

*This memorial resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on
Tuesday, February 3, 2015*

A Memorial Resolution Honoring Jean Elizabeth Lowrie

Whereas Jean Elizabeth Lowrie, Professor Emerita from Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, Michigan and a past president of the American Library Association and the American Association of School Librarians, died on November 9, 2014;

Whereas she graduated from Keuka (NY) College with a Bachelor of Arts degree and with a Master's degree from Western Michigan;

Whereas she was the first to receive a doctoral degree from Western Reserve University graduate library school;

Whereas she began her career at the Toledo (OH) Public Library as a children's librarian and then as a school librarian at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, a city established by the U. S. government in 1942 as a production site for the Manhattan Project;

Whereas she spent a year in Nottingham, England, as a teacher librarian in the U. S. Government's teacher exchange program;

Whereas she began her career in library education at Western Michigan University as a professor in the Department of Librarianship, and then became the Director of the School of Librarianship;

Whereas she is recognized as the guiding force in the establishment of the International Association of School Librarianship in Jamaica in 1971, and she served as its first president from 1971 to 1977 and its executive secretary from 1977 to 1996;

Whereas she contributed notably to the American Library Association as its President, as a member of its Executive Board and Council, and as President of the American Association of School Librarians;

Whereas she was recognized as the Michigan Librarian of the year in 1969, and was the first recipient of the American Association of School Librarians Distinguished Service Award in 1978;

Whereas Keuka College presented her with its Professional Achievement Alumnae Award and an Honorary Doctor of Letters;

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Whereas the International Association of School Librarianship established the Jean Lowrie Leadership Development Grant in recognition of her contributions to the organization and development of the Association;

Whereas the school of Library and Information Science at Florida State University established the Dr. Jean E. Lowrie Endowment to award scholarships and fellowships to the school's students; and

Whereas Sigrun Klara Hannesdotter, the former National Librarian of Iceland, stated, "I doubt that many people are aware of the enormous contribution Dr. Jean E. Lowrie has made to librarianship, in particular school librarianship, worldwide. She has always been untiring in developing school libraries around the world and has used her untiring imagination to point out new ways to lead the developments"; now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes the remarkable achievements of Jean Elizabeth Lowrie as a leader and educator in the profession and acknowledges her many contributions to her colleagues, friends, faculty and students;
2. conveys its sincerest sympathy to the Lowrie family.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, February 3, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council