



**For Immediate Release:** April 5, 2006  
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## Statement from American Women in Radio & Television (AWRT)

In Response to Katie Couric's Announcement to Anchor the *CBS Evening News*

April 5, 2006 (McLean, VA) – *Based on the surge of inquiries from our colleagues in the press, American Women in Radio & Television is pleased to release the following statement in regard to Katie Couric's announcement that she is leaving NBC's Today Show to anchor the CBS Evening News:*

“On behalf of all the members of American Women in Radio & Television (AWRT), we salute AWRT Gracie Award-winner Katie Couric on her ground-breaking new position as anchor of *CBS Evening News*. We commend Katie for her pioneering work at NBC and *The Today Show*, and we look forward to the innovations she will bring to CBS. AWRT hopes that Katie's newest milestone will serve as a catalyst for progress for all women in electronic media.”

For additional information on AWRT's initiatives, visit our Web site at [www.awrt.org](http://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.