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ABC7/WJLA-TV (Washington, DC) Anchor Kathleen Matthews to Participate in American Women in Radio & Television (AWRT) 2005 Leadership Summit

February 9, 2005 (McLean, VA) – American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) will hold its Annual Leadership Summit and Business Conference February 24-26, 2005 at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, 1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA. Award-winning anchor, **Kathleen Matthews**, will participate in a panel discussion, *Continuing the Dialog: Expanding the Definition of Real Beauty and the Influence of the Media*. The session will cover the media's responsibility in the perceptions of traditional beauty and will highlight the global research conducted in determining how women perceive themselves and define real beauty.

Ms. Matthews is an awarding-winning producer, reporter and news anchor who has covered news in Washington, DC for 25 years. She is co-anchor of ABC7's News at 5 p.m. and co-host of *Capital Sunday*, a weekly half-hour show about current events in the Nation's Capital.

Ms. Matthews has received numerous accolades including: nine local Emmys, a regional Edward R. Murrow award, the George Foster Peabody award, the Scripps-Howard award, Associated Press awards, and the Gracie Allen award. In 2002, she was named a Washingtonian of the Year by *Washingtonian* magazine.

Ms. Matthews and her husband, Christopher Matthews, host of *Hardball* on MSNBC and the syndicated *Chris Matthews Show*, have three children. She serves on the Advisory Councils and Boards of several charitable organizations, including: The Black Student Fund, Catholic Charities Foundation, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Shakespeare Theatre, Girl Scouts, Best Friends Foundation, and Suited for Change, which provides clothing for women in moving from welfare to work.

"Having a 15 year-old daughter, I realize the power of the entertainment and news media in promoting values which women embrace unconsciously," said Matthews. "Those of us wielding the microphone need to take seriously our role in the conversation about women's roles and opportunities."

Ms. Matthews will be joined by, **Betty Hudson**, Senior Vice President, National Geographic Society (moderator); **Dr. Nancy Etcoff**, Professor, Harvard University; **Ann Leary**, Vice President Marketing, Katz Media Group; and **Sandra Dorsey Rice**, Vice President, Eastern Division, Emma L. Bowen Foundation.

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AWRT would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of the FCC/Congressional Reception and Annual Leadership Summit: Katz Media Group, Inc., Radio Advertising Bureau, National Cable and Telecommunications Association, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP and Garvey Schubert Barer.

For additional advance information and press registration, please contact Erin Tanner at 703-506-3290 or follow <http://www.awrt.org/Conferences/AWRTSummitConference2005.html> for a complete registration form. ALL PRESS MUST FAX FULL CREDENTIALS TO 703-506-3266 PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT. SIGN-IN REQUIRED AT THE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT REGISTRATION DESK UPON ARRIVAL.

For more information about the 2005 AWRT Leadership Summit and Business Conference, please visit www.awrt.org.

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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.