AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

presents this

*Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects*

*in the year 2018 to the*

The Traveling Library (La Biblioteca Móvil) and La Puerta Abierta Library and Learning Center in Santiago Atitlán, Sololá Guatemala.

For providing library services to individuals of all ages in the distant communities of Santiago Atitlán, Sololá Guatemala that are prevented by economic and geographical barriers from traveling to a centralized library, thereby increasing excitement about reading and literacy education.

Thereby increasing excitement about reading and

* For recognizing the economic and geographical barriers that individuals in distant communities face in traveling to a centralized library, and in response creating the Traveling Library Program. This provides library services and literacy education to residents at ten schools and community centers in the greater Santiago Atitlán area of Sololá Guatemala.
* For promoting excitement about reading by providing children in areas with limited resources with a variety of books with longer loan periods, and weekly classroom interactions with a librarian, making stories more meaningful for the children.
* For providing training to classroom teachers on incorporating literacy education into their curricula, so that the students’ love of reading and literacy may continue to grow and flourish beyond the Traveling Library visits. This includes the creation and circulation of a Traveling Library manual, which includes classroom activities that connect with over 40 picture book titles.
* For recognizing that literacy education impacts people of all ages by expanding the Traveling Library to the abeulos (grandparents) of Santiago Atitlán. This group not only benefits from the sharing of stories but also the companionship provided by the visits.
* For expanding the benefits of the Traveling Library program to middle- and high-school students by creating literature circles, where students read and discuss novels as a group, helping them to connect to stories in a more personal way. This helps them become excited about continuing their literacy education and skill-building throughout their lives.