

## American Women in Radio & Television Announces Honorees and Participants for the 2008 Annual Gracie Awards Gala

*E! News Anchor **Giuliana Rancic** to Host;  
CNN's **Christiane Amanpour** and **Campbell Brown**,  
Harpo Radio's **Dr. Maya Angelou** and **Gayle King**, truTV's **Ashleigh Banfield** and  
**Jack Ford**, CNBC's **Maria Bartiromo** and **Suze Orman**, Jill Hennessy,  
NBC News' **Hoda Kotb**, **Al Roker** and **Brian Williams**,  
NBC Heroes' **Ali Larter**, CBS News **Lara Logan** and **Harry Smith**;  
**Bill Rancic**, CW *Gossip Girls*' **Kelly Rutherford**,  
NBC Universal President/CEO **Jeff Zucker**,  
and others to participate*

April 29, 2008 (McLean, VA) – American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) will honor the contributions and achievements of women in electronic media at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gracie Awards Gala at the New York Marriott Marquis on Wednesday, May 28, 2008. Each year, nearly 1,000 people gather to honor the best and the brightest in entertainment and media.

The Gracie Awards recognize exemplary programming created for, by, and about women as well as individual achievements in radio, television, cable and web-based media.

AWRT President Maria Brennan said, “The Gracies statue is so much more than an award. It represents how far women have come in all facets of entertainment and media. It’s that one time per year the industry collectively honors their achievements and celebrates their contributions.”

The Gracies are presented by the Foundation of AWRT, the philanthropic arm of AWRT that supports educational programs, charitable activities, public service campaigns and scholarships to benefit the public, the electronic media and allied fields. The Gracie Awards, established in 1975, honors 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 and sports.

Sponsored tables are available by contacting AWRT at (703) 506-3290. Tickets for the Gala can be purchased online at [www.awrt.org](http://www.awrt.org). For more information about the Gracie Awards, please visit <http://www.awrt.org/awards/gracies.html>.

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**About AWRT:** The year 2008 marks the 57<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<sup>®</sup>, a live, New York-based gala that awards exemplary programming created for, by, and about women. Please visit our web site at [www.awrt.org](http://www.awrt.org).