



For Immediate Release: January 12, 2005
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American Women in Radio and Television Announces National Association of Broadcasters as Judging Host of 30th Annual Gracie Allen Awards[®]

January 12, 2005 (McLean, VA) – The Foundation of American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) is pleased to announce that the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) has been selected as this year's host for judging of the 30th Annual Gracie Allen Awards[®]. The Gracies[®] 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, sports and individual achievement.

From January 28 to 30, 2005, judges representing varying fields in electronic media will gather together at NAB headquarters in Washington, D.C. to review the entries for the 2005 Gracies. NAB leaders, EVP/Television Marcellus Alexander and EVP/Radio John David, have graciously volunteered to head up this effort.

Long-time AWRT member, Ellen Graham (KFOR-TV, Oklahoma City), will serve as this year's Judging Chair for a record-breaking 14th year.

The 2005 Gracies Planning Committee is co-chaired by two past presidents of AWRT: Sandra Dorsey Rice, vice president of Emma L. Bowen Foundation, and Melodie Virtue, attorney/owner of Garvey Schubert Barer. They issued a statement, "We are thrilled to partner with the NAB for this important element of the Gracie Awards here in the Washington, DC area, home base for both the NAB and AWRT."

National Award winners will be honored at the star-studded Gala on June 21st at the Marriott Marquis in New York. Local market Award winners will be honored at a Luncheon at the same location the day before the evening gala.

Each year, the Gracies Gala attracts the best and the brightest in radio, television, cable and new media. Last year, from *HBO/Sex and the City's* Sarah Jessica Parker and *CBS News's* Lara Logan to *WE: Women's Entertainment/Mix It Up's* Courteney Cox and *CNN's* Larry King, the National Gracie Allen Award winners represent a broad cross-section of outstanding actors, producers, writers, correspondents, and programs.

To obtain the Call for Entries or Judging Application, please visit www.awrt.org or call (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.