



**For Immediate Release:** May 15, 2007  
**Headquarters Contact:** Shawn Taylor Zelman, AWRT  
Tel: 703-506-3290 ~ Fax: 703-506-3266 ~ [szelman@awrt.org](mailto:szelman@awrt.org)  
**PR Contact:** JLM PR, Inc./Jody L. Miller  
Tel: 212-431-5227 ~ Fax: 212-431-6818 ~ [jody@jlmpr.com](mailto:jody@jlmpr.com)



## Award-winning Country Music Rising Star Taylor Swift to Perform at the 2007 American Women in Radio & Television's Gracie Awards Gala

(McLean, VA – May 15, 2007) – American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) will honor the 2007 National Gracie Award winners at a celebrity gala at New York's Marriott Marquis on Monday, June 18, 2007. The black-tie event, hosted by legendary CBS sportscaster and Pro Football Hall of Famer **Lesley Visser** will feature a performance by **Taylor Swift** one of country music's hottest-rising stars.

Singer, song-writer, and entertainer, Taylor Swift, has enjoyed tremendous success with her chart-topping debut single, "Tim McGraw." This 17-year-old musical phenom won "Breakthrough Video of the Year" at the CMT Awards last month and her self-titled album has been certified Gold by the RIAA. Currently touring with Brad Paisley, this rising star is making a name for herself on the Country music scene. The rising star has also made a splash in the national media spotlight with appearances on ABC's *Good Morning America*, NBC's *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and FOX's *Fox & Friends*.

This year's Gracie's will honor its own with serious star power including confirmed guests: **Maria Bartiromo**, Anchor, CNBC's *Closing Bell with Maria Bartiromo*; **Lisa Birnbach**, Host, Greenstone Media's *The Lisa Birnbach Show*; **Mary Carillo**, Host, NBC Sports; **Katie Couric**, Anchor and Managing Editor, *CBS Evening News with Katie Couric*; **Kimberly Dozier**, Reporter, CBS News; **Linda Ellerbee**, CEO, Lucky Duck Productions; **Tina Fey**, Star, NBC's *30 Rock*; **Jill Hennessy**, Star, NBC's *Crossing Jordan*; **Billie Jean King**, Tennis Legend and Founder of Women's Sports Foundation; **Niecy Nash**, Host, Style Network's *Clean House*; **Soledad O'Brien**, Anchor, CNN; **Suze Orman**, Host, CNBC's *The Suze Orman Show*; **Satellite Sisters**, Hosts, ABC Radio Network's *The Satellite Sisters*; **Bob Schieffer**, Anchor, CBS' *Face the Nation*; **Susan Stamberg**, Host, National Public Radio; **Sam Waterston**, Star, NBC's *Law & Order*; **Paula Zahn**, Host, CNN's *Paula Zahn Now*...and many more.

The event is made possible through the generous support of the 2007 title sponsor Dove and *The Campaign for Real Beauty* and the following additional sponsors: Arbitron, Bloomberg, CBS News, Clear Channel Radio, CNN, Court TV, Disney/ABC Television Group, HBO Entertainment, Interep, Katz Media Group, NBC Universal, Oxygen Media, Retirement Living TV, Suze Orman Media, and WestStar Digital Audio.

The Gracie Awards recognizes exemplary programming created for, by and about women in all facets of electronic media including radio, television, cable and web-based media. Tickets for the Gala are \$325 for AWRT Members, \$395 for Non-Members, and \$425 (if available) at the door. For more information about the Gracie Awards, please visit [http://www.awrt.org/awards/gracie\\_allen.html](http://www.awrt.org/awards/gracie_allen.html).

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**About AWRT:** The year 2007 marks the 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Women in Radio & Television (AWRT), the longest established professional association dedicated to advancing women in media and entertainment. 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 field; foster communication and idea exchange; and give back to the community we serve.

**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.