

Memorial Resolution Honoring Rebecca Taylor Bingham

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA), the American Association for School Librarians (AASL), the Kentucky Library Association (KLA), the Indiana University (IU) School of Library and Information Science Alumni Association and the entire library community lost a trailblazer, advocate, dedicated leader, and valued colleague on March 24th, 2023, with the death of Rebecca Taylor Bingham;

Whereas Rebecca Taylor Bingham was the first Black president of the KLA in 1971;

Whereas she was the first Black president of the AASL in 1979-1980 and received the AASL Distinguished Service Award in 2005;

Whereas she served as an ALA Councilor, was a member of the ALA Executive Board, and was a candidate for ALA President in 1989;

Whereas she served as Director of Media Services for Jefferson County (KY) Public Schools from 1962 to 1992;

Whereas she served as president and vice-president of the Indiana University SLIS alumni board and received the Bicentennial Medal (2019), Distinguished Alumni Service Award (2002), IUAA President's Award (1999), and the School of Library and Information Science Distinguished Alumni Award (1977) from Indiana University;

Whereas she served on the Kentucky Governor's State Advisory Council on Libraries and the advisory committee for the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services;

Whereas she was appointed by President Bill Clinton to a seat on the US Commission on Libraries and Information Science in 1998;

Whereas Rebecca Taylor Bingham mentored and inspired generations of students and school librarians throughout her career, now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes with great admiration the significant contributions of Rebecca Taylor Bingham over the course of her distinguished career; and
2. mourns her death and extends its sincerest condolences to her friends and family.

Mover: Nora Wiltse, AASL Division Councilor
Seconder: Kathy Lester, ALA Councilor-at-Large
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