

***This memorial resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on
Tuesday, February 13, 2018***

A Tribute Resolution Honoring the 70th Anniversary
of the
Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA)

Whereas, libraries are best able to serve communities through sharing and collaboration;

Whereas, the Bibliographic Center for Research (BCR) was established in 1935 to provide regional collaborative support for sharing materials but not for sharing services;

Whereas, librarians served by BCR recognized the need for shared service support which led to representatives from Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming to meet in 1947 to design a new regional library association to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities;

Whereas, this new organization was established as the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) on August 29, 1948;

Whereas, MPLA became a twelve-state organization with the addition of the states of Arizona, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Oklahoma;

Whereas, MPLA became formally affiliated with the American Library Association (ALA) in 1958;

Whereas, MPLA continues to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities through:

- Hosting Leadership Institutes since April 21, 2001 where library consultant and ALA Past President Maureen Sullivan along with selected mentors help attendees achieve their leadership potential;
- Partnering with the member states to host the MPLA annual conference in conjunction with the State's conference on a rotating basis to connect with all library communities;

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- Providing grants to support educational opportunities that include pursuit of a library-related course work, attending conferences or seminars, visiting other libraries for advanced training, or library related research projects;
- Providing information about online and free training opportunities; and

Whereas, the 2018 American Library Association Midwinter Meeting is being held in Colorado; the birthplace of MPLA; now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes the importance of the Mountain Plains Library Association's (MPLA's) work in supporting library services on a regional level;
2. congratulates and commends the Mountain Plains Library Association for its 70 years of supporting librarianship in its region and its ongoing support for furthering the goals set by the American Library Association; and
3. sends a letter acknowledging MPLA's formation on August 29, 1948, its 70th Anniversary on August 29, 2018, and its connection to the states it services to the MPLA office and the state Chapters in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, February 13, 2018, in Denver, Colorado



Mary W. Ghikas
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council