

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **Horry County Solid Waste Authority Recognizes Recycling Student of the Year**

CONWAY, SC - Every year the Solid Waste Authority honors one student in Horry County as the Recycling Student of the Year. This student demonstrates a positive influence in fulfilling the Solid Waste Authority's mission of Protecting Tomorrow's Environment Today while also participating in recycling activities at school and at home. Students in grades K-12 may apply, but only one student per school per year will be honored.

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority recognized the 2026 Recycling Student of the Year on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at Scholars Academy. Jolie Thuc Quyen Vu, a freshman, was awarded this honor and received a prize pack from the Horry County Solid Waste Authority valued at \$500, which included a new Apple Ipad, a medal and a prize pack of recycled content items and school supplies.

Jolie is a true inspiration to her classmates, school, and community. She is a motivated student that encourages others to take responsibility to care for the earth. In her essay, Jolie spoke of her passion for recycling and protecting the environment starting at a young age when she would turn cardboard boxes around the house into projects and creations. She has never lost that passion and strives to turn that early mindset into meaningful action. Jolie actively participates in the Green Team at school, is a volunteer for beach cleanups, and believes her voice can educate and bring awareness to her peers and the community. Jolie stated, "Recycling to me is not limited to organized service hours-it is something I try to practice consistently in everyday situations".

Jolie has a genuine passion for the environment and has a desire to encourage others build a culture of responsibility and awareness of sustainability. She stated, "My goal is not to just recycle myself, but to help create a culture where recycling becomes a shared habit. By consistently practicing these actions and encouraging others to join, I hope to show that protecting the environment does not require are changes, just awareness, initiative and a willingness to start with small steps."

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority was honored to recognize Jolie Thuc Quyen Vu as the 2026 Recycling Student of the Year and believe she is a great example to her peers and a model steward of our environment and will fulfill the mission of the Solid Waste Authority to "Protect Tomorrow's Environment Today".



2026 Recycling Student of the Year Recipient, Jolie Thuc Quyen Vu, Freshman at Scholars Academy

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