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Holt Releases *¡Exprésate! Online Edition With SoundBooth, Video, and More Interaction for Students, More Tools for Teachers*

AUSTIN, Texas – June 27, 2005 – Holt, Rinehart and Winston today announced the release of *¡Exprésate! Premier Online Edition*, a Spanish program for middle and high school, which offers new interactive and multisensory learning activities for students. Instruction is more meaningful and effective with the *¡Exprésate! Online Edition* because students are actively engaged in learning about Spanish culture while learning the language.

The *¡Exprésate! Online Edition* is the Web-based edition of *¡Exprésate!* ©2006, Holt's newest Spanish program that employs instructional and multisensory learning techniques to connect students to Spanish-speaking countries, their arts, culture, and people, while teaching them to converse in Spanish. The Web-based medium allows students to select over 40 hours of visual and audio resources at the click of a button. They also can choose from point-of-use, self-grading workbooks, Holt's exclusive voice recording feature called Holt SoundBooth, a searchable grammar bank, an Electronic Notebook, and a travel log Photo Tour for each featured location.

Teachers using *¡Exprésate!* find that the copious interactive and multimedia elements engage students in their learning and help them build better communication skills. "*¡Exprésate!* is very communicative," said Erin Bethea, a Spanish teacher at Revere High School in Ohio. "I'm seeing the kids advance by leaps and bounds. They can shift between tenses. They actually retain the information."

"With the online edition of *¡Exprésate!*, students can take an active role in their learning and find point-of-use resources to reinforce classroom instruction," said Lawrence Haley, vice president of world languages for Holt. "We are especially pleased with the visual and audio elements that give students a chance to experience life in many Spanish-speaking countries."

The *¡Exprésate! Online Edition* mirrors the approach of the print textbook and addresses three modes of communication identified by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages: presentational, interpretive, and interpersonal. Emphasis on these modes of communication and on the national foreign language standards helps students hone their language skills and develop a greater grasp of the Spanish language and culture.

Grammar is also emphasized in a new way; in *¡Exprésate!*, Spanish grammar is presented and compared to English grammar rules to facilitate comprehension giving students a stronger foundation for learning the language and its structure.

There are new Web-based teaching materials and tools, including Holt Online Assessment (HOA), to give teachers a full suite of resources from lesson planning to evaluation and supplementary instruction. Using HOA, teachers can assign pre-loaded tests or upload their own tests through the One-Stop Planner with Test Generator®, which then grades the tests automatically. Teachers can generate and view student test reports by standard and then diagnose student proficiency, assign intervention, and track each student's improvement over time.

¡Exprésate! is available in Levels 1, 2 and 3 for high-school grades and Levels 1A and 1B for middle school grades. Holt offers an advanced three-level Spanish program for heritage speakers and AP students called *Nuevas vistas*.

About Holt, Rinehart and Winston

Holt, Rinehart and Winston is a leading publisher of textbooks and educational materials for grades six through 12 and is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. The Harcourt companies are Harcourt School Publishers; Holt, Rinehart and Winston; Harcourt Achieve (including the Rigby, Steck-Vaughn, and Saxon imprints); Harcourt Assessment; Classroom Connect; and Harcourt Trade Publishers. For further information, please call (800) 992-1627 or visit www.hrw.com or www.harcourt.com.

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