



NEWS RELEASE

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GCPS is honored with two EMMY Awards

The Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences has once again recognized **Gwinnett County Public Schools Television** (GCPS TV) for its efforts in educating and informing the school district's stakeholders through its original programming. The academy recently presented the school district two Emmy Awards for "*Love that Book!*" a locally-produced television show which takes students and their parents on a reading journey. The school system was announced as a winner during the 37th Annual Southeast Regional EMMY Awards Gala on Saturday, June 18, 2011, in Atlanta. At the event, the Academy recognized the best of the region's 2010 visual media.



GCPS TV support staff members accept the EMMY Awards on behalf of the school district. L-R: Randall Tolliver, Kolinda Scialabba, Greg LaHatte, and Chris Smith

The GCPS TV original production was honored in the following two categories:

- **Outstanding Achievement: News and Program Specialty Excellence, Category 15 DE, Children/Youth (12 and under) Program** – "*Love That Book!*" *Peggy Shivers, media development manager (retired in 2011); Kolinda Scialabba, information specialist; Chris Smith, communications specialist and Brookwood High graduate; and Randall Tolliver, freelance editor.*
- **Outstanding Achievement: Crafts Achievement Excellence, Category 49B, Editor - Short Form** – "*Love That Book!*" *Greg LaHatte, director of broadcast and distance learning; Chris Smith, communications specialist and Brookwood High graduate; Randall Tolliver, freelance editor.*

Greg LaHatte, the school district's director of broadcast and distance learning, was thrilled to receive this recognition. He says, "We are pleased that the Academy recognized GCPS TV for a children's show category. 'Love that Book!' is another way our school system promotes reading as a critical area for student success."

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2010 Winner of



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Hosted by storyteller and New York Times best-selling children’s book author Carmen Deedy, each episode of “*Love That Book!*” takes students on a reading adventure as they explore a featured book, a cool new book, and an oldie but goodie. In creating the television series, the award-winning team worked in collaboration with staff members, students, and local personalities. That collaboration included GCPS TV staff members Peggy Shivers and Kolinda Scialabba. As producers, they worked with the school district’s Language Arts and Media Services departments, as well as students from Sugar Hill Elementary who sang the opening song under the direction of music teacher Tiffany English. The show also features other Gwinnett students. In addition, Broadcast and Distance Learning staff members Chris Smith and Randall Tolliver, along with Mark Coughlin, created the introduction and theme song for the series.

“*Love that Book!*” first premiered on GCPS TV in the fall of the 2010-2011 school year. GCPS TV, the educational access channel for Gwinnett County Public Schools, began operations in 2001, and can be seen by Gwinnett County cable subscribers. GCPS TV’s programming also is streamed live at www.gcpstv.org. Viewers interested in viewing specific, locally produced programs also may do so online.