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## PRESS RELEASE

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The administration and staff of the Pacific Library Partnership (PLP), Peninsula Library System (PLS), and the Califa Group are pleased to jointly announce the selection of Linda Crowe into the 2016 California Library Association (CLA) Hall of Fame. Linda's selection is an acknowledgement of her leadership in our profession which has had a significant and positive impact on improving library service in California.

Linda was the Executive Director of the Peninsula Library System from 1983-2015. During her leadership, she led many initiatives which helped this 35-member consortium of public and community college libraries provide innovative and cost-effective services.

In 2004, Linda co-founded the Califa Group, a 501C3 non-profit corporation and served as the Chief Executive Officer from 2004-2015. The Califa Group enables libraries to purchase services and products cooperatively. With a membership of 220 libraries, Califa saves its members over 4 million dollars a year. Califa currently serves as the aggregator of the CENIC broadband project that provides high speed broadband to public libraries throughout California. Califa also serves as the project manager for a National Science Foundation grant that brings STEM programming to rural public libraries throughout the country.

In 2008, Linda led the merger of the four CLSA cooperative library systems in the San Francisco Bay Area (BALIS, PLS, MOBAC, and SVLS), which includes all of the public libraries in Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. This merger resulted in the development of the Pacific Library Partnership, one of the nine regional library cooperatives in California. Linda served as the Chief Executive Officer of PLP from 2009-2015 where she provided vision, leadership, and administrative oversight.

Linda is currently serving as a consultant on the CENIC project.



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Susan Hildreth, who has held various positions in the field, including California State Librarian, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and Director roles with PLP, PLS and Califa, applauded Linda's selection and thought it most deserving, saying, "Linda is a great model for our field, a big picture thinker, entrepreneur and risk-taker who made a huge contribution to moving the library field forward in California and nationally."

During her tenure in California, Linda contributed greatly to CLA. A member since 1984, her accomplishments with CLA are many. She served as the Treasurer from 1988-94; Chair of the Legislative Committee from 1996-98; Co-Chair of the Task Force on the Future of the Library Profession, 1994-95; and CLA President in 2001. In 1995, in recognition of her dedicated leadership, Linda was honored as the CLA Member of the Year. In 2014, Linda was the recipient of the CLA Technology Professional Award.

Linda has been a member of ALA since 1968 and worked in various capacities with the organization over the years. She also received the Association of State and Cooperative Library Systems (ASCLA) Leadership Award in 1995 for her contributions to ALA.

Linda will be recognized at the 2016 California Library Association Annual Convention Awards Reception on Thursday, November 3, 2017, from 8-10 p.m. Tickets may be purchased through the [CLA conference website](#). For more information about the California Library Hall of Fame and this year's inductees, please click here: <http://www.cla-net.org/?page=405>.