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For Immediate Release

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**Mrs. Laura Bush Presents “*Preserve America*
History Teacher of the Year” Award to New Jersey Teacher**

NEW YORK, NY—Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States and Honorary Chair of the *Preserve America* initiative, today presented Rosanne Lichatin of Long Valley, New Jersey, the 2005 “*Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year” Award during a ceremony held at Lincoln Hall in The Union League Club.

“This special honor is in recognition of Roseanne Lichatin’s commitment to bringing history alive for her students using creative methods and resources,” Mrs. Bush said. “Through the efforts of great teachers our young people will learn that history is not a time apart, but a vital part of who we are.”

The “*Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year” Award, a project of the *Preserve America* White House initiative, is facilitated by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Earlier this year, finalists were selected from each state, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. Territories in the Pacific. The national “*Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year” was selected from the state finalists.

During her 30-year career in education Mrs. Lichatin has taught at both the elementary and secondary level. Currently she teaches the Pre-Advanced Placement U.S. History I class as well as U.S. History II at West Morris Central High School in Chester, New Jersey. Among many other efforts, she also is the co-advisor of the National History Club at the school. This club encourages students with an enthusiasm for history to explore the study of our past beyond the classroom with field trips, guest speakers, bulletin board displays, and newsletters.

The goals of the *Preserve America* initiative include: a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past; strengthened regional identities and local pride; increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets; and support for the economic vitality of communities.

Preserve America is a White House initiative created for the purpose of encouraging and supporting community efforts to preserve and enjoy the Nation’s cultural and national heritage. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and other Federal agencies partner to administer the various components of *Preserve America*. For more information, please visit www.PreserveAmerica.gov.

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