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## **Milady Awards Educator of the Year at the 15th Annual CEA Convention**

*The Nicholas F. Cimaglia Educator of the Year was Awarded to Marcia Bird*

**Clifton Park, NY – August 13, 2009** – Milady and Cosmetology Educators of America (CEA) have named Marcia Bird, the Nicholas F. Cimaglia Educator of the Year at the 15th Annual CEA Convention in Las Vegas, N.V. Marcia is a cosmetology instructor at the Somerset County Technology Institute in Bridgewater, N.J.

Marcia was acknowledged for her contributions to professional standards of educational excellence, and her involvement with community service. She has been a cosmetology educator for nearly thirty years. She maintains a “firm but fair” relationship with her students and believes in hands-on education. She always makes herself available to her students and keeps an open door policy. Marcia keeps her students current on trends in the industry by taking them on field trips to local salons to encourage, inspire, and motivate them. In her own words, “You must stay involved in the industry, refuel and bring what you’ve learned into the classroom.”

In addition to being stellar in the classroom, Marcia gives back to her community. She helped to organize a Dining for Change Event for the Cut-It-Out Program. The program was organized to bring awareness to the association’s Cut-It-Out program. Salon professionals participating in the program received training on how to recognize warning signs of domestic abuse. Guest speakers from the Somerset County Resource Center for Women and Their Families joined Bird to produce the Dining for Change seminar for 30 salon owners, stylists, and students.

As the recipient of the Nicholas F. Cimaglia Award, Bird received an all-expenses-paid trip to Las Vegas, where she was honored at the annual Cosmetology Educators of America Conference on July 11. In addition, she received a cash prize of \$2,500 and gifts from Milady.

Cosmetology Educators of America is the educational committee of the American Association of Cosmetology Schools, providing inspiring education and networking opportunities to enrich and expand the lives of cosmetology educators.

### **About Milady**

Milady, a part of Cengage Learning, is the number one provider for beauty and wellness learning solutions. For more than 80 years, Milady has provided the industry with superior educational and professional learning materials. Milady offers salon and spa professionals support through personal consultation, business and life coaching, comprehensive organizational training, and web-based assistance. Complete with programs in place to assist salon and spa business owners to further develop successful lives and stable profitability, Milady is a true full-service provider from student to professional. Spanning six continents, Milady has aided more than 10 million beauty professionals in achieving licensure success. Learn more about Milady by visiting [www.milady.cengage.com](http://www.milady.cengage.com).