

**2015-2016 ALA CD#46\_62516\_ACT**  
**2015-2016 ALA MMD#5\_62516\_ACT**  
**2016 ALA Annual Conference**

***The ALA Council deferred action on this resolution until the 2017 ALA Midwinter Meeting***

## **Resolution Concerning the Creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library**

Whereas the 1979 White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services delegation voted to support the concept of a deaf-oriented Library under the auspices of the Library of Congress;

Whereas American Library Association (ALA) passed a resolution in support of the "National Deaf History Month" (NDHM) in 2005, recognizing the platform offered by the many libraries and our governmental system and their roles in removing the obscurity of deafness;

Whereas National Association of the Deaf (NAD) passed a resolution in support of the "National Deaf History Month" (NDHM) in 2006, recognizing the need for the celebration of the contributions of the many deaf citizens of our country;

Whereas the State of Maryland created, by legislation in 2012 [HB 390 and SB 571] , and 2014 [HB 653], a state-level Public Library known as the Deaf Culture Digital Library (DCDL) that is about the deaf and for everyone;

Whereas ALA Policy Manual states in **B.2.1.11 Diversity in Collection Development (Old Number 53.1.11)**, that the ALA believes that "...*This includes materials and resources that reflect a diversity of political, economic, religious, social, **minority**, and sexual issues.*", and further where the deaf, as a minority, are underrepresented in collections;

Whereas ALA Policy manual states in **B.2.1.20 Services to Persons with Disabilities (Old Number 53.1.20)** that "A person's right to use the library should not be denied or abridged because of disabilities. The library has the responsibility to provide materials *"for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves."*;

Whereas ALA's Bill of Rights says, in part, that [I.] "...*materials should not be excluded because of their origin or background...*" and [II.] '*...Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view...*'"

Whereas the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) provides specialized services and provides professionals who collect and disseminate materials and resources specific and relative to blindness; and

Whereas no such equivalent exists for the larger deaf community, now, therefore be it

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

1. supports and promotes the creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library under the auspices of the Library of Congress.

Mover: Alec C. McFarlane ALA, ASCLA, & United Member  
Seconded: Alice L. Hagemeyer ALA Honorary Member

# E-Form for Resolution Concerning the Creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library

Submitted on Saturday, June 25, 2016 - 09:39

Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date: 06/25/2016

Resolution author(s): Alec C. McFarlane & Alice L. Hagemeyer

E-mail address: Alec.McFarlane@gmail.com

1. Title of Resolution: Resolution concerning the creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library

2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any): ASCLA, United, State Librarian's Association, Library of Congress

3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any): ASCLA SIG "Bridging Deaf Cultures @ Your Library

4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the resolution's directive(s): unknown

5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent: ALA President, ALA Executive Committee, Councilors, ASCLA, United, State Librarians, Library of Congress liaison.

6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports ALA's Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.:

This supports the ALA's Transforming Our Libraries Ourselves; ALA Policy manual Introduction; A.1.1 "ALA promotes the creation, maintenance, and enhancement of a learning society, encouraging its members to work with educators, government officials, and organizations in coalitions to initiate and support comprehensive efforts to ensure that school, public, academic, and special libraries in every community cooperate to provide lifelong learning services to all. This is precisely what the DCDL is intended to do, and A.1.2; 'leadership and development' A.1.3; 'to record knowledge in all forms' and A.1.4; 'extending and expanding library services'. These all emphasize the key elements we desire in the Deaf Culture Digital Library.

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.: The DCDL speaks to the Key Areas of the Policy Manual A.1.5. To start with it promotes librarianship by creating need for librarians, and notably of librarians of diverse backgrounds and librarians of whom may be --or may become-- deaf. The DCDL answers to the need for 'Equitable Access' where, essentially, there is a dearth of information, resources, knowledge, training, and programming related to deafness.

6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in existing policy, state the policy number and the change.: The DCDL compliments existing policy, it does not change existing policy.

6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.: The compliment, or the new policy that the DCDL establishes is essentially a new division or area of interest that is not served in the manner of the NLS, and in specific where the NLS is about understanding the blind and allowing the blind to be understood.

## **E-Form for Resolution Concerning the Creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library**

6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy, state provisions for resolving the conflict.: None we are aware of.

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any): ASCLA SIG "Bridging Deaf Cultures @ Your Library"

8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive quotes, URLs, etc.:

(1) 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services

[http://www.jstor.org/stable/40028944?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](http://www.jstor.org/stable/40028944?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents)

<http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED320608.pdf>

2. 2005 ALA Resolutions on the NDHM

<http://www.ala.org/ascla/archives/contentlistingby/volume27/adhoccommitteeonnationaldeafhistorymonth/deafhistorymonth>

<http://www.ala.org/ascla/archives/contentlistingby/volume27/progressandchallengesprovidingservices/equitable-service>

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/alscconnectonline/alscconnectonline/alsconarcha/sept2005>

3. 2006 NAD COR Resolutions on the NDHM

<http://www.folda.net/lib/index.html>

4. 2012 & 2014 Legislation creating the DCDL

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?id=hb0653&stab=01&pid=billpage&tab=subject3&ys=2014rs>

9. Mover's Name: Alec C. McFarlane

10. Seconder's Name: Alice L. Hagemeyer