | 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 204 B/C

Privacy, Libraries, and the Law

IFC/COL Program
Monday, June 28 | 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Room 146B

Blasphemy! When Religious Values Clash with Intellectual Freedom Values

IFC/Association of American Publishers Program
Monday, June 28 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Washington Convention Center, Rm. 206

Merritt Fund 40th Anniversary Gala

Monday, June 28 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Folger Shakespeare Library
201 East Capitol Street, SE, Washington, DC
See article, page 9.



40th Anniversary of the Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund

By Jim Kuhn, Chair, LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund Promotion Committee of IFRT

The Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund (www.merrittfund.org), founded in 1970 to help librarians who have been denied employment rights because of their defense of intellectual freedom or because of discrimination, is 40 years old in 2010!

To celebrate this landmark anniversary, the Merritt Fund will be having a Gala 40th Anniversary Celebration and Dinner on Monday, June 28, 2010 in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. The event will be held at the Folger Shake-

speare Library (www.folger.edu) from 6:30–9:30 p.m. and will feature a special address by ALA past president Carol Brey-Casiano. See a video of Carol Brey-Casiano talking about the Merritt Fund

and the Gala at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ve08GoZWaA.

In addition, the Folger Library is offering a (now sold-out) special “behind the scenes” tour starting at 5:30 p.m., featuring a tour of the Reading Rooms and a display of rare books related to censorship and freedom of speech and of the press.



Folger Library, where Gala is to be held.

The Merritt Fund 40th Anniversary Celebration is cosponsored by ALA’s Intellectual Freedom Round Table (www.ala.org/ifrt) and ALA President Camila Alire (www.camilaalire.com). Tickets to the dinner are going fast! Help the Merritt Fund help librarians in need by attending the 40th Anniversary Celebration or making a donation to the Merritt Fund.

Resolution in Honor of the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund’s Fortieth Anniversary

WHEREAS, the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund was established in 1970 in the memory of Dr. LeRoy C. Merritt, one of the library profession’s staunchest opponents of censorship and one of its most vigorous defenders of intellectual freedom; and

WHEREAS, the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund provides direct financial assistance to librarians who are denied employment rights or discriminated against on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, religion, age, disability, or place of national origin; or threatened with loss of employment or discharged because of their stand for the cause of intellectual freedom, including promotion of freedom of the press, freedom of speech, defense of privacy rights, and the freedom of librarians to select items for their collections from all the world’s written and recorded information; and

WHEREAS, Judith F. Krug provided unwavering support and tireless advocacy for librarians in need through her decades of service (1970 – 2009) as the first and long-time Secretary to the Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund; and

WHEREAS, Barbara M. Jones brings many years of library service, as well as teaching, writing, and active engagement on intellectual freedom issues, to her position as the new Secretary of the Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund; and

WHEREAS, over \$100,000 has been awarded to dozens of recipients over the past forty years to help pay legal bills, cover living expenses, and provide general support to eligible librarians during times of professionally-related distress; and

WHEREAS, the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund continues to be a necessary source of support to librarians facing discrimination for who they are or for their defense of intellectual freedom issues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association congratulates the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund on its fortieth anniversary, commends the Merritt Fund for its continued dedication to supporting librarians who are experiencing discrimination or fighting for the cause of intellectual freedom, and urges its members to financially support the Merritt Fund.

Sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Committee

Endorsed by the American Indian Library Association, GLBT Round Table, Intellectual Freedom Round Table, Social Responsibilities Round Table,

Passed by ALA Council, January 19, 2010