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## EMBARGOED UNTIL FEB. 12, 2008

# MORE APPLICANTS TO BOOST TO THE RANKS OF CERTIFIED FRANCHISE PROFESSIONALS

Young Rembrandts Congratulates Two Employees on Accomplishments

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Feb. 12, 2008) — The Institute of Certified Franchise Executives recognized two Chicagoland area employees from Young Rembrandts as Certified Franchise Executives (CFE) today. Madeline Morgenroth of Batavia, Ill., and Kim Swanson of Elgin, Ill., both received the certification from the franchise industry's largest trade group.

Both Morgenroth and Swanson completed a comprehensive course of study in franchise management offered by the institute, which is the academic branch of the International Franchise Association's (IFA) Educational Foundation.

IFA, the world's largest trade group representing the franchising industry, includes nearly 1,300 franchise companies, 10,000 franchisees and more than 500 firms that provide goods and services to the industry, hosts the presentation during its annual convention in Orlando.

Morgenroth, Director or Franchise Support at Young Rembrandts, joined in 1999 and is responsible for the continual coaching and support of all Young Rembrandts' franchisees. Swanson, Director of Franchise Development at Young Rembrandts, joined in 1998 and is responsible for the company's sales efforts. Both Morgenroth and Swanson are based in Young Rembrandts' home office in the Chicagoland area of Elgin, Ill.

"Everyone at Young Rembrandts is proud of Kim and Madeline's achievements with the IFA," said Bette Fetter, founder and CEO of Young Rembrandts, the international franchise that teaches art to children. "Their accomplishments reiterate our strong belief that everyone – from home office employees to franchisees – must engage in bettering and improving their skills throughout their careers."



### More about Young Rembrandts

**Young Rembrandts** For nearly 20 years, Young Rembrandts has taught the power of drawing to children. It partners with day care centers, pre-schools, elementary schools and community recreation centers to supply or augment the current art program offerings. Young Rembrandts teaches drawing, the fundamental skill of all visual arts to children aged  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 12. The proprietary method and step-by-step curriculum dispels the myth that art is a talent a child has or doesn't have, and demonstrates that art can be learned by all children.

In 2000, Bette and her husband, Bill Fetter, franchised Young Rembrandts Inc. Currently, Young Rembrandts teaches about 30,000 students each week nationwide. The goal, Fetter notes, is to reach at least 200,000 students across the nation through parent-funded programs.

To learn more about Young Rembrandts or to find a program, please visit www.youngrembrandts.com.

### More about IFA

More than 1,000 candidates are currently enrolled or have received certification. More than 300 IFA-member companies currently have one or more executives enrolled in the program that provides benefits such as specialized knowledge, industry recognition, peerlevel networking and professional standing.

Candidates must complete a rigorous course of study to earn the CFE designation, which includes attending institute-sponsored educational seminars and workshops. The program is designed to enhance franchising professionals' understanding of both the industry's fundamental and complex aspects.

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Editor's Note: For more information about Madeline Morgenroth, Kim Swanson, to request an interview or for information about Young Rembrandts, please contact Molly Lynch at 773/505-9719 or via email at molly catherine@hotmail.com.

For more about the CFE program, visit Franchise.org or contact IFA Media Relations at 202-628-8000.