

Resolution on Out of School Time Library Programs

- Whereas, public and school libraries are venues where books, online resources, programs, services and staff can improve the effectiveness of community Out of School library programs; and
- Whereas, Out of School opportunities with a librarian contribute to the enjoyment of reading and student success because *kids that read do succeed*, and
- Whereas, Out of School library programs that incorporate school and/or public librarians and make available the wide resources of the library enable young people to develop digital literacy skills to improve student achievement, and
- Whereas, 90% of public libraries offer programs in the evenings and on weekends for young people; and
- Whereas, the U.S. Department of Education in 2007 noted a 30% increase in youth participation in library programs between 1993 and 2005 from 35.6 to 54.6 million, and
- Whereas, “The Dominican Study: Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Gap” shows that students who participate in a public library summer reading program score higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year than those students who do not participate, and
- Whereas, high quality Out of School library programs play an important role in helping young people grow up safe, healthy, educated, connected and employable, and
- Whereas, research has also connected participation in high-quality Out of School library programs with multiple benefits for young people, including gains in standardized test scores, and
- Whereas, every dollar invested in Out of School programs will save taxpayers approximately \$3, and

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Whereas, libraries that now have state and federal grants for Out of School library programs have experienced powerful and creative results, and therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA)

1. Encourages our members to tell their legislators, as well as local and national organizations and associations, about the value of their library to Out of School library programs.
2. Urges Library Directors, Trustees, School Board members and supervising government bodies to ensure that libraries, of all types, dedicate the proper funding to insure that comprehensive Out of School library programs for all children and teens are maintained.



Keith Michael Fiels

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Sunday, June 26, 2011

In New Orleans, LA