

Whereas she recruited legions of members to both ALA and ALSC through her supportive and generous mentoring of young professionals over many decades;

Whereas she regularly and respectfully stung the organization with disturbing questions, unanticipated petitions, and unsettling proposals as self-appointed ALA and ALSC "gadfly";

Whereas she ignited the hearts, minds, and voices of a generation with her keen sense of humor, warm collegiality, biting wit, and unparalleled zeal for social justice, civil liberty, and the transformative power of libraries; now, therefore, be it

, That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. highly commends Ruth Gordon for her ardent advocacy on behalf of library service to children in both schools and communities and her inspiring mentorship of librarians throughout the United States;
2. recognizes Ruth Gordon posthumously as "ALA Gadfly" with full appreciation for her contributions to the organization; and
3. extends its deepest sympathy to her beloved wife, Victoria Marugg; her dear, long-time friend, Linda Perkins; her nieces Janet Booth, Gail Kavalier, and Robin Strawbridge; and her five grandnieces and grandnephews, Julianna Booth, Angus Strawbridge, Aaron Kavalier, Forrest Strawbridge, and Natalie Kavalier.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, January 24, 2017, in Atlanta, Georgia



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council