

Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-66 OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING CORAL REEF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL'S
MELISSA LEANN LEWIS, A 12TH GRADER, THE WINNER AND
GLADES MIDDLE SCHOOL'S MALLACK ANWAR SIBAHİ, AN
8TH GRADER, THE RUNNER UP OF THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS
OF FLORIDA EXEMPLARY "PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH
THE ARTS" AWARD**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

LINK TO DISTRICT

**STRATEGIC PLAN: DEVELOP OUR STUDENTS SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO
SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

Founded in 1981 by the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Department of State, Very Special Arts of Florida (VSAFL) is housed at the University of South Florida, and incorporates an extensive network of program sites and partnerships. VSAFL is a member of VSA arts, an international nonprofit organization founded in 1974 by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith to create a society where all people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts.

VSAFL actively promotes arts, disability awareness and education for people with disabilities statewide. Each year, VSAFL works with a network of schools, communities, and cultural organizations in 52 Florida counties to offer four main program areas of art and disability exploration: School Based Activities, Professional Development, Cultural Access and Public Awareness. These programs offer people with disabilities an avenue to express themselves, participate in the arts within their communities without restrictions, and develop appropriate skills for future career opportunities. Headquartered at the University of South Florida, VSAFL is a member of the international network of VSA arts, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Melissa Leann Lewis, a senior from Coral Reef Senior High School, was named this year's winner of the Very Special Arts of Florida Exemplary "Personal Growth through the Arts" Award and Mallack Anwar Sibahi, an 8th grader from Glades Middle School, received the runner-up award.

H-9

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LAWRENCE FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-66 of The School Board of the Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Coral Reef Senior High School's Melissa Leann Lewis, a 12th grader, the winner and Glades Middle School's, Mallack Anwar Sibahi, an 8th grader, the runner up of the Very Special Arts of Florida Exemplary "Personal Growth through the Arts" Award.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-66

OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING CORAL REEF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL'S MELISSA LEANN LEWIS, A 12TH GRADER, THE WINNER AND GLADES MIDDLE SCHOOL'S, MALLACK ANWAR SIBAHY, AN 8TH GRADER, THE RUNNER UP OF THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS OF FLORIDA EXEMPLARY 'PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH THE ARTS' AWARD.

WHEREAS, Very Special Arts of Florida (VSAFL) creates a society where people with disabilities can learn through, participate in and enjoy the arts; and

WHEREAS, VSAFL works with a network of schools, communities and cultural organizations in 52 Florida counties to offer four main program areas of art and disability exploration: School Based Activities, Professional Development, Cultural Access and Public Awareness; and

WHEREAS, the VSAFL offers people with disabilities an avenue to express themselves, participate in the arts within their communities without restrictions, and develop appropriate skills for future career opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Melissa Leann Lewis, a senior from Coral Reef Senior High School, was named the winner of the Very Special Arts of Florida Exemplary "Personal Growth through the Arts" Award; and

WHEREAS, Anwar Sibahi, an 8th grader from Glades Middle School, received the runner-up award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-66 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Coral Reef Senior High School's Melissa Leann Lewis, a 12th grader, the winner, and Glades Middle School's Mallack Anwar Sibahi, an 8th grader, the runner up of the Very Special Arts of Florida Exemplary "Personal Growth through the Arts" Award.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this twentieth day of May, A.D. 2009

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary
