

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY SENATOR CROWE

A RESOLUTION

To commend music and choral teacher at Bonne Ecole Elementary, Georgia Mannino, for being awarded the national Parent Teacher Association's Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given to PTA members and leaders.

WHEREAS, the PTA Life Achievement Award is the highest honor from the nation's largest child advocacy organization, given to the person who daily lives out her commitment to children; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Mannino served the students of Bonne Ecole for sixteen years, sharing her love of music and choral performance with all in the Bonne Ecole school family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Mannino taught classroom music and choral music at Bonne Ecole Elementary School in Slidell, Louisiana in St. Tammany Parish, since the 1990's; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Mannino dedicated herself to teaching her students at Bonne Ecole, coordinating student performances for PTA meetings and for the annual "Superstar Showcase", a presentation highlighting student performance and sponsored by the PTA; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mannino spent countless hours practicing with her students and preparing student performances for Veterans' Day and the annual Christmas Concert; and

WHEREAS, the formal presentation of this prestigious award took place at the February PTA General Meeting, after the death of Georgia Mannino in January; and

WHEREAS, prior to the formal presentation, Ms. Mannino was personally notified of the award at her home by Lynette Bruno, PTA Board Member and Bonne Ecole teacher; and

WHEREAS, the formal presentation at the PTA meeting consisted of bestowing the award to Ms. Mannino's son, Wesley, and daughter, Anna, as well as additional family members gathered for the honor; and

WHEREAS, after the formal presentation both the family and the staff of Bonne Ecole shared personal stories about Georgia Mannino's impact on students and the school as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the experience of being involved with and learning about music, regardless of one's personal facility for musical expression, is an invaluable lesson in one's culture and the artistic expression that speaks beyond national boundaries and unites the people of the earth; this is the experience that Georgia Mannino shared with her students and the community of Bonne Ecole; and

WHEREAS, for sixteen years Georgia spent time mentoring choral students involved with the District Honor Choir and, generally, sharing her love of music with the children, despite her personal battle with a lengthy, and eventually fatal, illness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend music and choral teacher at Bonne Ecole Elementary, Georgia Mannino, for being awarded the national Parent Teacher Association's Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given to PTA members and leaders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. April Owens, principal of Bonne Ecole Elementary for eventual presentation to the children of music and choral teacher and mentor, Georgia Mannino.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE