



For Immediate Release

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Newton Marasco Foundation Names Mary Alex New President

Former Fundraising Director, Broadcaster Joins Environmental Foundation

McLean, Va., – Mary Alex, a former nonprofit consultant for Global Capacity Consulting and fundraising director for the Women’s Funding Network, has been named President of the Newton Marasco Foundation, a McLean-based public foundation that sponsors a host of programs focused on inspiring environmental stewardship.

Alex brings to the foundation 15 years of experience in nonprofit management, communications, and fund-raising. She most recently founded and ran her own consulting firm Global Capacity Consulting, a San Francisco-based business that provided strategic guidance to local, national and international nonprofits, such as the Women’s Community Clinic in San Francisco, the Laguna de Santa Rose Foundation in Sebastopol, Calif., and Winrock International. In July 2006, Alex received the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation award for her work with Winrock International in preventing human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan and promoting enterprise development in Nicaragua.

Prior to starting her own firm, Alex served as director of strategic program initiatives and major gifts for the Women's Funding Network, an international organization of women’s foundations committed to improving the status of women around the world. There, she designed and created an online fundraising school for member foundations for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. She also previously served as development and communications director for the Janet Pomeroy Center, a San Francisco-based nonprofit providing vocational and recreational opportunities for serving people with disabilities. In addition to her nonprofit work experience, Alex was a news producer for radio stations KCBS-AM in San Francisco and KQED-FM, the Bay Area NPR affiliate station.

“Mary Alex is a dedicated, talented leader who will help the Newton Marasco Foundation expand our reach to students, businesses and communities,” said Amy Marasco Newton, who founded the Newton Marasco Foundation in 2004 in honor of her late husband, environmentalist Dave Newton. “With her broad experience and expertise, Mary Alex will contribute much to our mission of inspiring environmental stewardship in the next generation.”

The Newton Marasco Foundation sponsors numerous innovative programs that foster learning, appreciation and caring for the natural environment. From the Green Earth Book Awards to the Field It program for high school students, the foundation sponsors environmental projects that inspire others and offer hands-on environmental experiences to youth. Last year, the foundation launched a series of events, plays and a high school scholars program in honor of the centennial celebration of Rachel Carson’s birth. The

foundation also educates and informs companies on sustainable green business practices and environmental ethics, and promotes the conservation and restoration of unique community ecosystems and habitats.

“I am thrilled to join in the important work of the Newton Marasco Foundation at a time of growing public awareness about the importance of our natural environment,” Alex said. “I look forward to building upon the foundation’s fine work so that even more may hear the message of environmental stewardship.”

In addition to her professional work, Alex has served on the board of Grantmakers without Borders and was a founder of the Bay Area Nonprofit Consultants. She also served on the Commission on the Status of Women for Sonoma County, Calif. Alex holds a master’s degree in social work from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a bachelor’s degree in communications from George Washington University.

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Based in McLean, Va., the Newton Marasco Foundation’s mission is to inspire responsible environmental stewardship. NMF designs innovative programs that foster learning, appreciation and caring for our natural environment. The foundation promotes awareness and responsibility for the environment by individuals, schools, businesses and communities. The foundation educates companies on sustainable green business practices and promotes the conservation and restoration of unique community ecosystems and habitats. The foundation conducts award programs that recognize small deeds and great acts that promote environmental awareness and further sustainable, environmental solutions. For more information, visit www.newtonmarascofoundation.org.