



Memorial Resolution Honoring Joyce Meskis

Whereas a fierce supporter of intellectual freedom and defender of readers' rights was lost on December 22, 2022, with the death of Joyce Meskis;

Whereas Joyce Meskis purchased the Tattered Cover Bookstore in 1974 and led to its expansion;

Whereas Joyce Meskis actively supported anti-censorship efforts to the level of leading an American Booksellers Association Taskforce that ultimately created the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression;

Whereas in 1994, Joyce Meskis led a successful fight against a ballot initiative that would have amended the Colorado Constitution in a way that would have given the State Legislature expanded power to ban sexual speech;

Whereas in 2000, Joyce Meskis successfully challenged a police effort to access book purchase records; and

Whereas Joyce Meskis continuously remained resolute about the importance of reader privacy in her role as a bookstore owner.

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

1. recognizes the value of Joyce Meskis's efforts as an independent bookstore owner, champion of intellectual freedom, and protector of first amendment rights; and
2. offers our deepest sympathies to those who knew and loved Joyce Meskis

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Monday, June 26, 2023, ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracie Hall", written in a cursive style.

Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director,
and Secretary of the ALA Council