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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Master's Academy ECLC Teacher Named Finalist for Early Childhood Educator of the Year

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Tracy Craft, a PreK-3 teacher at Master's Academy's Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC), has been named a finalist for the **Early Childhood Educator of the Year** recognition presented by **Childcare Resources of Indian River, Inc.**

Craft was nominated by **Sarah Lantrip**, Director of Master's Academy's ECLC, as part of an annual recognition honoring outstanding early childhood educators serving children and families in the Sebastian, Vero Beach, and Fort Pierce areas.

A devoted wife, loving mother, trained nurse, and dedicated educator, Craft brings a servant's heart to every role she embraces. It is in her classroom, however, where her passion for serving young children shines especially brightly.

"Tracy has a heart of gold and a deep passion for shaping the lives of the young children entrusted to her care," said Lantrip. "She gives her very best to her students every single day, making sure they know they are deeply loved, valued, and capable."

Master's Academy Head of School **Dr. Rick Brewer** said Craft exemplifies the kind of educator who makes a lasting difference in the lives of students and families.

"We are incredibly proud of Tracy and grateful for the way she lives out the mission of Master's Academy every day," said Dr. Brewer. "She understands that teaching young children is about so much more than academics—it is about nurturing their hearts, building their confidence, and helping them understand that they are created by God with great value and purpose. Tracy's servant's heart and genuine love for her students are evident in everything she does, and this recognition is a wonderful reflection of the impact she is making."

Craft's classroom is characterized by compassion, creativity, and intentional teaching. She works to nurture each child's academic, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual development, meeting students where they are while encouraging them to grow in confidence, independence, and character.

Her influence extends beyond her students to the families she serves. Craft has developed strong, supportive relationships with parents, who frequently turn to her for guidance and encouragement regarding parenting and behavioral concerns. Her willingness to listen, combined with her wisdom, compassion, and practical support, has made her a trusted resource for families.

"Tracy is not simply an exceptional teacher," Lantrip said. "She is a life-shaper, a role model, and a source of hope and encouragement to children and families. She is exceedingly deserving of this recognition."

Master's Academy's ECLC serves PreK-3 and PreK-4 students with a Christ-centered approach to early childhood education. The program emphasizes kindergarten readiness, social-emotional development, creative play, movement, and the development of the whole child in a nurturing environment.

The Early Childhood Educator of the Year recognition celebrates educators whose dedication and excellence make a meaningful difference in the lives of young children and their families. Craft was recognized as a finalist among educators nominated by early childhood centers throughout the local area.

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ABOUT MASTER'S ACADEMY of VERO BEACH

Master's Academy is a fully ACSI-accredited private school serving students from Kindergarten through Grade 12 in the Treasure Coast region of Florida. Since 1998, the school has been committed to spiritually developing and academically challenging students to impact their world for Christ. With a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum and a dedicated, caring faculty, Master's Academy provides a Christ-centered education that equips students for success in college and beyond.

Master's Academy's Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) *extends the school's Christ-centered educational experience to PreK3 and PreK4 students. Located just down the street from the main campus, the ECLC provides a nurturing environment where young children develop foundational academic, social and emotional skills through creative play, movement and hands-on learning—all while preparing for a successful transition to kindergarten.*

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