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For Immediate Release
April 22, 2009

Guilford teacher honored for superior instruction, student engagement *International educator helps school reach students learning English*

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. – The Visiting International Faculty Program is proud to honor 16 of its visiting exchange teachers in the 2009 International Educator of the Year awards program.

Chosen from among more than 70 nominees in six states, these educators work every day to create opportunities for their students to explore other cultures and countries, master new languages, and discuss and contribute to solutions for global challenges.

As Visiting International Faculty Program educators, they build the 21st-century skills and experiences that will ensure their students will succeed in the diverse job markets they will graduate into.

Guilford County Public Schools

Pamela Arrarás, Honorable Mention

Teaches: ESL, Southeast Guilford Middle School



International exchange teacher Pamela Arrarás has an impressive portfolio. In her three years as a VIF exchange teacher, Arrarás has become involved with her school and community. She takes pride in sharing her culture with students, and encourages her students to share their cultures, as well. She has demonstrated innovative ways to engage her students, for instance, creating a video exchange between her students and students in an Argentine school.

Arrarás has excelled not only as an ESL teacher, but also outside of the classroom, becoming a sponsor of the afterschool Students Against Violence Everywhere club, and even organizing a trip for her students to Washington, D.C.

Arrarás demonstrates how international teachers bring new cultures and experiences to students, offering real-life exposure to the world beyond their classrooms. These are essential skills for today's students, who will graduate to an increasingly interconnected world.



2009 International Educator of the Year Recipients

National Winner

- **Helen Crompton**, Carrboro Elementary School, Carrboro, N.C.

State Winners

- **Fabrice Fresse**, Bailey Middle School, Cornelius, N.C.
- **Mónica Díaz Jiménez**, Brooklyn Springs Elementary School, Lancaster, S.C.
- **María Chópita González**, Slater Elementary School, Atlanta, Ga.
- **Edwin Alberto Escorcía Daza**, Sterling Middle School, Sterling, Va.

Honorable Mention Recipients

- **Pamela Arrarás**, Southeast Guilford Middle School, Greensboro, N.C.
- **Renata Chimim**, John Kerr Elementary School, Winchester, Va.
- **María de los Reyes Clavijo López**, Moody Middle School, Richmond, Va.
- **Aline Grisales Leon**, Anne Darling Elementary School, San José, Calif.
- **Laura Guevara Pinzon**, Bachrodt Charter Academy, San José, Calif.
- **Fiona Mitchell**, Rockingham County High School, Eden, N.C.
- **Denise Orr-Daley**, Myrtle Grove Elementary School, Miami Gardens, Fla.
- **Lucrecia Polo**, Alleghany High School, Covington, Va.
- **Nélida Verónica Raffin**, North Elementary School, Lancaster, S.C.
- **Patricia Rodríguez Abreu**, West Greene Elementary School, Snow Hill, N.C.
- **Lirong Wang**, International Studies School at Garinger High School, Charlotte, N.C.

For profiles, lesson plans and classroom videos from the winners, visit www.vifprogram.com/about and click on **International Educator of the Year**.

About the VIF Program

The Visiting International Faculty Program is the largest exchange program linking U.S. schools and international teachers. The VIF Program selects, sponsors and supports highly qualified international educators who work as full-time teachers in U.S. schools for up to three years, serving as cultural ambassadors and providing students a well-rounded, international education. VIF teachers return home from the professional-development experience to contribute to education in their nations and serve as goodwill ambassadors for the United States.

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