This memorial resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on Tuesday, July 1, 2014

A Memorial Resolution Honoring Margaret Mary (Maggie) Kimmel

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the broader library community lost a valued member and library educator on June 10, 2014, with the death of Margaret Mary (Maggie) Kimmel;

Whereas as a spirited, formidable instructor in library science, at Catholic University in Washington, DC, the College of Librarianship in Llanbadarn Fawr, Wales, Simmons College in Boston, MA, and the University of Pittsburgh, PA, where she served as chair of the Department of Library Science from 1990 to 1995, she inspired legions of professionals now serving young people in libraries across the country;

Whereas she served the profession with distinction, with the American Library Association (ALA) as a member of ALA Council, Chair of the Committee on Accreditation, Chair of the Office of Library Personnel Advisory Committee, Chair of the Committee on Education, and President of the Association for Library Service to Children; with the United States Board on Books for Young People as President; as a Member of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; and as recipient of the University of Pittsburgh Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award, the Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science Distinguished Alumnae/i Award, and the Association for Library Service to Children Distinguished Service Award;

Whereas as a founding board member and first chair of Beginning with Books, a non-profit literacy agency in Pittsburgh, PA, she devoted countless hours championing the importance of literacy in the home;

Whereas she lobbied the University of Pittsburgh Press to establish Golden Triangle Press, an imprint dedicated to preserving formerly out-of-print books from and about Pennsylvania;

Whereas she published widely, for and about children, including Magic in the Mist, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman (1975), For Reading Out Loud!: A Guide to Sharing Books with Children, with Elizabeth Segel (1983), and Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood: Children, Television, and Fred Rogers, with Mark Collins (1996);

Whereas, as a personal friend to Fred Rogers and consultant to his public television program “Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood” she was instrumental in shaping educational television for children, contributing to the programs and organizing their content for research; and

Whereas she dedicated her professional career to the celebration of books and stories for young people; now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes Margaret Mary (Maggie) Kimmel’s extraordinary contributions to the library profession as advocate, leader, mentor, professor, and profound thinker; and

2. expresses sympathy and gratitude to her family on behalf of colleagues, students, friends, or any of the thousands of children touched by her extraordinary legacy.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, July 1, 2014, in Las Vegas, Nevada
Keith Michael Fiels, ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

Send copy of resolution to:
Cathy Kimmel & Mike Kimmel, 822 S. Trenton Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221