MEMORIAL RESOLUTION HONORING TERRILYN CHUN

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the broader library community lost a valued member and leader on July 27, 2022, with the death of Terrilyn Chun;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun was a tireless advocate for library access and the power that public libraries have to make a difference in our communities;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun served 32 years at the Multnomah County Library in Portland, OR;

Whereas she served as Deputy Director, always being a leader of change and impactful initiatives, made significant contributions to the library bond efforts and dedication to ensuring a robust and modern library system for communities in Multnomah County, and as Program and Outreach Director, among other library roles, where she expanded public programming to diverse audiences and developed a community reads program;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun was an active member of the American Library Association (ALA) and the Public Library Association (PLA) as a member, and later chair, of the ALA Public and Cultural Programs Advisory Committee; as a member of the Spectrum Advisory Committee; and as a member of the PLA Leadership Development Committee;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun was a presenter, panelist and moderator for several conference programs and continuing education webinars and an advisor on a number of national grants including a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for citizenship in the 21st century, and an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant assessing the impact of library public programs;

Whereas a graduate of the Emporia State University MLS program, Terrilyn Chun was an Emporia Diversity Initiative scholar and served as a mentor for students in the program;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun’s colleagues have been inspired and reassured by her persistent optimism and resilience, even in the face of incredible adversity;

Whereas Terrilyn Chun was supportive of staff and the remover of obstacles;

Whereas Terrilyn will be missed and forever valued for her sound counsel, her support and her honesty, her willingness to jump in, step up, take responsibility even in cases when the work was daunting or not quite her definition of fun or rewarding;

Whereas her professionalism, energy, and joie de vivre were an inspiration to her colleagues and staff, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:
  1. recognizes the significant contributions of Terrilyn Chun over the course of her career and mourns her death; and
  2. extends its sincerest condolences to her friends and family.

Mover: Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenney, Oregon Chapter Councilor
Seconder: Stephanie Chase, Public Library Division Councilor