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

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.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Monday, January 24, 2022, ALA Virtual January Council Meeting

Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director
and Secretary of the ALA Council