

Resolution on Ensuring Summer Reading Programs for all Children and Teens

- WHEREAS, Libraries contribute to the intellectual growth of children and teens during the summer through reading programs; and
- WHEREAS, ALA Policy 52.5.1 affirms that "the future of libraries and of society itself depends upon the preparedness of youth to carry adult responsibilities for business, government, parenthood and other leadership. Children and young adults cannot fulfill their potential or that of society without high quality library opportunities through both public and school libraries." and
- WHEREAS, Summer Reading programs bring children and teens into the local library for reading and cultural activities; and
- WHEREAS, Children and teens can benefit from summer programs that combine elements of youth development principles with academic enrichment; and
- WHEREAS, Visiting their local library provides children with access to unlimited amounts of reading materials; and
- WHEREAS, School and public librarians have cooperatively produced the summer reading lists to enhance both learning and recreation; and
- WHEREAS, Studies of children's and teens' reading development cite the importance of extensive, successful reading experiences in the development of reading proficiency, most recently, IMLS/Dominican University study: Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap; and
- WHEREAS, Young library users will receive an opportunity to become lifelong readers and learners, by visiting the library frequently; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the American Library Association (ALA):

Urges Library Directors, Trustees, School Board members and supervising government bodies to insure that their libraries are provided adequate funding to ensure that their summer reading programs for all children and teens are maintained and that ALA promotes this resolution to all library systems and state boards of education in the country.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Monday, June 28, 2010  
Washington, DC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Michael Fiels', written in a cursive style.

Keith Michael Fiels  
ALA Executive Director and ALA Council Secretary