

**CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Board Meeting**

September 15, 2016

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION AND  
ITS CONTRIBUTION TO BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

- WHEREAS, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has established itself as the 21st Century Andrew Carnegie for public libraries and the people and communities they serve; and
- WHEREAS, The Gates Foundation was a pioneer in understanding the risks of the digital divide and the importance of digital inclusion; and
- WHEREAS, The Gates Foundation challenged public libraries to become technology leaders and provided millions of dollars to help libraries become go-to resources and trusted guides in an increasingly digital world; and
- WHEREAS, The Gates Foundation provided a significant investment to develop Edge, a national technology benchmarking system created to ensure that public libraries have the right technology to meet today's needs and the promise of tomorrow; and
- WHEREAS, With its commitment to ensuring that all people have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life, the Gates Foundation has had a profound impact in communities across the country; and
- WHEREAS, The work of the Gates Foundation has enhanced the capacity, value, and power of public libraries as vital community assets; and
- WHEREAS, Cleveland Public Library and the people it serves have benefitted from the vision, commitment, and support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library thanks the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for its groundbreaking work in support of public libraries.