

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- NAYEC Conference
Early Childhood Conference
- Party for Teachers.
2000 People
From Around Country
- Cocktail Reception
- Day Tape.
- Ending of Program
- New Orleans H. Lee Anderson

our child

REVISED DRAFT - MRS. CLINTON SCRIPT (9/24/99)

2nd Annual

- Good evening, I am pleased to join all of you gathered here this evening as you celebrate the *1999 Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference (NAEYC).
- As a new millennium approaches, brain research continues to underscore how critical the first few years of life are in the development of our children. Which is why it is so important that early childhood professionals are finally being recognized for the profound influence they can have in shaping the lives of young children. More than 6 million of our nation's young children and their families benefit daily from your caring and commitment to providing quality early childhood education.
- The six individuals you are here to honor tonight have demonstrated professional excellence and dedication to the young lives that they have touched and helped to mold, and to the families that you serve. I congratulate each of you.
- I'd also like to salute Scholastic for its strong, ongoing, commitment to educators, children and their families. This commitment that is so wonderfully demonstrated by the *Early Childhood Professional Awards* Program.
- And to all of you, congratulation for the enormous contribution you make every day to the growth and development and cultivation of our Nation's most precious resource, our children, our future.

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- Models you put.

- Children books. Teddy Model.

Early Childhood Curriculum.

Professional Hugs.

- Models to teach with. working for the 2s
Model For Professional Development.

- Mats to teach w/
- Mats for Children
- Mats for prof. subject.

SCHOLASTIC INC. PICKS SIX OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS TO HONOR WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

**Noted For Excellence At Working With Children With Special Needs
And Diverse Populations**

**Awards To Be Presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children
Conference (NAEYC) in November**

New York, NY, September 1999 – **Scholastic Inc.**, the global children's publishing and media company, announces six national award-winners of the *1999 Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*, the only national award to recognize the vital role played by child care professionals in America today. Acknowledged for their achievement in the field of early childhood education, these six outstanding individuals help to ensure the developmental success of the children in their care, and ultimately the health and well being of our nation.

The *1999 Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* recognizes six national winners, and 25 honorable mentions, which are nominated by parents and selected by nationally renowned early childhood experts. Each Award-winner will receive \$2,000 worth of Scholastic products, including the critically acclaimed *Early Childhood Workshop* curriculum, a round-trip ticket to and accommodations for the National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference in New Orleans, free subscriptions of and feature stories in *Scholastic Parent & Child*, and *Early Childhood Today*, as well as a free subscription to *Let's Find Out*, Scholastic's pre K- kindergarten magazine designed for early learning. Nominating parents also receive \$100 worth of Scholastic books and magazines of their choice.

The 1999 Award-winners were among more than 500 early childhood educators nominated by parents from across the country. The finalists were selected by a panel of nationally recognized early childhood experts. Nominations were evaluated on criteria including knowledge and creativity in helping young people develop and learn, dedication to the field, and leadership in the community. Winners were recognized in the following categories: infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten teachers, family child care provider and early childhood program director.

Judsen Culbreth, editor-in-chief of *Early Childhood Today* and *Scholastic Parent & Child* magazines says: "Scholastic is proud to recognize the tremendous impact that early childhood education has on our youngest children. These award-winners, and educators like them, nurture, love and support the development of more than six million children across the country. As more and more children enter preschool and other childcare settings, these individuals are essential partners in the education of future generations."

1999 Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Award-winners:

- **INFANT TEACHER Pat Uhler - Dayspring/Developmental Disabilities Center, Lafayette, CO.** Pat has spent the past 16 years cultivating her craft by working with children with developmental delays. Described as resilient, she conducts home visits and works with families weekly until their children reach age three. "Our involvement with Pat began through our daughter, Claire, who was born with an undiagnosed syndrome resulting in low muscle tone, feeding difficulties and global delays," shared a nominating parent. "Yes, Claire had weaknesses and difficulties which needed to be addressed, but Pat worked with her as if these were not the sum of who she was," continued the nominating parent.
- **TODDLER TEACHER Kim Lee Jacobson - Nonotuck Community Childcare, Northhampton, MA.** Nonotuck's toddler room is a unique 22 year-old parent cooperative that has earned a reputation as one of the strongest toddler programs in its city, due to the special sense of community that Kim Jacobson's classroom communicates. "Bridging the gap between the culture of a child's home to the culture of a child's school is important to every child in every family," says Jacobson.

