



For Immediate Release: March 20, 2008  
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## American Women in Radio & Television 2008 Board of Directors Announced

March 20, 2008 (McLean, VA) – American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT) is pleased to announce its 2008 National Board of Directors. The 2008 AWRT Board was officially installed on Friday, March 14, 2008, in conjunction with the AWRT Leadership Summit & Business Conference. **Mary Bennett**, Executive Vice President, Radio Advertising Bureau, New York, NY, will serve a second term as the National Chair.

Serving as Vice Chair of AWRT is **Sylvia Strobel**, President & GM, Pennsylvania Public Television, Hershey, PA. The Treasurer is **Valerie Blackburn**, Market Controller, CBS Radio, Los Angeles, CA; and the Treasurer-Elect is **Elizabeth Hammond**, Vice President-Legal Affairs, First Broadcasting Operating, Inc.

The following individuals will serve as Directors at Large: **Chickie Bucco** (Immediate Past Chair), President, Katz Direct Marketing, New York, NY; **Erinn Carter**, Account Manager, WMAQ-TV NBC 5, Chicago, IL; **Lauren Darr**, President, LOI International, Mason, OH; **Bill Diaz**, Director of Account Services, The Spot Marketing, Tampa, FL; **Lisa Dollinger**, Chief Communications Officer, Clear Channel Communications, Inc., San Antonio, TX; **Corny Koehl**, Senior Producer/Director of Program Development, Harpo Radio, Chicago, IL; **Nia Mathis**, Senior Counsel, Verizon, Basking Ridge, NJ; **Christine McLaughlin**, Of Counsel, Venable LLP, Washington, DC; **Kay G. Olin**, President, Interep/Local Focus, Atlanta, GA; **Kathleen T. Ross**, EVP & Chief Administration Officer, Arbitron Inc., Columbia, MD; **Carolyn Stidham**, Awards Manager, CNN, Atlanta, GA; and **Desiree Vanderwal**, Producer, KFI-AM, Valencia, CA.

Mary Bennett, 2008 National Chair of AWRT and Executive Vice President of the Radio Advertising Bureau, stated, "I am proud to lead this organization and its rich legacy. AWRT has served as a beacon for women by promoting progress and creating positive change for all of our members and the industry at large."

AWRT President, Maria E. Brennan, CAE, added, "On behalf of all AWRT voting members, we gratefully acknowledge the diligence put forward by the Nominations Committee, Chickie Bucco (Nominations Committee Chair), President, Katz Direct Marketing; Lauren Darr, President, Lauren Originals, Inc; Bill Diaz, Director of Account Services, The Spot Marketing; Karen Miller, Vice President/Regional Manager, CBS Radio Sales/Interep; and LaFern Watkins, Director of Community Affairs, Southern California Broadcasters Association."

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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®, a live, New York-based gala that awards exemplary programming created for, by, and about women.