

ANGSTPIRATION

GETTING YOUR STUDENTS' STORIES ON THE PAGE

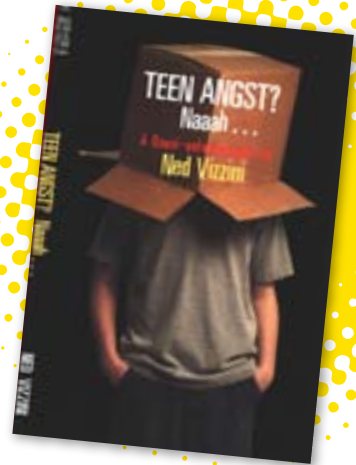
A Program with Author Ned Vizzini



Ned Vizzini knows something about teen angst.

After starting 9th grade with a teal backpack bought by his mother, he navigated two years of classes looking for something to be proud of – anything – while facing the increasingly dangerous pressures of being a teenager. Between extracurricular activities, preparations for college, and sports obligations, being an adolescent today is more like being an overstressed adult than anything else.

And the stress is taking its toll. In the last ten years, clinical depression has doubled and suicide has become the third leading cause of death for those between 15 and 24 years old. That is why students need an outlet. For Ned, it was writing. He began to write his stories at age 15. They covered bad jobs, failed bands, and hilarious misadventures in love. **What struck him was how writing could give him power over his life – how he could take his angst and exercise it on the page.**



Now Ned shows teachers and educators how to LET THEIR STUDENTS DO THE SAME. **He reveals techniques that let students tap into themselves and create writing that responds to their pressures in a creative, constructive way.**

With trademark wit and frankness, Ned shares his own stories – from his books and his life – to illustrate that every bit of personal anxiety can be an opportunity. And not only is the process therapeutic and fun, it can connect students (and teachers!) with those with similar concerns – and help them as well.

Ned's writing certainly helped him to connect. His first book, *Teen Angst? Naaah...*, exemplified the cathartic nature of personal essaying and was quickly adopted into curricula across the country. (*Teen Angst* is being reprinted for its 10th anniversary in 2010.) His second book, *Be More Chill*, took a more humorous and ribald look at the teen social scene. And his most recent, *It's Kind of a Funny Story* (feature-film adaptation due 2011 from Focus Features), covers a teenager's trip to the psychiatric hospital, taking from his own life to directly address the pressures and trials he has faced while demonstrating how even in the darkest situations humor and self-expression can be found.

With just a little work and organization, the difficulties that young people face in school, in college, and in life can become fantastic outlets – and may even lead them to discovering their careers. Ned's journey from high-school misfit to celebrated author is something that students AND teachers can take to heart. And although his latest book addresses the darkest side of teen angst, it's his most acclaimed effort to date. **Talk about ANGSTPIRATION!**

Creativewell, Inc.

SCHEDULE AN EVENT

800.743.9182 | info@creativewell.com



WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT ANGSTPIRATION WITH NED VIZZINI...

"All I can say is Wow! Ned Vizzini blew us away with his humor, intelligence, and sincerity. His program is engaging and is something that every teenager should hear. Thank you Ned for inspiring our students and for being real. Your stories have touched many teens at our school and we are lucky to have met you!"

Kerry Littel, Head Librarian, Lake Forest High School, Lake Forest, IL



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"Ned Vizzini was a featured author at our Young Adult Literature Conference and he was amazing. We all know about his brilliant novels for teens, but he was engaging, charming, humble, and down-right funny. "Angstpiration" is an entertaining way to get at Ned's writing process and also shine an intuitive light on the pressures that teens of today are going through on a daily basis. Through anecdotal tales from his childhood, to subtle possible solutions for teen depression, Vizzini offered an intimate and exceptional experience for our teachers, media specialists, and future teachers who attended the conference."

**Dr. Aaron Levy, Ph.D.,
English/English Education,
Kennesaw State University,
author of Pizza with
Shrimp on Top**

ALSO AVAILABLE

NED CAN DELIVER HIS ANGSTPIRATION MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO STUDENTS! If you would like your students to learn how to take life's stresses and turn them into inspiration direct from the source, please inquire about a direct-to-student, as opposed to teacher presentation. Ned has spoken at schools and libraries all over the country, to students of all ages, and testimonials are available attesting to his AMAZING direct connection with young people.

HOW NOT TO GO CRAZY IN COLLEGE

"HOW NOT TO GO CRAZY IN COLLEGE" is a program that does what it says, and that can also be delivered to high school students in rigorous academic environments. Ned uses his unique life story to show students how to cope with the increasing pressures of being a young adult in the 21st century. With his three lessons: "keep your antennae up," "don't sell yourself short," and "remember: stress is not a real threat," Ned gives students powerful ways to keep on an even keel. This program saves lives. Please inquire more to learn about those three lessons!

FROM PERSONAL TO PUBLISHED

"FROM PERSONAL TO PUBLISHED" is for students who want to succeed in writing. In a professional workshop environment, Ned gives them the real-world skills that they need to succeed and outlines insider information about the publishing business that they will not receive anywhere else.