



## **American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) Announces Franklin Schurz, Jr. as 2006 Achievement Award Winner**

January 31, 2007 (McLean, VA) – Every year, American Women in Radio and Television honors its own with the AWRT Achievement Award. This award is bestowed on a well-respected AWRT member who has helped strengthen the role of AWRT in the industry and contributed to the betterment of the electronic media. AWRT is pleased to announce that the 2006 Achievement Award winner is Franklin Schurz, Jr.

As Chairman and CEO of Schurz Communications, Inc., Mr. Schurz directs one of the foremost communications media holding companies with interests in radio, television and cable. The television and radio station holdings are in Indiana, Missouri, Virginia, South Dakota, Kansas and Georgia. The cable companies are in Maryland and Florida. Schurz Communications, Inc. also publishes daily newspapers in Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Kentucky, California, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Mr. Schurz has been past president of WDBJ Television, Inc., Roanoke, Virginia; WAGT Television, Inc., Augusta, Georgia; KY3, Inc., Springfield, Missouri; and WASK, Inc., Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Schurz serves on the board of directors for MSTV and C-Span. He has served on a number of state and community boards and commissions. He is a graduate of Harvard College and received a master's degree from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Mr. Schurz has been a vocal and active supporter of AWRT for many years, especially after becoming an Honorary Trustee of the Foundation of AWRT in 1999. As a leader in the industry and staunch supporter of workplace diversity initiatives, Mr. Schurz attends many of AWRT's annual activities, including its two cornerstone events, the AWRT Annual Leadership Summit and the Gracie Allen Awards®.

"Frank Schurz is a true asset to this industry. He has been steadfast in his campaign for workplace diversity both on a local and national level and for this, we are pleased to honor him." said AWRT National Chair Chickie Bucco, President of Katz Direct Marketing.

"I am humbled by the award and extremely honored by the organization presenting it," said Mr. Schurz.

The 2006 AWRT Achievement Award will be bestowed during the opening keynote luncheon at this year's AWRT Annual Leadership Summit and Business Conference on March 9, 2007 at the M Street Renaissance Hotel, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

**MORE**

The AWRT Leadership Summit and Business Conference is an annual gathering of professionals and leaders for information exchange, professional development and networking. For more information and to register for the 2007 AWRT Leadership Summit and Business Conference, please visit [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<sup>®</sup>, a live, New York-based gala that awards exemplary programming created for, by, and about women.