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The Celebrant Foundation & Institute Revamps Curriculum for Training and Certifying Ceremony Professionals, Helping to Meet Growing Societal Need

The Institute provides Gold Standard of Study in Ceremony, Preparing the Newest Class of Students for Vibrant and Lucrative Careers as Certified Life-Cycle Celebrants®

Montclair, NJ—The Celebrant Foundation & Institute's (CF&I) newest class of students recently began their seven-month online ceremony coursework, the first to experience CF&I's revamped curriculum centered at even more thoroughly preparing students for professional success in the growing field of celebrancy. With more families turning to celebrants to co-create and officiate their weddings, funerals and other significant life ceremonies, the need for ceremony professionals is on the rise. The CF&I is at the forefront of filling this void, as the nation's preeminent, online, educational institute teaching and certifying people as modern day ceremony professionals called Life-Cycle Celebrants[®].

The Institute offers rigorous, seven-month, celebrant certification programs that are conveniently taught online in real-time by experienced celebrant faculty. Through the program, students explore the art of ritual, ceremony, world and faith traditions, ceremonial writing and public speaking. They graduate as certified as Life-Cycle Celebrants[®] trained to perform and co-create personalized ceremonies that reflect the needs, beliefs and values of the people they are honoring.

"Since CF&I's founding in 2001, we've always taken great pride in being the gold standard of study in ceremony and ritual," said Charlotte Eulette, International Director of CF&I. "Our dedicated faculty, most of whom are experienced Celebrant themselves, continuously work to enhance our curriculum, so that it reflects changes in society and provides just the right balance of ceremonial theory and real-life business practice. Our latest realignment ensures our students leave the program with a deep understanding of the theory behind ceremony and

ritual and the hands-on knowledge to be successful professional Celebrants in their communities," she continued.

The increasing popularity of Celebrants is due in part to the changing face of family and the shift of religious identities across the nation. Recent PEW studies have revealed that a growing number of Americans are no longer identifying with specific organized religions, yet many still consider themselves spiritual. Life-Cycle Celebrants[®] offer an alternative. They give people of all backgrounds, traditions, cultures and faiths the opportunity to create ceremonies that best reflect their values and ideals.

Celebrancy got its start 40 years ago in Australia and New Zealand where today celebrants perform the majority of weddings, funeral and family ceremonies in that region. Since then, the Celebrant movement has picked up steam worldwide, particularly in Europe, Canada, and the United States. Just this year, New Jersey became the first state in the US to include civil wedding celebrants in its Marriage Act with many more states well-poised to follow.

With Celebrancy continuing to expand, the Institute recently translated its curriculum from English into French and Spanish, with plans to offer additional translations in the near future. The goal is to remove the language barrier for any and all who are interested in joining the fulfilling, and rapidly growing career. Celebrants make a positive impact on the lives of others, while enjoying flexibility, personal fulfillment and financial gain.

"The Institute's unwavering commitment to excellence in celebrant training and education is the reason why our graduates, Life-Cycle Celebrants[®], are so distinguishable from others in the field," said Gaile Sarma, Founder of the Celebrant Foundation & Institute. "Our faculty stop at nothing to ensure our students receive the most enriching and relevant education and leave our program fully prepared to provide their clients with the highest standards in ceremony preparation and delivery," she concluded.

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About the Celebrant Foundation & Institute

The Celebrant Foundation & Institute (CF&I) is the nation's preeminent educational organization that teaches and certifies people as modern day ceremony professionals called Life-Cycle Celebrants[®]. The college-level Life-Cycle Celebrant[®] program is taught live, on-line via an interactive format by seasoned Celebrant faculty members. The coursework is offered in several languages and Celebrants hail from countries throughout the world. Founded in 2001, the educational nonprofit organization is headquartered in Montclair, NJ, and is a member of the International Federation of Celebrants. To learn more about the CF&I, visit **www.celebrantinstitute.org**

About Life-Cycle Celebrants®

Life-Cycle Celebrants® are certified graduates of the Celebrant Foundation & Institute. Through the CF&I's seven-month, web-based educational program, students are rigorously schooled in

the art of ritual, ceremony, world and faith traditions, mythology, ceremonial writing and public speaking. Through the programs, they learn how to officiate at virtually every life event with a focus on personalizing each ceremony to reflect the needs, beliefs and values of the couple or family. Ceremonies include weddings, civil unions, funerals, baby and parenting, adoptions, and all other events honoring the milestones in peoples' lives. Life-Cycle Celebrants® abide by a code of ethics, a nondiscrimination policy as professionals, and many become Celebrant Alumni Association Members.