

SOUTH CAROLINA TEACHER IS FINALIST FOR HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

COLLEGE PARK, Md. – June 4, 2007 – National History Day (NHD) announced today that Linda Hardin, a teacher at Tanglewood Middle School in Greenville, S.C. is one of eight finalists for the *Richard T. Farrell Teacher of Merit Award* for outstanding success in teaching history.

The award is given annually to a teacher who develops and uses creative methods to make history interesting for students.

Hardin has great success using National History Day in historically lower performing schools. Tanglewood School is a diverse school with a student body that is made up of 55% African American, 30% Caucasian and 15% Hispanic students. Hardin incorporates NHD into her work with ESL (English as a Second Language) students. Through the NHD process students conduct research about their personal history and culture while learning English to communicate their findings.

“Recent standardized testing at our school shows that National History Day is an effective instructional tool for developing reading and research skills for my students,” said Hardin. “National History Day allows us to experiment with language through our study of history. We translate, analyze and debate in several languages and dialects. My students perfect English pronunciation and attain confidence in communicating complex ideas.”

“National History Day to Linda is not another student project, not a yearlong homework assignment. It is the core of her educational philosophy,” said Joel Walker, state coordinator for National History Day in South Carolina.

Hardin will be recognized at the NHD Welcome Ceremony on June 10 at 6:30 p.m. on the McKeldin Mall at the University of Maryland. Hardin will receive a commemorative certificate and a collection of outstanding programs from PBS VIDEO featuring award-winning titles.

The winning teacher will be announced on June 14 at the NHD awards ceremony which can be viewed via live Web cast at www.nhd.org. The winner of the *Richard T. Farrell Teacher of Merit Award* will receive an additional \$1,000 prize.

PBS VIDEO, America’s leading source of exceptional educational content, is proud to work with NHD to recognize teachers for their efforts to improve history education. PBS VIDEO offers educational programming, wide-ranging companion classroom materials and online services for K-12 schools, colleges and universities, libraries and other institutions. For more information log on to shopPBS.com/teachers or pbs.org/teachersource.

National History Day, Inc. is not just one day, but a yearlong education organization that makes history come alive through educator professional development and active student learning. Through publications and education programs, National History Day trains teachers to move students beyond textbooks and expand their classrooms to include libraries, museums and archives. Nationwide 40,000 currently use National History Day curriculum materials to engage over half a million students in the study of history. For additional information on NHD visit www.nhd.org.