

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 24, 2008

OMEGA INSTITUTE TO HOST EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

Contact: Chrissa Pullicino

Office: 845.266.4444, ext. 233

Sponsored by Education as Transformation (EasT) and Courage & Renewal Northeast

RHINEBECK, NY – Omega Institute today announced that it will hold an educators conference designed to inspire and support educators by bringing together some of the nation's most renowned education experts for a three-day conference titled, Transforming Education: Humanity's Essential Voice. The conference will run from August 1–3 at Omega's Rhinebeck, New York campus.

"Education is essential to creating a more peaceful and just society," said Carla Goldstein, director of external affairs at Omega. "Omega's conference is providing educators with a framework for staying inspired while confronting the challenges of working to bring positive change into the world one classroom at a time."

The conference—which aims to reconnect teachers with their original inspiration to teach—will explore teaching strategies for creating engaging learning environments. Through expert guidance, conference participants will learn how to turn classroom obstacles into opportunities by adopting a more holistic approach to teaching and how to better care for themselves.

The conference is open to anyone interested in gaining holistic learning tools. A 25% discount is being offered to professors, teachers, and students pursuing careers in education. To register please visit eOmega.org or call 800.944.1001.

Conference presenters:

Jonathan Kozol is an educator, social justice advocate, and award-winning author. His books include *Death at an Early Age, The Shame of the Nation, Amazing Grace, Rachel and Her Children, Savage Inequalities, Ordinary Resurrections,* and *Letters to a Young Teacher*.

Diana Chapman Walsh, PhD, is president emerita of Wellesley College and author of books and articles on education, health, and leadership. Before assuming the Wellesley

presidency, Walsh was the Norman Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health, where she chaired the Department of Health and Social Behavior.

Peter Laurence, EdD, is executive director of Education as Transformation at Wellesley College. He is coeditor of *Education as Transformation, Beyond Tolerance*, and the book series *Studies in Education and Spirituality*.

Victor Kazanjian is dean of Religious and Spiritual Life, codirector of the Peace and Justice Studies Program, and president of Education as Transformation at Wellesley College. He is coeditor of *Education as Transformation*, *Beyond Tolerance*, and the book series *Studies in Education and Spirituality*.

Ji Hyang Sunim is the Buddhist Advisor for Wellesley College. She received Zen ordination in 1993 and served as abbot of the Cambridge Zen Center for five years. She is a former chaplain of Harvard and Boston universities.

Pamela Seigle, MS, is the executive director of Courage & Renewal Northeast and a Courage & Renewal facilitator.

Lisa Sankowski, EdM, is associate director of Courage & Renewal Northeast and a Courage & Renewal facilitator.

About Education as Transformation (EasT)

EasT is an international organization that provides consultation, educational materials, and training on issues of religious diversity and spirituality to educational institutions. wellesley.edu/RelLife/transformation/

About Courage & Renewal Northeast

An affiliate of the Center for Courage & Renewal, which facilitates Courage to Teach® and other programs that support personal wholeness and vocational vitality for teachers. CourageNE.org

About Omega Institute for Holistic Studies

Founded in 1977, Omega Institute for Holistic Studies is the nation's most trusted source for wellness and personal growth. As a nonprofit organization, Omega offers diverse and innovative educational experiences that inspire an integrated approach to personal and social change. Located on 195 acres in the beautiful Hudson Valley, Omega welcomes more than 23,000 people to its workshops, conferences, and retreats in Rhinebeck, New York and at exceptional locations around the world. eOmega.org