

For Immediate Release

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Husband and Wife Honored Together for First Time
Samuel Tenenbaum and the Honorable Inez Tenenbaum to be Awarded in Early November

COLUMBIA, SC – October 9, 2009 – EdVenture Children’s Museum will present awards to three recipients at its annual education celebration, including a husband and wife team who will receive an award together for the first time. Samuel Tenenbaum and the Honorable Inez Tenenbaum have been named this year’s “SC Great Friend to Kids” and will be given the award at EdVenture’s event Thursday, November 5. Also at the event, Harriott Hampton Faucette will receive the Unsung Hero Award for her dedication to children’s causes in South Carolina. The event is being held at the Marriott Hotel at 1200 Hampton Street in Columbia, with a reception at 6:15 pm followed by a seated dinner at 7 pm. The evening’s entertainment will be provided by student musicians from the SC Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities.

EdVenture presents the “Great Friend to Kids” and “Unsung Hero” awards each year to individuals and organizations making significant and outstanding contributions to strengthening and advancing the interests of children.

“There are individuals across South Carolina who are making significant contributions to improving the welfare of our children,” says Catherine Wilson Horne, president and CEO of EdVenture. “We are recognizing the Tenenbaums and Ms. Faucette for their tireless dedication to helping children and families. Although they have traveled down different paths, the end results are the same: happier, healthier and better educated children. And, we are pleased to be able to recognize the Tenenbaums as a husband and wife team for the very first time in their careers.”

Samuel Tenenbaum has advocated for children through service leadership in organizations such as Vital Connections, Children Unlimited, United Way of the Midlands, and the Palmetto Health Children's Hospital. He also was instrumental in securing education lottery funds for endowed chairs at the University of South Carolina. He has tirelessly raised money for several universities in the state, led 9/11 White Knoll Middle School Fire Engine Project and Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in the Midlands, and advocated for peace and civil rights through other non-profit organizations.

The Honorable Inez Tenenbaum currently serves as chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, appointed by President Obama earlier this year. Previously she served two terms as South Carolina's superintendent of education where during her tenure, the state's students improved test scores at the fastest rate in the nation. Throughout her career, she has been a tireless advocate for children's issues. Her awards include: Order of the Palmetto, Richard Young Award for Education, Friend of Gifted Education, Whitney M. Young Award from the Boy Scouts of America, and Woman of Distinction from the Congaree Girl Scouts.

Harriott Hampton Faucette has devoted 40 years of her time to philanthropic initiatives for children's causes in the Midlands. Through her contributions to York Place, Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, Hampton-Rogers Fund for deserving USC history students, Columbia College, Trinity Cathedral, Vital Connections, Children Unlimited, and Girl Scouts, Faucette has supported children in many capacities. She also serves as a charter member of the Central Carolina Community Foundation and a board member of Palmetto Richland Foundation's Outreach Committee.

Previous recipients of the Great Friend to Kids award are: Dr. Suzan Boyd (2008), Dr. Charles Darby and Dr. Warren Derrick (2007), and The Honorable James Edwards and The Honorable Richard Riley (2006).

To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorship for the event, call Mandy Wren at EdVenture Children's Museum at (803) 400-1141. Tickets are \$100 per person. Proceeds from the SC Great Friend to Kids initiative will be used to expand EdVenture's successful Future Leaders Academy, a 12-week after-school program providing leadership development and career exploration for at-risk 6th and 7th graders from low-income backgrounds. The mission of EdVenture Children's Museum is to inspire children to experience the joy of learning.

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