

# Resolution

No. 24-75

## CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH “BETSY” KNIGHT AS 2023 LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Elizabeth “Betsy” Knight, Youth Services Librarian at Makawao Public Library, was honored as 2023 Librarian of the Year by Friends of the Library of Hawai‘i on February 28, 2024, at the Hawai‘i State Library, Honolulu, O‘ahu; and

WHEREAS, Librarian of the Year nominees must be current, permanent employees of the Hawai‘i State Public Library System for a minimum of four years and possess a Master of Library Science degree; and

WHEREAS, having been previously recommended for this award in 2017 and 2018, Betsy secured this honor based on letters of support from the public and participation in a round of interviews with Friends of the Library of Hawai‘i; and

WHEREAS, Betsy transitioned out of a career as an editor and college English instructor when she found a passion for, and a new calling in, library services; and

WHEREAS, through her popular Storytime sessions, which attract up to one hundred attendees to the Library at a time, Betsy fosters children’s academic and social growth; and

WHEREAS, she also works with schools throughout Maui County to conduct youth outreach and coordinate field trips to promote vital early literacy skills; and

WHEREAS, Betsy’s dedication and expertise has resulted in Makawao Public Library having the highest circulated collection of materials on Maui and ensures the Library is stocked with books that meet the community’s needs; and

WHEREAS, Makawao Public Library Branch Manager Dakota Cotton describes Betsy as “integral to the safe and welcoming atmosphere

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that makes Makawao Library a community hub for people from all walks of life and from all over Maui;” and

WHEREAS, Betsy’s passion for youth education and commitment to serving her community is an inspiration and has brought pride to Makawao Public Library, who in its own right is celebrating a 55-year anniversary this year, and the people of the County of Maui; now, therefore,

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

1. That it congratulates Elizabeth “Betsy” Knight as 2023 Librarian of the Year; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Elizabeth “Betsy” Knight; Dakota Cotton, Branch Manager, Makawao Public Library; Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian, Hawai‘i State Public Library System; Stacie Kaneshige, Director, Hawai‘i State Public Library System; Kana‘ina Warren, Program Director, Friends of the Library of Hawai‘i; Flo Wiger, President, Board of Directors, Friends of the Library of Hawai‘i; and the Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor, County of Maui.

INTRODUCED BY:

*Nohelani U'u-Hodgins*  

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