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**“Are We Educating for a Sustainable Future?”  
CEL Foundation Summer Sustainability Workshops at Manhattanville College  
Help Teachers Generate Curriculum for Change**

June 11, 2008 - Purchase, NY - This July, Manhattanville College will host two sustainability workshops led by the Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CEL). One of the most comprehensive sustainability professional development programs of its kind in the U.S., the annual CEL Summer Institute is designed to provide the technical and scientific background, the curriculum framework and materials necessary for integrating sustainability education into K-12 schools. Now in its fourth year, the CEL Summer Institute for Sustainability Education will take place July 14-18th at Reid Castle on the Manhattanville campus.

The 5-day Institute is an intensive workshop that provides teachers with strategies, resources, and guided planning to enhance curriculum and instruction through the lens of sustainability. Teachers work in grade level groups to create curriculum “makeovers” using content within the environmental, economic and cultural contexts shaping students' lives.

The Institute focuses on six crucial areas of sustainability: **Ecological Footprint** - fundamentals of human/environmental interactions; **Food Systems** - economics, human health and the environment; **Sustainable Communities**; **Ecological Economics** - linking science, social studies, and civics; **Climate Change**; and **Systems Thinking and Youth Action**.

Content experts from the U.S. Green Building Council and an alternative energy consulting company, Juice Energy, will join sustainability educators to provide the most current thinking in these respective fields.

Prior to the Institute, on July 10-11, CEL will offer – for the first time in New York – “Designed by Nature” - a 2-day workshop for middle school science, social studies and technology teachers. Focused on materials science, product life cycles, resource use, energy, and the environment, “Designed by Nature” wraps effective pedagogy around relevant, rigorous content that is sure to engage students.

"Designed by Nature" integrates life science, physics, chemistry and earth science; topics presented include biotic and abiotic materials; energy use, recycling, and the laws of thermodynamics; life cycles, food chains and biomagnification; and polymers, biodegradation, and materials transformation.

The program also introduces students to career pathways in engineering, design, materials science, and public policy. Students gain not only increased scientific knowledge, but also an understanding of why science matters.

According to CELF's Executive Director, Katie Ginsberg, the ultimate goal of the CELF Summer Institute is to "contribute to the preparation of today's K-12 students for the environmental, social and economic challenges and opportunities they will face tomorrow."

"CELF's approach to education will make our children think ...about our earth and the way that we are all interrelated and dependent upon one another," said State Assemblyman Adam Bradley, an advocate of sustainability education and continued supporter of CELF.

Registration, program overviews and presenter profiles are online at [www.celfoundation.org](http://www.celfoundation.org).

The Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation ("CELFF") is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that collaborates with public school districts and individual teachers to raise awareness of sustainable development and to help incorporate related principles into K-12 curricula and programs. Visit [www.celfoundation.org](http://www.celfoundation.org) for more information about CELF's programs and initiatives and partnerships.

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