

**YALSA Board of Directors
Midwinter Meeting, Seattle
January 25 – 29, 2019**

Topic: Policy to Rescind an Award

Background: At Annual 2018, the YALSA Board discussed Book Awards and Lists in light of #MeToo. The Board decided to create a policy that will allow it to rescind an award given to an author. This document has been brought forth by Valerie Tagoe on behalf of the Organization and Bylaws Committee.

Action Required: Action

Proposal

To create and implement a policy to rescind an award given to an author in light of the #MeToo movement.

Proposed Policy

The YALSA Board may rescind an award (all YALSA named awards and book lists) if it deems that an author's conduct does not align with YALSA's mission. Such authorial conduct could occur either post-award conferral or prior to the award being conferred if the YALSA Board was unaware of the conduct at the time the decision to present the award was made.

Rationale

In light of information surrounding harassment and discrimination that has come out about authors in the past, but especially in the last two years, and that other ALA Divisions have already rescinded awards, it is prudent for YALSA to have a policy in place to be able to rescind awards.

Financial Implications

Minimal staff time for putting the policy into place. However, there may be financial implications regarding award seal sales in the future as award seals will cease after an award is rescinded.

Evaluation/Measuring Impact

There is no immediate use for this policy, so measuring impact is not possible at this time.

Alignment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Goals

This supports EDI in that it gives YALSA the mechanism to rescind an award from an awardee that does not exhibit the professional values and values of equity, diversity, and inclusion that the organization promotes.

Proposed Board Action

The Board moves to adopt the proposed policy for rescinding book awards, and directs the Executive Director to work with staff to post the policy in the appropriate place(s) YALSA's website.

Additional Information

- YALSA Board of Directors – Annual 2018 Topic: Book Awards & Lists in Light of #MeToo -1- Item #34
http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/MeToo_AN18.pdf
- “American Indian Library Association Rescinds its 2008 Young Adult Literature Award from Sherman Alexie”
<https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/2018/03/american-indianlibrary-association.html>
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