

*Honorable Mention  
2011*

## COLLIER EDUCATION AWARD

### "Stand Up for Justice"

**Nominee's Name-** Sandra Brock

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**Number of year's teaching-** 24

**Grade or subject taught-** 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Family Consumer Sciences

**School-** Pine Ridge Middle

**School Address-** 1515 Pine Ridge Road Naples, FL 34109

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**Describe the events that motivated you to initiate these lessons or activities?**

A- In the spring of 2009, I attended a program at the Holocaust Museum of S.W Florida about the **Holocaust Survivor Cookbook**, presented by Joann Caras. I was convinced of the cookbook's value as a teaching tool in my classroom. I then contacted Amy Snyder, Education Director for the museum to brainstorm possible programs using the **Holocaust Survivor Cookbook** as the centerpiece. Amy and I partnered, wrote a grant which was generously supported by Sweetbay Supermarkets and additional funding by Publix Supermarkets and **"Cooking Up Hope: How Tradition Builds Community"** was born. The involvement of the supermarkets allowed me to buy a class set of cookbooks for each Social Studies grade level at my school and purchase food for my students to prepare in the classroom.

**Describe the lesson or activity and how it teaches students the importance of respecting others.**

A- This cross-curricular project, that includes Social Studies, Language Arts, Chorus and Family Consumer Sciences, was designed to give students an historical perspective of the Holocaust, while promoting the ideas of family and community , using the stories and recipes from the cookbook, students learn about different survivors and explain different virtues that the survivor exemplified. Students prepare recipes from the cookbook by demonstrating the cooking in the classroom; this promotes and encourages cooperation and teamwork while teaching virtues such as respect, compassion and perseverance. Students also gain a better appreciation for food and how it connects traditions and cultures to families. This lesson was incorporated into my curriculum for four weeks. The time-line of activities is as follows:

- Introduce the history of the Holocaust by bringing the traveling Holocaust Museum to my school.
- Invite local Holocaust survivors to my classroom for students to hear their personal story.
- Invite the chorus students to perform songs from the Holocaust period and share the history of the music.
- Invite survivors, who enjoy cooking, to demonstrate a food representative of their family and share the significance of that food.
- Students use the cookbook to choose a survivor and write the survivor story including three virtues they feel represent this person's life. Students also choose a recipe that they will prepare for their classmates.
- As a culminating activity, my students hosted an "Open House" and invited school administrators, superintendents, parents and civic leaders to come to our classroom. The "Open House" gave my students the opportunity to share what they had learned from this project with others along with sharing samples of food prepared by students from the cookbook.