

A Tribute Resolution Honoring Mary Ghikas

Whereas Mary Ghikas has served in numerous library systems including Chicago Public Library, Los Angeles Public Library, Western New York Library Resources Council, and the U.S. Book Exchange in Washington, DC;

Whereas Mary Ghikas has been a member of the American Library Association since 1972 and served it in many capacities since that time as committee chair, councilor, and more;

Whereas Mary Ghikas has worked at the American Library Association since March 1995 as Senior Associate Executive Director;

Whereas Mary Ghikas served as interim and acting Executive Director of the American Library Association from 1997-1998 and 2017-2020;

Whereas Mary Ghikas will retire on June 30, 2020 after an illustrious and memorable 25 year career with the American Library Association;

Whereas Mary Ghikas was awarded the 2020 Joseph W. Lippincott Award by the American Library Association;

Whereas Mary Ghikas has been essential in supporting the core values and institutional and financial strength of the American Library Association, and numerous programs and services that have been the hallmark of ALA;

Whereas Mary Ghikas is known within the association as someone willing to get the job done without complaint and no matter what it takes, never meeting a challenge she wasn't willing to take on;

Whereas Mary Ghikas is known for her engagement with other organizations to benefit the American Library Association, and is known as a thought leader in association circles, particularly with the American Society of Association Executives;

Whereas Mary Ghikas' knowledge of the American Library Association is unmatched, and she is well known for her organizational acumen and charts, and appreciative inquiry approach to the work; and

2019-2020 ALA Tribute #7
2020 ALA Virtual Council Meeting

Whereas Mary Ghikas has been a tireless mentor, leader, and advocate for countless library workers within and outside of the American Library Association; now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes the selfless leadership that Mary Ghikas has provided to libraries, library workers, and the American Library Association;
2. expresses its appreciation and gratitude for her twenty five years of service; and
3. encourages its members to wish her well in retirement.

Mover: Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Executive Board

Seconder: Patricia "Patty" Wong, Executive Board

Ed Garcia, Executive Board

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