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American Women in Radio and Television Announces the 30th Annual Gracie Allen Awards[®] Call for Entries

November 23, 2004 (McLean, VA) – The Foundation of American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) is inviting entries for the 30th Annual Gracie Allen Awards[®] (the Gracies[®]), the most prestigious industry award that recognizes exemplary programming created by women, for women and about women, as well as outstanding achievement by individuals.

The 30th Annual Gracie Allen Awards will continue the tradition of recognizing programming and individuals of the highest caliber in all facets of radio, television, cable and web-based media, including news, drama, comedy, commercials, public service, documentary and sports. **The entry deadline is January 3, 2005.**

2004 National AWRT President, Melodie Virtue, attorney/owner with Garvey Schubert Barer, stated, "We are anticipating another record year of exciting entries that reflect the quality and hard work of women and men in the electronic media. The Gracies statue is a beacon in radio, television and cable – considered one of the top honors in our profession."

Last year's national Gracie Allen Awards program recognized individual achievement award winners such as CBS reporter/correspondent Lara Logan, NBC *Law and Order* star Mariska Hargitay, PBS correspondent Gwen Ifill, HBO *Sex and the City* star Sarah Jessica Parker, and programming such as CBS's *Early Show*, NBC's *Today Show*, ABC's *Good Morning America* and many more, representing a broad cross-section of outstanding actors, producers, writers, correspondents and programs.

Maria Brennan, AWRT Executive Director, added, "In 2005, the Gracies turn 30, and in celebration of that we will move to a larger venue and co-locate within the PROMAX/BDA conference which draws nearly 3,000 attendees. The 2005 event is destined to be a landmark year."

To qualify for entry, programs must have aired for the first time between December 1, 2003 and November 30, 2004. National and Grand Award winners will be honored at the star-studded Gracie Allen Awards Gala, to be held June 21, 2005 in New York. Local markets, public and student award winners will be honored at the Awards Luncheon of the Gracie Allen Awards, which will be held the day prior to the evening gala.

To obtain a copy of the Gracies Call for Entries, please visit www.awrt.org or contact AWRT Headquarters at (703) 506-3290.

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About AWRT: The year 2001 marked the 50th Anniversary and a golden highlight for American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) Inc., the longest established professional association dedicated to advancing the impact of women in the electronic media and allied fields. Headquartered in the Washington, DC-metropolitan area, AWRT carries forth its mission by educating, advocating and acting as a resource to its members and the industry at large. Founded in 1951, AWRT works to improve the quality of electronic media; promote the entry, development and advancement of women in the media; serve as a medium for communication and idea exchange; and become active in community concerns.

About The Foundation of AWRT: The Foundation of AWRT is the philanthropic arm of American Women in Radio and Television, supporting educational programs, charitable activities, public service campaigns and scholarships to benefit the public, the electronic media and allied fields. The Foundation of AWRT has created partnerships and joint-initiatives with the National Middle School Association, the Emma Bowen Foundation, the American Red Cross and other organizations that are philosophically aligned with the mission of the Foundation of AWRT. The Foundation supports several public service campaigns including most recently *AWRT Empowering America* which pays tribute to many of America's most pioneering and inspiring women. Through this initiative, the Foundation of AWRT has adopted needy urban middle schools around the country and provided educational donations derived from collateral based on the *Empowering America* program. The Foundation also produces nationally acclaimed recognition programs including the Gracie Allen Awards[®], a live, New York-based gala that awards exemplary programming created for, by, and about women.

For more information about AWRT and the Foundation of AWRT, including membership, call its headquarters at (703) 506-3290, or visit its web site at www.awrt.org.