

**Memorial Resolution Honoring Lauren D. Freeman
(1983-2021)**

“I have built a monument more lasting than brass,
loftier than the royal structures of the Pyramids...”
Horace “*Exegi Monumentum Aere Perennius*,”
Book III, Ode XXX

Whereas God, our loving Father, in the light of His wisdom, and in the magnitude of His power, has removed from our profession and from our Chain of Friendship, a shining link in the name of our dearest sister, Lauren Diane Freeman, and added it to the Friendship Chain of His Kingdom;

Whereas Lauren Freeman, a steadfast friend, mentee and supervisor to many African American library workers and many other librarians and individuals in Indianapolis, Indiana; respected librarian, visionary outreach manager, activist, and supporter of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Inc., whose departure we so deeply feel and whose life has been an example of Christian fortitude to her family, her friends, her community, and her colleagues in the great state of Indiana and throughout this nation,

Whereas Lauren Freeman joyfully and diligently served the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Inc., the largest, most powerful, and longest sustaining organization of African American librarians, library workers, publishers, and library trustees;

Whereas Lauren Freeman also provided leadership in the Indiana Black Librarians Network (Affiliate of BCALA) by selectively and strategically serving in key positions beneficial to library education and the race, including member, Vice-President and President;

Whereas Lauren Freeman, further lent her intelligence, passionate spirit, and power, to us, as a tireless fighter and soldier for justice, equality, in her work as a member of the African American History Committee (Indianapolis Public Library) for many years. With such a career of dedication and service, and a job exceedingly well done, we do understand how a shining link in the name of our dearest sister, Lauren Freeman, has most deservingly been added to the Friendship Chain of God’s Kingdom, and

Whereas the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc., and the entire library profession, have sustained a great loss in the home going of Lauren Freeman. Now therefore be it

**2021-2022 ALA Memorial #7
2022 ALA Virtual January Council Meeting**

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

1. eulogizes the memory of Lauren Freeman by trying to bring into our own lives the exuberance, combined with kindness, sustained commitment, vision, and purpose that made her life a worthy pattern for our emulation, and that we earnestly try to live as purposely and unselfishly as did Lauren Freeman, and
2. expresses, along with members of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, its sincere sympathy to the family of Lauren Freeman, that we place a copy of this resolution in the permanent archives of the American Library Association, and that we also send a copy of this resolution to the members of Lauren Freeman's family and the Indianapolis Public Library in order to show to her loved ones the high esteem in which we hold her life and her memory.

Mover: Eboni Henry, ALA Executive Board

Seconder: Libre Booker, ALA Executive Board

Respectfully submitted,

The Officers and Members of The Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc.

Shauntee Burns-Simpson, President (2020-2022), New York, New York

"One by one the links are severed
from the golden chain of life.

One by one our caucus is forming
In the Father's House above.

Let our deeds be pure and noble

May our lives be not in vain

So that when the links are welded

Complete again will be the chain."

Officers:

Shauntee Burns-Simpson, (The New York Public Library), President

Nichelle M. Hayes, (Center for Black Literature & Culture) Vice President

Brenda Johnson-Perkins, (Baltimore County Public Library), Secretary

Michele Fenton, (Indiana State Library), Assistant Secretary

Wanda Kay Brown, (Director of Library Services, Winston-Salem State University),

Treasurer

Richard E. Ashby, Jr., (Sharon Hill Public Library), Immediate Past President

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