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**CREATOR OF *READING RAINBOW*, DR. TWILA C. LIGGETT,
HONORED BY THE BROOKE JACKMAN FOUNDATION FOR A LIFETIME
OF FOSTERING CHILDREN'S LITERACY**



Dr. Twila C. Liggett, receives award from children's author Katie Davis on behalf of The Brooke Jackman Foundation

NEW YORK (October 25, 2010) – The Brooke Jackman Foundation presented its first Legend of Literacy award to Dr. Twila C. Liggett, creator of the acclaimed TV series *Reading Rainbow* and a lifelong writer and advocate of literacy. Dr. Liggett accepted the award October 21 at the Brooke Jackman Foundation's 9th annual gala, an event to support the organization's numerous literacy initiatives aimed at underserved children throughout greater New York.

For 25 years, *Reading Rainbow* instilled a love of books in millions of children. Dr. Liggett's creative vision, steadfast leadership and unyielding energy resulted in the series winning over 160 awards, including 26 Emmys, 10 of them for Outstanding Children's Series. As an educator and author, Dr. Liggett has written extensively about literacy and children's literature and currently serves on the Brooke Jackman Foundation Advisory Committee. She is also writing a new book for parents tentatively titled *Just Read Anything – How to Raise Intelligent, Literate Kids*.

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“The Foundation is excited to both honor and work with Dr. Liggett,” said Erin Jackman, the Foundation’s executive director. “She is a pioneer who shined a national spotlight on the importance of children’s literacy. Her passion and commitment reflect the Foundation’s core mission to advance literacy among thousands of children and families in need.”

The Brooke Jackman Foundation is a non-profit organization that creates and supports programs enhancing the literacy and self-esteem of disadvantaged children and their families in the New York area. Inspired by Brooke’s deep love for reading and profound interest in helping children, her family instituted a living legacy in her honor in October 2001 after Brooke, 23, lost her life in the September 11 attacks. The Foundation has established four libraries as well as after school and family literacy programs at many different sites including Family Justice Centers in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx for victims of domestic violence and crime. This year, the Foundation has also donated over 3700 Brooke Packs, filled with school supplies and books to children living in homeless shelters and through other city and county agencies for children in need.

For more information please visit www.brookejackmanfoundation.org.

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