

**Memorial Resolution honoring Marjorie Lewis**

**Whereas** the American Library Association (ALA) and the broader library community lost a valued member and educator on December 7, 2020, with the death of Marjorie Lewis;

**Whereas** Marjorie Lewis inspired children in her work as a Children’s librarian in schools and public libraries from Montclair, New Jersey to London, England to Scarsdale, New York;

**Whereas** she mentored countless young students and prepared them for future careers;

**Whereas** she was a tireless advocate for libraries and reading as a bridge to student success;

**Whereas** Marjorie Lewis served the American Library Association and its youth divisions for a period of time that spanned more than thirty years;

**Whereas** her committee work for YALSA was invaluable, serving on Best Books for Young Adults (1988-90), YALSA Author Award Committee (1990), YALSA Outstanding Books for the College Bound (1992-94), and the YALSA Youth Participation Committee (2001-2004);

**Whereas** her committee work for ALSC was also invaluable, working on the *Journal of Youth Services* (1991-94);

**Whereas** she was a life-long lover of books, who began conversations by asking “So, what have you been reading?”;

**Whereas** she was a dedicated, outgoing and much-admired teacher, political activist, and author of *Ernie and the Mile-Long Muffler*, *Wrong Way Applebaum*, and *The Boy Who Would be a Hero*. With Norma Fox Mazer, she edited *Waltzing on Water*, an anthology of poetry by women; and

**Whereas** her true legacy lies in the profound effect she had on the countless people she mentored and taught throughout her career; now, therefore, be it

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

- (1) honors the memory of Marjorie Lewis, celebrates her legacy of work for and with children and young adults and remembers her service to ALA, the ALA’s Young Adult Library Service Association (YALSA) and ALA’s Association for Library Services for Children (ALSC);

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(2) extends its sincerest condolences to her family and friends especially her husband of 66 years, Philip Lewis, her daughter Laura, her sons David and Jim, and four grandchildren, Lydia, Lukas, Jacob and Juliet.

Mover: Sara Kelly Johns, Councilor-at-Large (518-569-2339)

Seconded: Diane R. Chen, AASL Division Councilor (615-800-1488)

Support and endorsement from:

Rocco Staino, Retiree Member Roundtable Board

Ellen Rubin, Retired School Librarian, Wallkill Central Schools

Susan Polos, School Librarian, Greenwich Country School

Karlan Sick, Retired New York Public Library & Board President of Literacy for Incarcerated Teens

Judy Nelson, Retired Pierce County Library System, Tacoma WA. Past President YALSA

Mary Elizabeth Wendt, Retired New York Public Library, Past President YALSA

Catherine Sorenson, School Librarian, Scarsdale, NY

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