

## A Memorial Resolution Honoring Thomas Low

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA), the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), and the publishing community lost a valued member on May 19, 2020 with the death of Thomas Low;

Whereas Low co-founded Lee & Low Books in 1991 with Philip Lee and served as the publishing house's CEO;

Whereas Low worked tirelessly with many authors, writers, educators, artists and illustrators of color to publish over 1000 diverse titles in print over the years; some of their works garnered major awards and honors such as the Caldecott Medal, the Pura Belprè Award, the Coretta Scott King Award, and the Stonewall Book Award; and

Whereas Low left a critical legacy in diversifying the American publishing industry; Lee & Low Books is one of the few and leading minority-owned publishing houses in the U.S. and has sponsored many awards including the company's New Voices Award, an annual writing contest for authors of color; now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes the significant contributions and support of Low over the course of his career and mourns his death; and
2. extends its sincerest condolences to his friends and family.

Mover: Raymond Pun, ALA Councilor-at-Large

Seconder: Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, ALA Executive Board  
Melissa Cardenas-Dow, ALA Councilor-at-Large  
Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, ALA Councilor-at-Large  
Mario M. Gonzalez, ALA Councilor-at-Large

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