

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago
July 9-15, 2009**

Topic: 2009 – 2010 Presidential Initiative

Background: Linda Braun has provided an overview of her presidential initiative below.

Action Required: Information

2009-2010 Presidential Theme

Risky Business is the theme of my 2009-2010 Presidential year. The theme was developed with guidance from the Presidential Advisory Task Force and will make it possible for YALSA to demonstrate how taking risks at the Division/Board level, and in teen services in general, helps guarantee high-quality library services to teens.

The Risky Business theme provides opportunities for the YALSA Board to demonstrate their ability to help the Division move forward through risk-taking. The Board has shown their ability to take risks when at Midwinter 2009 it was decided to move some Committees to Interest Group and Discussion Group status. The Board will no doubt continue to demonstrate their risk-taking abilities as they consider funding of projects and decisions related to selected lists, teen advocacy, and so on. In order to support the Board taking on risk, during the 2009-2010 year YALSA will look into training for Board members on how to be effective risk takers.

The Risky Business theme strongly supports all areas of YALSA's strategic plan because it provides opportunities to:

- demonstrate how to take risks as a teen library advocate,
- garners membership involvement through solicitation of risk stories and providing opportunities for member risk taking,
- support research on how risk plays a role in teen lives and in teen library services,
- promote learning about how to be a successful risk taker in order to provide high quality library service to teens,
- markets YALSA as an organization that is willing to take risks in order to produce products and services that meet member needs.

Throughout the year we will develop content that highlights the ways that YALSA, librarians, and teens manage risk in order to be effective. The content developed will be a part of the YALSA blog, and YALSA-TV, and might also include new projects such as the proposed People's Choice list, expanded support for Discussion and Interest groups, and expanded online offerings for continuing education and virtual conference programming.

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At Annual 2010, YALSA, with ALA Editions, will publish a new book titled *Risky Business: Effectively Taking and Managing Risk*