- **PRESCHOOL TEACHER Karen Linford and Mary Johnson - Indian Hills Preschool, Gallup, NM.** Karen and Mary team-teach 40 developmentally delayed and at-risk Navajo, Zuni, and Hispanic children, where they focus is on increasing language development. "Some children come in barely speaking. In the Navajo culture, families don't talk to their children like other cultures do," explains Mary. "By the time they get to kindergarten their language has increased substantially."
- **KINDERGARTEN TEACHER Rebecca Dixon - Clear Creek Elementary, Bloomington, IN.** "It is my belief and that of past and present parents that Mrs. Dixon has had the most profound outside influence on our children's development to date," stated a nominating parent. Rebecca Dixon offers multi-age classrooms and looping classrooms, so parents have some choice in matching up their children's learning styles with different kinds of programs. "Another thing that makes us different is children guiding curriculum," states Dixon.
- **FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER Janet Thompson - Love A Child, Colorado Springs, CO.** After researching child care for her own son for over a year, Janet Thompson opened her own family center in 1994. She recommends doing your homework and stresses structure for preschool activities. "So many providers are burnt out because they don't have structure; they say children are out of control," says Thompson. "All (of her) days have thought, direction and love," wrote a parent. "During the day she writes down positive things the kids did. (My son) Zachary is happy to share all the good things that happened and I have a way to start a conversation."
- **DIRECTOR Margie Tapia - Head Start, Springville, AZ.** After 20 years at Head Start and 10 as a director, Margie Tapia is described by her peers as unstoppable. Her program serves 70 families with 82 children and many more family and community members, under a managing style that reflects her teamwork ideals. "She is the foundation that every center should have," wrote a nominating colleague. "She respects the staff under her charge and instills in them a sense of pride in their work, their center and themselves that enables them, too, to go the extra distance. She exemplifies what commitment and determination can do to ensure success and help others to see the possibilities."

"Close to 10,000 parents recognized and honored their young child's teacher by participating in Scholastic's Awards program," says Ellen Christian, Group Publisher of *Scholastic Parent & Child* and *Early Childhood Today* Magazines. "Parents rely on these providers daily to teach and nurture their children. Each nomination we received clearly and emotionally reflected the important role these teachers play in the lives of the entire family."

The ***Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*** was launched in 1998, in conjunction with National Child Care Professionals Day, established by U.S. Senate and U.S. House resolutions. It celebrates the special relationship between parents and the child care professionals who are partners in caring for and teaching their children.

Scholastic is a global children's publishing and media company. Scholastic's reputation for quality, learning and fun is based on a long-term relationship with teachers, parents and children, and its unique ability to understand what kids want and need for learning and fun. The Company's innovative educational materials -- books, magazines and technology -- give Scholastic a strong position in schools. Through the Company's unparalleled school-based distribution -- book clubs and fairs, where Scholastic is the world leader -- kids purchase books and software to use at home, extending Scholastic's reach from school to home. The Company's magazines, software, television programming, retail and direct-to-home sales further strengthen Scholastic's presence in the home. This reputation is the foundation for Scholastic's continuing growth in the children's education and entertainment markets around the world.

Contact: Judy Corman/212-343-6833
jcorman@scholastic.com

Aimee Spengler/212-343-6570
aspengler@scholastic.com

September 24, 1999

The Honorable Patti Solis-Doyle
Director of Scheduling to the First Lady
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Bldg. Room 185.5
Washington, DC 20502

When?
Child care info

SCHOLASTIC INC.
555 Broadway
New York, NY
10012-3999
(212) 343-6100

Dear Mrs. Solis-Doyle:

We are so pleased that Mrs. Clinton has agreed to tape a video message for the **Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards** ceremony, to be presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Conference. The *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*, is the first national awards program of its kind to honor the achievement of early childhood professionals who exemplify the very best in the field of early education.

