

# Carolyn Howes & Judy Pellarin

New Garden Friends School, Greensboro, NC

Primary Elementary Education

1st & 2nd Grade



2005 Honorees



From left: Ms. Howes and Ms. Pellarin

**“We are fortunate** to teach at an independent school which does not require standardized testing. We have flexibility in choosing our standards, curriculum, and assessment tools. We use national, state and county standards as a starting point to create developmentally appropriate standards for our students. We continually update these standards based on the latest research and teaching experiences and look for new curriculum that will help us meet the needs of all our students.”

“Our curriculum is both academically challenging and individualized to allow students to learn in different ways at their own pace. In addition, we are committed to creating a classroom in which students and teachers are having fun... We use motions as we spell words from the word well, play games to reinforce skip counting and place value concepts, complete mad libs as a way to learn parts of speech, and develop visual-spatial skills through a giant floor maze. During the space unit, students learn what craters and ejecta are and also have the opportunity to create their own by dropping a variety of objects from the loft in our classroom into a bin of flour. We believe that when students feel safe and are relaxed and having fun, they will be the most open for learning and retaining more of what they learn.” – *Carolyn Howes and Judy Pellarin*

**“Judy and Carolyn instill** a feeling of controlled excitement with a love of learning. You can feel the enthusiasm in their classroom. The children are encouraged to respect the talents, perspective, and differences of others, and form a feeling of cohesiveness rather than a competitive environment... Judy and Carolyn spend tremendous amounts of time preparing their units and transforming their classroom so that students can't wait to start the day and see what's on the wall and what they'll be doing next. I can only imagine the long evenings and extra hours they must put into their class plans. They make learning exciting with real-life projects, field trips, and hands on experiences.”

“One of our favorite units is The Town Unit, and the children will talk about it for years to come. The unit allows students to role play in a mock economy, with a bank, a post office, bakery/cafe, general store, research triangle park, and news station. Parents are invited to participate, and there is a great feeling of community.”  
– *Judith Magier, parent of former and current students*

## Other Highlights:

**Howes:** Directed 4 Drama Club productions for grades 3-8

Co-wrote school technology curriculum goals and plans staff technology training through the Technology Curriculum Committee

**Pellarin:** Participated in Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) group

Supervised Yearbook Club

**Howes and Pellarin:**  
Presented workshops on *Involving Students in the Rule-Making Process* at the Friends Council on Education and Southern Friends Schools conferences

Participants in SPARC: Spirited Practice and Renewed Courage program, sponsored by the Friends Council on Education

**Years Teaching:** 8 & 9, respectively

**Average Class Size:** 22

**Classes Taught Per Day:** n/a

**School's Percent of ESL Students:** 1

**School Type:** Private, Medium-Small City

**Type of Class:** Teams