

Cynthia Reece, Program Director, and a founding partner of the Center for Engaged Learning Abroad, CELA Belize, lives in Santa Elena, Cayo, Belize, full time. She moved to Central America in 2007 to pursue her lifelong interest in Maya archaeology, to change her life style and reduce her “carbon footprint.” She had a variety of careers in her 40 years of work, primarily in North Carolina, her home state. She has been a bank manager, a marketing manager for payroll services, a sales executive for computers and software for community banks, and managed cable TV sales and services. Before she moved to Belize, Cynthia was the Broker in Charge of a large real estate firm for eight years in Charlotte, NC. She even owned a singing telegram and balloon delivery service for five years in the mid 80’s!

Cynthia’s dedication to education led her to help start CELA Belize, in 2010, with a team of local and international faculty and staff. As Program Director, Cynthia helps match visiting groups and travelers with unique courses, service learning projects and local internship opportunities with Dr. Nancy Adamson, the Executive Director, and Dr. Filiberto Penados, Director for Engaged Scholarship and Service Learning. Cynthia helps individual students decide if studying abroad in Belize is right for them and helps move them through the enrollment process. She also works with local and visiting faculty, as well as our Community Associates, for faculty-led custom programs. CELA is a way Cynthia can share the amazing people and natural resources of Belize with the rest of the world. It’s also a way to create a sustainable business in this diverse, developing nation. She is a member of the Rotary Club of San Ignacio, www.rotarysanignacio.org. Cynthia can be reached by email, creece@celabelize.com or by phone, 011-501-670-0930.