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Audies Competition Continues to Break Records with Over 1,100 Entries

Adriana Trigiani to Emcee the Gala on May 24 at The TimesCenter in New York City

Princeton Junction, NJ – The Audio Publishers Association (APA) has announced nominations for its 2011 Audies® competition, the only awards program in the United States devoted entirely to honoring spoken word entertainment. Winners will be announced at the Audies Gala on May 24, 2011, at The TimesCenter in New York City. Bestselling author Adriana Trigiani will emcee the event.

Breaking last year's record with over 1,100 titles entered, the competition thrived in 2011, a clear indicator of the strength of the audiobook industry. New to the competition in 2011 is the special Judges' Award: Paranormal. Established to recognize excellence in the creation of an audiobook in the increasingly popular genre of paranormal (abridged or unabridged, single or multi-voiced), the award will be selected based on excellence in production, engineering and mix, compelling presentation and overall design.

"The audiobook industry ups the ante again this year with the most outstanding productions," said Janet Benson, APA President. "Our competition continues to grow, and luckily our judges embrace the challenge of vetting the great range and quality of audiobooks made this year."

Trigiani is beloved by millions of readers around the world for her bestselling novels including the *Big Stone Gap* series, *Lucia, Lucia* and *Very Valentine*, as well as the non-fiction *Don't Sing at the Table: Life Lessons from My Grandmothers*. She has written the big screen adaptation of *Big Stone Gap*, which she will also direct, and film versions of *Very Valentine* and *Lucia, Lucia* are in the works.

"I am thrilled to emcee the Audies, a dazzling evening that honors the actors, producers and authors who bring books to life through the spoken word. If we were lucky enough to be read to as children, audiobooks keep us engaged, enthralled and entertained our whole lives long. Expect a fun and fabulous evening," said Trigiani.

Finalists for Distinguished Achievement in Production and Audiobook of the Year, the Audies' most prestigious awards, will be announced in the spring. The Distinguished Achievement in Production award honors an audiobook that demonstrates excellence in all areas of production. The Audiobook of the Year award recognizes an audiobook that, through quality, innovation, marketing and sales, has had a significant impact on the industry. Other categories for the judges' consideration included Audiobook Adaptation,

Biography/Memoir, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Humor, Mystery, Romance, Thriller/Suspense, and many more.

Finalists in this year's competition include the following titles:

AUDIO DRAMA

Art, by Yasmina Reza, Narrated by Bob Balaban, Brian Cox, Jeff Perry, L.A. Theatre Works

Saint Joan, by George Bernard Shaw, Narrated by Amy Irving, Edward Herrmann, Kristoffer Tabori, and a distinguished cast, Blackstone Audio

Sunset Limited, by Cormac McCarthy, Narrated by Austin Pendleton, Ezra Knight, Tom Stechschulte, Recorded Books

The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde, Narrated by Emily Bergl, Charles Busch, Neil Dickson, Jill Gascoine, James Marsters, Christopher Neame, Matthew Wolf, and Sarah Zimmerman, L.A. Theatre Works

Vengeance, by AJ Scudiere, Narrated by Kristoffer Tabori, Stephanie Zimbalist, and Don Leslie, Griffyn Ink Corp

AUDIOBOOK ADAPTATION

NPR: The First 40 Years, by NPR hosts and guests, HighBridge Company

No Country for Old Men, by Cormac McCarthy, Narrated by Sean Barrett, Naxos AudioBooks

Selected Shorts: American Classics, by Amy Tan, Donald Barthelme, Eudora Welty, Edgar Allan Poe, Joyce Carol Oates, John Sayles, Alice Walker, and John Cheever, Narrated by Freda Foh Shen, David Strathairn, Stockard Channing, René Auberjonois, Christine Baranski, Jerry Stiller, Carmen de Lavallade, and Malachy McCourt, Symphony Space

Selected Shorts: Even More Laughs, by T. Coraghessan Boyle, Jonathan Lethem, Miranda July, Saki, Harry Mathews, Thomas Meehan, Julia Slavin, and Philip Roth, Narrated by Stephen Colbert, Robert Sean Leonard, Parker Posey, Marian Seldes, Isaiah Sheffer, Christine Baranski, Alec Baldwin, and Jerry Zaks, Symphony Space

