

# Resolution

No. 25-84

## CONGRATULATING JESSICA GLEASON FOR RECEIVING THE 2025 I LOVE MY LIBRARIAN AWARD

WHEREAS, Jessica Gleason, Wailuku Public Library Bookmobile Librarian, received the I Love My Librarian Award and was honored at the American Library Association's LibLearnX: The Library Learning Experience in January 2025; and

WHEREAS, the I Love My Librarian Award recognizes the accomplishments of exceptional librarians; and

WHEREAS, more than a thousand library users submitted stories highlighting how their librarians had gone above and beyond the call of the duty in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Gleason was one of the ten national recipients of this year's I Love My Librarian Award; and

WHEREAS, each nominee must be a librarian with a master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association or the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and working in a public library or a library at an accredited school; and

WHEREAS, Jessica received her master of library science degree in 2007, and in 2016 she became Bookmobile Librarian for the Holoholo Bookmobile, a vehicle based at the Wailuku Public Library that provides equal access to library material and services throughout the island; and

WHEREAS, Jessica sprang into action after the devastating August 8, 2023, wildfires left Lahaina without its library; and

WHEREAS, less than a month after the wildfires, Jessica brought the Holoholo Bookmobile to West Maui and worked with shopping centers, schools, churches, hotels, and government agencies to provide books, Internet access, and educational programming; and

WHEREAS, one of her nominators wrote:

Amid all the uncertainty, fear, and grief in the aftermath of Maui's 2023 wildfires, Jessica has been a steadying presence and force for positive action among her colleagues and her community members. And she continues to work in and with Maui's West Side community, developing connections that are helping so many heal and grow beyond their tragic losses; and

WHEREAS, Jessica anticipated impacted families' needs and provided them with joy and a sense of normalcy with her bookmobile; and

WHEREAS, Jessica was previously awarded the 2019 Librarian of the Year by the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, she continues to exemplify exceptional service for the people of the County of Maui; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it congratulates Jessica Gleason for receiving the 2025 I Love My Librarian Award; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Jessica Gleason; Leslie Burger, American Library Association; Interim Executive Director, American Association; Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian, Hawai'i State Public Library System; Lynn Hiyakumoto, President, Friends of the Library of Hawai'i; Nainoa Mau, Executive Director, Friends of the Library of Hawai'i, Flo Wiger, President, Maui Friends of the Library; Roy M. Takumi, Chairperson, Board of Education, State of Hawai'i; and the Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor, County of Maui.

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee", written over a horizontal line.

ALICE L. LEE