The ceremony will be held in New Orleans, Thursday, November 11, 1999, where six national winners will be celebrated among their peers. Joining the Awards ceremony as a special guest will be the 1999 National Teacher of the Year, Mr. Andy Baumgartner, kindergarten teacher from Atlanta, GA.

For educators and caregivers committed to young children and their families, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is an inspiration for bringing the needs of children and the issues of quality education to the nation's forefront. Her congratulatory message and acknowledgement of the importance of early childhood education will touch the hearts of our national winners, and the nearly 2,000 caregivers in attendance at the ceremony; but will also resonate with the over 20,000 educators of young children attending NAEYC. Mrs. Clinton's support would also be felt by more than 10,000 parents who participated in the nominating process – those who have a firsthand understanding of the importance quality child care.

I have enclosed material on the 1999 *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* program including message points, press materials, award-winning applications, and parent-nomination letters. Please feel free to contact me directly if you need any additional information. I can be reached at 212-343-6570.

Thank you.


Aimee Spengler
Corporate Communications
Scholastic Inc.

cc: Karen Finney
Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Scholastic Inc.

SCHOLASTIC INC.

566 Broadway
New York, NY 10012-3999
(212) 343-6100

Fax

To: Eric Massey From: Aimee Spengler
Fax: 202-456-2581 Pages: 8
Phone: Date: October 18, 1999
Re: Scholastic Inc cc: my # 212-343-6570
☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

● Comments:

Eric, as we discussed on the phone,
attached are materials outlining Scholastic's
Early Childhood Professional Awards program.
I will follow up with you later in the week,
but please feel free to call me directly.

Thank you.

Aimee Spengler

October 18, 1999

SCHOLASTIC INC.
555 Broadway
New York, NY
10012-3999

(212) 343-6100

Mr. Eric Massey
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Bldg.
Washington DC 20502

By Fax: 202-456-2581

Dear Mr. Massey;

Attached are correspondences with Ms. Solis-Doyle requesting the First Lady to tape a congratulatory video message for the *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*. We are thrilled that Mrs. Clinton has agreed to participate in this year's Awards program. I have also included background press materials on the Awards program and a draft of a script for your review and consideration.

The audio/visual presentation of Mrs. Clinton's message will require that we have both a Beta tape and VHS. Please feel free to bill me directly for all costs incurred for the production.

Ideally, I would love to have the tapes sent back to me at Scholastic by Friday, November 5th or Monday, November 8th, before we leave for the NAEYC conference in New Orleans, on Tuesday, November 9th. Please let me know when we can expect your materials and of course contact me directly if you have questions regarding the *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* program.

Again, we appreciate Mrs. Clinton's involvement and recognition of child care professionals across the country.

Sincerely,



Aimee Spengler
Corporate Communications
Scholastic Inc.
212-343-6570

cc: Bibb Hubbard
Director, Office of the President
Scholastic Inc.

June 16, 1999

The Honorable Patti Solis-Doyle
Director of Scheduling to the First Lady
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Bldg. Room 185.5
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mrs. Solis-Doyle:

For educators and caregivers committed to young children and their families, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is an inspiration for the work she has done to bring the needs of children and the issues of quality education to the nation's forefront. To early childhood educators across the country, she has become their voice and strongest supporter.

As you may know, Scholastic Inc., the global children's publishing and media company, shares the First Lady's commitment to drawing national focus and much needed attention to the quality of our children's early education and development. To mark this pledge, last year, Scholastic created a national awards program, *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*, the first of its kind, honoring the achievement of early childhood professionals who exemplify the very best in the field of early education. Our company strongly believes that by recognizing excellence and raising the bar for quality education and development of our youngest learners, we will help to ensure the individual success of each child and the health and well being of our nation.

