



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2011 NATIONAL FAME AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

SEATTLE, Wash. – Nov. 5, 2010 – Basic American Foods, Schwan’s Food Services, Inc., and Tyson Foods, Inc., sponsors of the 22nd annual **Foodservice Achievement Management Excellence (FAME) Awards** program, are pleased to announce the 2011 FAME Award winners.

The FAME Awards most prestigious honor – the **Golden School Foodservice Director of the Year Award** – will be presented to Senior Director of Food & Nutrition Services Lora Gilbert, MS, RD, FADA, SNS, Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, Fla. Gilbert is described by her colleagues as being an effective strategist. She has been able to combine the goals of her school board with the state and federal government requirements to meet nutritional requirements for children in Orange County Public Schools.

Gilbert sought out talent with diverse career backgrounds including Disney, Universal and large hospitals to create a results-oriented management team. Her staff provides measurable results to track effectiveness in operations in order to meet participation goals, demonstrate compliance and stay on budget. Under Gilbert’s leadership team, reimbursable meals have increased by 51 percent in seven years. The goal of 40 percent of revenue spent on labor and food has been met over the last four years. Additional revenue has been generated by Gilbert’s staff by providing nutrition services to the community’s summer program, recreational programs, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA’s, the Rescue Mission and many church groups. A Cooperative Cart Program was developed to aid student organizations in fundraising over \$800,000 by allowing them to “check out” mobile food carts from the food service program while still selling healthy, safe foods.

Nutrition education opportunities for students, teachers and school foodservice staff are provided on an ongoing basis by Gilbert and her staff of three dietitians and two nutritionists. Student satisfaction is a key to the success Gilbert has had at Orange County Public Schools. No product is added to the menu without testing and approval from students. In her tenure, she has earned the trust of her colleagues because she has high standards and can articulate goals achieved through measurable results.

Gilbert has been published in the Journal of American Dietetic Association twice and has earned several awards for her commitment to excellence in child nutrition, including the FAME Silver Rising Star Award in 2006.

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Other 2011 FAME Award winners include: Executive Director of Child Nutrition Services Cindy E. Hobbs, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte, N.C. – **Silver Leadership Award**; Foodservice Coordinator Susan Ehrhart, MS, SNS, Polk County Public Schools, Bartow, Fla. – **Silver Spirit Award**; Director of Student Nutrition Services Margan Holloway, Tamalpais Union High School District, Larkspur, Calif. – **Silver Rising Star Award**; School Nutrition Director Karen Green, Thomas County Schools, Thomasville, Ga. – **Silver Special Achievement Award**; and Senior Account Executive Ron Strasburg, Upper Lakes Foods, Inc., Cloquet, Minn. – **Silver Friend of Child Nutrition Award**.

For 22 years the FAME Awards have been honoring school nutrition professionals who raise industry standards by tackling challenges within their school districts and communities. The awards will be presented at an event on Jan. 16, 2011 at the Experience Music Project Museum in Seattle during the School Nutrition Association's (SNA) Child Nutrition Industry Conference (CNIC). Anyone who is not registered for the CNIC conference but would like to attend the awards dinner can purchase a ticket by contacting the National FAME Awards via phone at 417-234-2296 or via email at info@fameawards.net. For event updates throughout the year, visit www.fameawards.net or www.facebook.com/fameawards.

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