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Institute for Humane Education Hires New Executive Director

Surry, Maine - January 10, 2011 – The Institute for Humane Education (IHE) is pleased to announce that it has hired Sarah Speare of Falmouth, Maine, as its new executive director. Sarah has leadership experience as a non-profit executive, entrepreneur and designer for social change.

“We couldn’t have found a better person to take IHE to the next level of growth. Sarah has creative vision and significant experience in growing and building organizations,” said Zoe Weil, co-founder and president of IHE. “She also has a passion and deep interest in helping people to use their knowledge, creativity and leadership to create positive change in their lives, communities and the world. We are excited to have her as our new executive director as IHE moves into a new phase of growth marked by greater awareness of its teacher training programs and its empowering opportunities for engaged citizens to integrate humane education into their lives,” Weil continued.

Most recently, Ms. Speare was a strategic consultant to the non-profit Art At Work/Terra Moto in Portland, ME, and strategic advisor to Project M in Belfast, ME. Ten years prior she was the co-founder and president of Chomp Inc., a consumer foods company that was acquired in 2009. Prior to founding Chomp, Sarah served as the first director of the Portland Arts and Cultural Alliance (PACA), and for a decade was the executive director of the Society for Environmental Graphic Design (SEGD). She has also been a community design consultant to non-profits throughout New England and has served on the boards of Spiral Arts, Maine Arts, and Architalx and currently serves on the board of AIGA/Maine. A graduate of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, with a certificate in Arts Management from Radcliffe College, she has been honored with a Fellow Award from the SEGDC and won an Innovation Award from the Center for Design and Business in Rhode Island.

“I believe strongly in the Institute for Humane Education’s approach to creating social change through education – inspiring people to become solutionaries and the important connection between human rights, animal protection, and environmental preservation. I look forward to helping to grow IHE’s programs and to deepening its reach and impact,” Speare commented.

The Institute for Humane Education (IHE) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) educational organization dedicated to creating a world of solutionaries who have the knowledge, tools, and motivation to build a healthy, humane, restorative world for all. Headquartered in Surry, Maine, IHE has been training humane educators and promoting humane education since 1996. Humane education approaches human rights, environmental preservation and animal protection as interconnected and integral dimensions of a healthy, just society. IHE offers online programs, workshops, a graduate certificate, M.Ed. and M.A. in Humane Education, a Summer Institute as well as many other dynamic resources: www.HumaneEducation.org.

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