The second annual *Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* ceremony will be held in New Orleans, Thursday, November 11, 1999, during the National Association for the Education of Young Children, (NAEYC) Conference, where six national winners will be celebrated among their peers. Joining the Awards ceremony as a special guest will be the 1999 National Teacher of the Year, Mr. Andy Baumgartner, the award-winning kindergarten teacher from Atlanta, GA.

We would be honored if the First Lady would consider addressing this year's attendees via either a videotaped message or by writing a letter to be read at the *1999 Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards* ceremony. Not only would the First Lady's acknowledgement touch the hearts of our national winners, and the nearly 2,000 caregivers in attendance at the Awards program, but also resonate with the over 20,000 educators of young children attending NAEYC. Mrs. Clinton's support would also be felt by nearly ten thousand parents who participated in the nominating process -- those who have a firsthand understanding of the importance quality child care. Her recognition of early childhood professionals will mirror her continued efforts to address the changing needs of American families.

When describing the impact quality child care can have on the life of a child, Mary Chatman, from the Vogel Alcove in Dallas, TX, immediately comes to mind. Mary was one of five national winners of the 1998 Scholastic Awards program and a striking example of the importance of quality child care and early education for young children. She was nominated by a mother who had escaped with her one-year-old daughter from an abusive relationship. Sad, withdrawn, and developmentally delayed entering the program, the infant blossomed into a typical two year old due in great part to Mary's care.

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There are more than 6 million children under the age of six, in child care. Mary Chatman reminds us how much an individual can do to positively affect a child's life. Once again, Mrs. Clinton's recognition and support of these educators not only continues to validate the critical importance of quality child care but also helps to set the tone for the early childhood field on the eve of the millennium. Enclosed is information about the ***Scholastic Early Childhood Professional Awards*** and the NAEYC Conference this fall.

We thank you for your consideration.

Helen Benham
Corporate Vice President,
Early Childhood Publications
Scholastic Inc.

Judsen Culbreth
Vice President and Editor-in-Chief,
Scholastic Parent Publishing
Scholastic Inc.

cc: Karen Finney
Managing Director, Office of the President
Scholastic Inc.

September 24, 1999

The Honorable Patti Solis-Doyle
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Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Bldg. Room 185.5
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Chief of Staff, Office of the President
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DRAFT FOR CONSIDERATION – MRS. CLINTON SCRIPT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHOLASTIC INC. PICKS SIX OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS TO HONOR WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

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-More-

- **PRESCHOOL TEACHER Karen Linford and Mary Johnson - Indian Hills Preschool, Gallup, NM.** Karen and Mary team-teach 40 developmentally delayed and at-risk Navajo, Zuni, and Hispanic children, where they focus is on increasing language development. "Many of our children come to preschool with very low language development. Through working with the children in an active learning, literacy rich, child-centered curriculum, and through working with parents, most children are ready and eager for Kindergarten," explains Mary. "Parent involvement and home visits are an integral part of our program."
- **KINDERGARTEN TEACHER Rebecca Dixon - Clear Creek Elementary, Bloomington, IN.** "It is my belief and that of past and present parents that Mrs. Dixon has had the most profound outside influence on our children's development to date," stated a nominating parent. "Becky's classroom was and is filled with things to interest and educate both children and grown-ups. From the beginning, she treated us as partners as she helped us to understand her philosophies and strategies for teaching the children," continued a parent.
- **FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER Janet Thompson - Love A Child, Colorado Springs, CO.** After researching child care for her own son for over a year, Janet Thompson opened her own family center in 1994. She recommends doing your homework and stresses structure for preschool activities. "So many providers are burnt out because they don't have structure; they say children are out of control," says Thompson. "All (of her) days have thought, direction and love," wrote a parent. "During the day she writes down positive things the kids did. (My son) Zachary is happy to share all the good things that happened and I have a way to start a conversation."
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Contact: Judy Corman/212-343-6833
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