

Memorial Resolution Honoring Diane Gordon Kadanoff – 1937 - 2011

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff earned a BSLS from Simmons College and an MLS from the University of Illinois, and was elected to Beta Phi Mu; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff devoted her career to small public libraries, first as Assistant Director Cumberland (RI) Public Library, then as Director Dalton (MA) Public Library, and for 23 years as the highly successful Director of the Norwell (MA) Public Library; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff served the Massachusetts library community as President of the Old Colony Library Network and Chair of the Eastern Massachusetts Library System's Plan of Service Committee, and as an active member of the Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New England Library Associations; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff demonstrated her deep professional commitment by to social justice by cofounding the Rhode Island Chapter of SRRT, and by serving on the SRRT Action Council; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff cared deeply about the American Library Association and served on the ALA Council, as Chair of the ALA Awards and on the ALA Public Awareness Committee; and

Whereas, Diane's wide ranging knowledge of books and literature and her commitment to "read, read, read," was recognized by her appointment as Chair of the Notable Books Committee. One of her favorite sayings was "the buying of more books than one can read is nothing less than the soul reaching for infinity;" and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff was a feminist who actively worked for the establishment of ALA's Committee on the Status of Women (COSWL), served as one of its first members, and fought tirelessly throughout her career to end discrimination against women and achieve gender equality in the profession, and

Whereas, as Coordinator of the SRRT Task Force on Women (now the Feminist Task Force – FTF) Diane Kadanoff reached out through membership and programming efforts to expand the role of the Task Force across ALA Divisions and Units; and

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Whereas, Diane Kadanoff gave voice to a segment of librarianship often lacking in library literature and national library leadership by writing and speaking about small public libraries, including the "Publically Speaking" column in Library Journal; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff, an advocate for free speech who abhorred censorship in any form, was a member of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT) and a Trustee of the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund; and

Whereas, Diane Kadanoff's professional life demonstrated her belief that "librarians are the only Renaissance People left," now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. Recognizes the legacy of laughter, good books, feminism, and a better understanding and love of small public libraries Diane left us; and
2. Extends its deepest sympathy to Diane's daughters Marcia, Felice, and Betsy, her sister Myrna Goldberg, and her beloved granddaughter Sasha for their great loss.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association



Keith Michael Fiels

ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

In New Orleans, Louisiana