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Chesterfield County Teacher Honored With National Educator Award

Manchester High School's Pam Sloan Presented with James H. Maynard Excellence in Education Award

Richmond, Va. – May 20, 2016 – The National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) and Golden Corral presented one of two James H. Maynard Excellence in Education Awards to Pam Sloan of Chesterfield County's Manchester High School for her work with students both in and out of the classroom. Sloan was selected as one of the recipients from among the 32 state honorees at the awards dinner held on May 19, 2016 in Chicago, Ill.

Golden Corral President and CEO Lance Trenary and VP of Human Resources and Training Judy Irwin presented the 2016 Maynard awards.

"To Golden Corral's founder, James Maynard, education is an integral part of success in the restaurant industry. We are proud to support the ProStart Program, which prepares students so well for successful post-secondary education and careers in our industry," said Trenary at the event. "The educators we are all honoring this evening are amazing teachers whose impact on our industry and on the lives of their students is significant."

The NRAEF's ProStart Educator Excellence Awards recognize exceptional educators who utilize the ProStart program in their classrooms. Each participating state restaurant association nominates its leading educator who has demonstrated a strong commitment to his or her students and to the ProStart Program. The two winners of the national honor are also awarded a \$5,000 cash prize by the NRAEF and Golden Corral.

"ProStart educators, like Pam, are key to the continuing success of Virginia's restaurant and hospitality industry. Through our teachers' work to help provide a solid foundation of management and culinary skills, students can understand and embrace the exciting career opportunities ahead," said Jim Wilson, director of education and workforce development for the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, & Travel Association. "Pam's work in the classroom and her penchant for engaging students with out-of-class experiences made her our top choice for the state honor; we are grateful to the NRAEF and Golden Corral for also acknowledging her efforts with this national honor."

With national and local support from industry members, educators, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) and state restaurant association partners, ProStart® reaches nearly 140,000 students in more than 1,800 high schools throughout all states, Guam and at Department of Defense Education Activity schools in Europe and the Pacific. ProStart gives students a platform to discover and develop new interests and talents while teaching employability skills like teamwork, professional behavior, time management, and communication.

In Virginia alone, ProStart reaches 3,900 students and 55 high schools through 75 educators.

About the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association Education Foundation (VRLTAEF)

As the educational arm of the Virginia, Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association, the VRLTA exists to enhance the restaurant and hospitality industries' through education and encouraging youth to pursue post-secondary education in the culinary and hospitality fields. This is primarily done through the coordination of the Virginia ProStart program and the administration of a scholarship program. For more information on the VRLTAEF, visit VRLTA.org/VRLTAEF.

About the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association (VRLTA)

The Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association is the only unified voice for the restaurant, lodging, travel and hospitality suppliers associations. VRLTA creates value for members by promoting the legislative interests of the industry, networking, educational opportunities, and protecting free enterprise. Inquiries about membership and VRLTA services should be directed to VRLTA at (804) 288-3065 or VRLTA.org.

About the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF)

As the philanthropic foundation of the National Restaurant Association, the NRAEF exists to enhance the restaurant industry's service to the public through education, community engagement and promotion of career opportunities. The NRAEF works to attract, develop and retain a career-oriented professional workforce for the restaurant industry. In 2016, the restaurant and foodservice industry is projected to provide a record 14.4 million jobs, making it the nation's second largest private sector employer. For more information on the NRAEF, visit NRAEF.

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