

December 2022



## A Leadership Development Opportunity Like No Other

The Selected Leadership Academy offers a focused two-year curriculum designed to engage and energize any Selected member wanting to build their leadership skills.

The Selected Educational Trust is excited to offer two scholarships to help Selected members build their leadership skills through the Selected Leadership Academy: the Chester T. French Memorial Scholarship and

a scholarship made possible thanks to a generous grant from [Homesteaders Life Company](#).

Robert Nunnaley, Fry and Pricket Funeral Home, NC, shared how impactful receiving an Academy scholarship was for him.

"The Selected Leadership Academy was one of the best programs for me in my career. I was transitioning from a funeral director to a general manager when I applied for a scholarship to the Academy. Fortunately, I received it and through it was able to learn how to identify my strengths and weaknesses as a leader as well as learning how to work with and treat others in our organization. The connection with my class was phenomenal and through it I built lifelong relationships."

All applications must be received by January 31, 2023. [Apply today!](#)

## Pyramid Builders Are the Trust's Foundation

The Pyramid Builders Society was established to provide a giving opportunity for our donors who want to make a significant impact on the independent funeral service



profession. This unique giving society forms the foundation of the Trust's core goals: scholarship, research, education, and workforce development. Membership in this exclusive group acknowledges those individuals and firms deeply committed to the future of the death-care profession.



### **THANK YOU TO PYRAMID BUILDERS SOCIETY MEMBERS**

Tom Antram, French Funerals & Cremations, New Mexico  
Kevin Brown, Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Indiana  
Arthur Erickson, Beecher & Bennett, Connecticut  
Kimberly Farris-Luke, Farris Funeral Service, Virginia  
William Hawkins, Founder of Angeleno Mortuaries, California  
Mark Higgins, North Carolina  
John and Claudia Kepner, Raymer-Kepner Funeral Home, North Carolina  
Tony Lloyd, Flanner Buchanan, Indiana  
David Moore, Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapels, Iowa  
Robert Nunnaley, Fry & Prickett Funeral Home, North Carolina  
Kevin Schoedinger, Schoedinger & Company, Ohio  
James Shure, Robert E. Shure & Son Funeral Home, Connecticut  
Sean and Cynthia Thompson, Thompson Funeral Chapel, Arizona

Contact [Stefanie Favia](#) to find the year-end giving opportunity that is right for you.



### **Guide Your Families Toward Meaning With This Institute Course**

"Every funeral director that meets with families should take this course." Rachel Durbeck, Memorial Funeral Home, Newport, RI on Institute course, "Guiding Families Toward Meaning and Healing."

While we, as funeral professionals, cannot take away the intense pain of a family's loss, we can show them how much we care about them and how we can help them as they begin their grief journey. In the upcoming online course hosted by the Institute for Exceptional Funeral Service, you will examine the various ways you can build connections with families, earn their trust, and create value in the services you provide.

Instructor Becky Lomaka believes that "education is our most powerful tool in our efforts to help the community learn more about how to cope with death and the journey of grief after loss."

The Winter Session begins Monday, February 6 and will feature some of the Institute's most popular courses.

Space is limited, [register your staff today](#). Group rates available. Selected members are eligible for a \$100 discount per course; email [institute@selectedtrust.org](mailto:institute@selectedtrust.org) to request your coupon code





*Where Education Meets Excellence*

## You Have What It Takes to Be an Institute Instructor

Do you have skills or concepts to share that will help funeral home professionals? Looking for a unique way to give back? How about giving of your time and expertise by developing and teaching a course for the Institute?

The Institute for Exceptional Funeral Service is seeking instructors for 2023 courses on the following topics.

- Staff development and retention
- Art of Effective Arrangements
- Conflict Resolution with Families
- Working with Price shoppers

We take great pride in offering courses where education meets excellence. Watch [Be an Instructor: 7 Things You Want to Know](#) to learn more. [Email Stefanie Favia](#) or call 847-236-0150 to begin your journey as our next instructor!



## Giving Is Automatic with the C.A.R.E. Initiative

If your firm operates a crematory, donating to the Trust has never been easier. Allocate 20% of your total recycling revenues with

[Cremation Recycling](#) (or the recycler of your choice) to the Selected Educational Trust. Cremation Recycling will take it from there! Your allocated recycling revenues will then automatically be converted into tax-deductible donations to the Trust. Then sit back and watch your donations turn into programs that support, educate, and enhance the independent funeral service profession.

Show you C.A.R.E. about the future of independent funeral service and help us raise \$1 million for workforce development and educational programs! Ready to participate? [Complete this form](#) today. Contact Stefanie Favia or [click here](#) to learn more.



## Make Your Giving Count

Supporting the Trust is an investment in the future of independent funeral service and lifelong learning. Contributions are tax-deductible.

## Make a Gift

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### Thank You to Our Donors

**November 1- 30, 2022**

Alhiser-Comer Mortuary, Megan Comer, Escondido, CA  
Davis Whitehall Co., Terry School, Colorado Springs, CO  
Flanner Buchanan, Tony Lloyd, Indianapolis, IN  
Hackman Family Funeral Homes, Gregory B. Hackman, Sturgis, MI  
Keohane Funeral Home, John E. Keohane, Quincy, MA (*In memory of Noe Morales and Harold Childress*)  
Luce, Luze & Reck Funeral Homes, Tiffany Hofer, Miller, SD  
Messinger Mortuary Charitable Foundation, Phoenix, AZ  
Schoedinger & Company, Kevin Schoedinger, Columbus, OH

*Make your gift in memory or in celebration of a loved one, family member, colleague or friend  
For more information on ways to give, contact [Stefanie](#).*

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