**2015-2016 ALA CD#44\_62516\_ACT**

**2015-2016 ALA MMD#3\_62516­\_ACT**

**2016 ALA Annual Conference**

**Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities**

Whereas 49 LGBTQ\* people were murdered in Orlando on June 19th, 2016, in one of the most brutal and horrific mass shootings in American history;

Whereas 90% of those murdered were members of the Latinx community;

Whereas American society has been repeatedly shaken by mass shootings and the massacre of innocents within this country;

Whereas the current climate of violence can only be addressed through diligent and conscientious work in every aspect and level of public society;

Whereas the mission of libraries is to serve its community members, putting those community members at the focus of our resources and services;

Whereas libraries are perfectly poised to help in times of need, and libraries are at the heart of every community they serve across the United States;

Whereas librarians and library workers hold a special place of trust as respected and unbiased sources of information and guidance to our patrons and users;

Whereas librarians and library workers in every specialization in the profession are woven into the social fabric of their communities;

Whereas libraries are true refuges as exemplified by Ferguson, Baltimore, Flint, New Orleans, and many more Public Libraries, for all persons and opinions and that this open and accepting stance is a key part of American society; and

Whereas the American Library Association has a long history of supporting the LGBTQ\* community and was the first professional organization in the country to openly address issues of sexual orientation; now, therefore, be it

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

1. urges libraries, librarians, and library workers to cultivate more inclusive communities by actively engaging their communities to defuse and deescalate a culture of violence based on hatred, discrimination, and bigotry; and
2. stands with the LGBTQ\*, Latinx, and diverse communities in confronting hate, discrimination, and bias while recognizing that they are impacted by violence at a much higher rate than the rest of society; and
3. affirms that violence of this kind has no place in a civil society.

Mover: Peter Hepburn, ALA Personal Member and GLBTRT Councilor

Seconder: Loida Garcia-Febo, ALA Personal and Councilor at Large

**Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities**

Co-sponsors: REFORMA, GLBTRT

Additional:

Turner Masland

Aaron Dobbs Councilor-at-large

Christian Zabriskie Councilor-at-large

Loida Garcia-Febo Councilor at Large, REFORMA President 2009-2010

Peter Hepburn GLBTRT Councilor

Trevor Dawes

Courtney L. Young

Karen Schneider

Erica Findley

Karen Downing

Max Macias (ALA TEDI member (REFORMA Representative, REFORMA Technology Committee Co-chair)

Lauren Comito Councilor-at-large

JP Porcaro

Ann Crewdson

Sara Dallas (ALA Committee on Professional Ethics)

Ed Garcia

Rivkah K. Sass (PLA Councilor)

Suzanne L. Sager (Oregon Chapter Councilor)

Joan Weeks Councilor-at-large

**E-FORM to Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More Inclusive Communities**

Submitted on Saturday, June 25, 2016 - 10:25  
Submitted by user:  
Submitted values are:  
  
Date: 06/25/2016  
Resolution author(s): Christian Zabriskie, Aaron Dobbs, Turner Masland, and a  
host of others  
E-mail address: aaron@thelibrarian.org  
1. Title of Resolution: Resolution Calling Upon Libraries to Build More  
Inclusive Communities  
2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any): REFORMA, GLBTRT, subset of  
members  
3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any): REFORMA, GLBTRT  
4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the  
resolution's directive(s).: 0  
5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent: ALA units, members,  
and libraries  
6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports  
ALA’s Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.: Restates policy  
and encourages libraries to advance library interests  
6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general  
policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.: Libraries build communities!  
6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in  
existing policy, state the policy number and the change.: None  
6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.: None  
6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy,  
state provisions for resolving the conflict.: None  
7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any):  
8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive  
quotes, URLs, etc.:  
9. Mover's Name: Peter Hepburn  
10 Seconder's Name: Loida Garcia-Febo