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Omega Names Meg Downey Chief Marketing Officer

Former Managing Editor of the Tennessean & Executive Editor of the Poughkeepsie Journal to Head Omega's Marketing Efforts

RHINEBECK, NY – Meg Downey, a leading voice for the environment, education, and social causes, has been named chief marketing officer of Omega Institute for Holistic Studies, based in Rhinebeck, New York. Downey, former executive editor and editorial page editor of the *Poughkeepsie Journal* and, most recently, managing editor of *The Tennessean* in Nashville, both Gannett news organizations, has won more than 40 national awards, including twice being designated a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, both as an individual at the *Poughkeepsie Journal* and as a leader of a *Tennessean* team.

“After a long executive search, we are thrilled to welcome Meg Downey to our leadership team,” said Robert “Skip” Backus, chief executive officer at Omega. “Meg brings strong communications expertise, a unique skill-set, and shared values to the work of our Marketing department, and we are excited by what she will be able to contribute.”

In addition to her work on digital news sites and in newspapers, she has been an editor and contributing writer for 10 books, a magazine editor, and a television news show cohost. Downey also taught a journalism seminar at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie for nine years and has served on the boards of the Associated Press Media Editors, the National Conference of Editorial Writers (now the Association of Opinion Journalists), and the New York Fair Trial Free Press Conference. She has been president of the New York State Associated Press Association and was given the Dutchess Award for Community Leadership by the Dutchess County Historical Society. She is currently a member of the board of Arts Mid-Hudson.

A graduate of Smith College and mother of two sons, Downey lives in Millerton with her husband, Edward, an attorney and certified financial planner.

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 200 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

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