

On behalf of the MLC staff, board, and membership. I bring greetings and the following resolution:

Whereas, Christie Brandau has brought a spirit of cooperation and collaboration to Michigan libraries, and

Whereas, Christie Brandau has the charisma to get grown-up and dignified professionals to dress up as woodsmen, witches, and wizards

And Whereas, Christie Brandau demonstrates the highest principles of librarianship (Now I just gotta tell you about the call I had from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. This very intense young man, I think he said his name was Dirk Danger asked if I knew Christie Brandau and could he ask me a few questions. I said I'd be happy to answer his questions. He asked if there was anything in Christie's background that would bring embarrassment to the state of Kansas. I told him about the ticket Christie got for Excessive Gushiness while visiting small public libraries. He shrugged that off. I didn't want to say anything else but thought that I'd better be honest. So I said, well, she has said that she believes in evolution and thinks that creationism isn't science at all. I could tell that rocked him. He was quiet a minute then said, Well, that's pretty bad, but I think we can live with that. Anything else? I thought for a second then said, You know I wouldn't want to get her into any trouble but I have heard her say that, well, that she thinks taxes aren't so bad and that some tax cuts could be reckless and irresponsible. I could tell that I'd really rocked him. Oh, no, not that, he was almost breathless. I'll have to run this by my boss. I'm not sure we can have someone that radical here in Kansas. Well, they must have decided it was ok because she's still going. Anyway I gotta get this resolution done.)

And Whereas, Christie Brandau is a wonderful public speaker and knows just the right things to say (oh, yeah, right. I can only hope that Kansas has only place names that are pronounced the way they look. Shortly after she started, Christie, Marianne Hartzell, and I were on our way to serve on a panel (yeah, can you imagine — they wanted all three of us??? What were they thinking???) and Christie gets in the car and says So what should I know about May-come community college? I said, well the first thing you should know is that it's pronounced Macomb. Macomb, huh. Who would have known. Ufda. Well, that is good to know. And you know, next week, I have an invitation to Mackinack Island. I just shook my head. I gotta admit that she did get better. By mid-2003 she was pronouncing my name just fine.)

And Whereas, Christie Brandau has an excellent and appropriate sense of humor (if you call dressing people up as flying squirrels, mooses, and talk show hosts appropriate. But then there are the jokes:

Olle and Lena are standing in front of Olle's car. Olle says, Lena, wait here a minute and tell me if da turn signals are vorking. He gets in the car and hollers, Ok, Lena, are dey vorking? Lena, the blonde, says No, yes, no, yes, no, yes, no, yes .

Then there s this one:

Olle and Lena are visiting the Art Institute in Chicago and Lena wanted to take a picture of Olle. So she backs up, trying to get the picture just right and she backs into a 2000 year old Ming vase, it falls off its pedestal and shatters into a million pieces. Olle rushes over and says, Lena, vat haf you done? Da museum folks, dere gonna be really mad at you. Lena, the blonde, says, oh I hope not it vas an accident. Just then the museum curator rushes up and says Ohmigosh, what happened? You just broke a 2000 year old Ming vase! Lena says, Oh dank goodness, I thought it vas brand new.

Ok, now really, I have to finish this resolution

And Whereas Christie Brandau demonstrates the power of optimism in the face of nearly impossible circumstances,

Be it resolved that MLC deeply appreciates all the progress Christie has made in the last 5 years and the difference she has made for Michigan libraries. We wish her all the best in all future endeavors.