

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas
June 27 – July 1, 2014

Topic: Adoption & Presentation of Resolutions

Background: Resolutions have been written to recognize the contributions of the following out-going Board members: April, Carla, Gail, Jack, Pam, Renee and Sarajo. From time to time individuals also write and submit resolutions for Board consideration which highlight the significant or unique contribution of staff, a member or group of members. YALSA member Beth McGuire has submitted a resolution for Ned Vizzini.

Action Required: New Business

Board Member Resolutions will be presented at Board III

Draft Resolution for Ned Vizzini

Whereas Ned Vizzini has contributed to the field of young adult literature reaching teen readers in The United States of America and beyond with his works translated into twenty-five languages;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote *Teen Angst Naaah...? A quasi-autobiography* (Free Spirit, 2000) earning a YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults 2002 Award, detailing his high school experiences including his belief to expand the take our daughters to work day to include the same privilege to sons;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote *Be More Chill* (Hyperion, 2004), a YALSA 2005 Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers Award, an Entertainment Weekly Best Book of The Year selection, a Today Show Book Club novel and a novel praised by Judy Blume, challenging readers to ponder how far they may go to be accepted;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote *It's Kind of a Funny Story* (Hyperion, 2006), a YALSA 2007 Best Books for Young Adults Award, Junior Library Guild selection, New York Times Best Seller and National Public Radio Selection for Best-Ever 100 novels for teenagers, demonstrating that help is available for those facing despair;

And whereas Ned Vizzini's novel *It's Kind of a Funny Story* (Focus Features, 2010) inspired a movie adaption of the same name reaching additional teenagers through another medium;

And whereas Ned Vizzini contributed writing to numerous anthologies, including *The girl who was on fire: your favorite authors on Suzanne Collin's Hunger games trilogy*, *Beyond the Wall: Exploring George R.R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire*, *From a Game of Thrones to A Dance with Dragons*, *The World of the Golden Compass*, *Through the Wardrobe: Your favorite authors*

on C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*, and *Triumph of the walking dead: Robert Kirkman's Zombie Epic on Page and Screen*, which are all of interest to young adults;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote numerous short stories for collections including *Sixteen: Stories About that Sweet and Bitter Birthday*, *Guys Write For Guys Read*, and *Not Like I'm Jealous or Anything: Jealousy Book*, which are of topics that matter to young adults;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote *The Other Normals* (Balzer + Bray, 2012), a Junior Library Guild selection, demonstrating the hero qualities tan can be found in seemingly ordinary individuals;

And whereas Ned Vizzini co-authored *The House of Secrets* with Chris Columbus (Balzer + Bray, 2013), a Junior Library Guild selection and NY Times Best Seller also praised by J.K. Rowling, illustrating the bond of siblings to save their family and world;

And whereas Ned Vizzini wrote scripts for entertainment including MTV's "Teen Wolf" which is popular among teenagers;

And whereas Ned Vizzini co-authored *The Battle of Beasts* with Chris Columbus (Balzer + Bray, 2014) taking readers on a quest from San Francisco to ancient Rome and the mountains of Tibet to defeat an evil sorceress;

And whereas Ned Vizzini maintained a website, blog and additional digital platforms for readers and fans to learn more about his writing and experiences in addition to offering contests for his readers encouraging reading and writing;

And whereas Ned Vizzini extended his expertise and time with teens through his dedication to writing workshops for teenagers;

And whereas Ned Vizzini connected with readers, librarians and educators alike at book store, school, college and conference events;

Therefore be it resolved on this day of June 30, 2014 that the YALSA Board of Directors express gratitude and heartily acknowledge Ned Vizzini and extend this appreciation to his family recognizing his lasting contributions and dedication to young adults and the library community.

Draft Submitted by Beth McGuire, YALSA member, May 5, 2014