Venetia, by Georgette Heyer, Narrated by Richard Armitage, Naxos AudioBooks

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

Abigail Adams, by Woody Holton, Narrated by Cassandra Campbell, Tantor Audio

Life, by Keith Richards, Narrated by Johnny Depp with Joe Hurley (Featuring Keith Richards), Hachette Audio

Somewhere Inside, by Lisa Ling and Laura Ling, Narrated by Lisa Ling and Laura Ling, HarperAudio

The Slave Across the Street, by Theresa Flores, Narrated by Renee Raudman, Christianaudio

This Time Together, by Carol Burnett, Narrated by Carol Burnett, Random House Audio

BUSINESS/EDUCATIONAL

Buy-In, by John P. Kotter and Lorne A. Whitehead, Narrated by Tim Wheeler, Brilliance Audio

Delivering Happiness: A Path to Profits, Passion, and Purpose, by Tony Hsieh, Narrated by Tony Hsieh, Hachette Audio

Lead Like Ike, by Geoff Loftus, Narrated by Mort Crim, Oasis Audio

The 4-Hour Workweek (Expanded and Updated), by Timothy Ferriss, Narrated by Ray Porter, Blackstone Audio

The Intelligent Entrepreneur, by Bill Murphy, Jr., Narrated by LJ Ganser and Fred Berman, Audible, Inc.

CHILDREN'S TITLES FOR AGES 8-12

Alchemy and Meggy Swan, by Karen Cushman, Narrated by Katherine Kellgren, Random House Audio/Listening Library

Nanny McPhee Returns, by Emma Thompson, Narrated by Emma Thompson, Macmillan Audio

One Crazy Summer, by Rita Williams-Garcia, Narrated by Sisi Aisha Johnson, Recorded Books

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate, by Jacqueline Kelly, Narrated by Natalie Ross, Brilliance Audio

The Magician's Elephant, by Kate DiCamillo, Narrated by Juliet Stevenson, Brilliance Audio

CHILDREN'S TITLES FOR AGES UP TO 8

Despicable Me: The Junior Novel, by Annie Auerbach, Narrated by Tim Curry, Hachette Audio

Epossumondas Plays Possum, by Coleen Salley, Narrated by Cynthia Darlow, Recorded Books

Judy Moody & Stink: The Holly Joliday, by Megan McDonald, Narrated by Barbara Rosenblat, Brilliance Audio

One Beastly Beast, by Garth Nix, Narrated by Stig Wemyss, Bolinda

This Jazz Man, by Karen Ehrhardt, Narrated by James "D Train" Williams, Live Oak Media

CLASSIC

A Tale of Two Cities, by Charles Dickens, Narrated by Charlton Griffin, Audio Connoisseur

Light in August, by William Faulkner, Narrated by Will Patton, Audible, Inc.

The Book of Five Rings, by Miyamoto Musashi, Narrated by Scott Brick, Tantor Audio

The Woman in White, by Wilkie Collins, Narrated by Roger Rees, Rosalyn Landor, John Lee, and Judy Geeson, Blackstone Audio

Watership Down, by Richard Adams, Narrated by Ralph Cosham, Blackstone Audio

FICTION

Every Last One, by Anna Quindlen, Narrated by Hope Davis, Simon & Schuster Audio

Fall of Giants, by Ken Follett, Narrated by John Lee, Penguin Audio

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: Dawn of the Dreadfuls, by Steve Hockensmith, Narrated by Katherine Kellgren, Audible, Inc.

The Lonely Polygamist, by Brady Udall, Narrated by David Aaron Baker, Recorded Books

The Postmistress, by Sarah Blake, Narrated by Orlagh Cassidy, Blackstone Audio

Winter's Bone, by Daniel Woodrell, Narrated by Emma Galvin, Hachette Audio

HISTORY

1959: The Year Everything Changed, by Fred Kaplan, Narrated by Joe Barrett, Audible, Inc.

A People's History of the United States, by Howard Zinn, Narrated by Jeff Zinn, HarperAudio

Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, by Gordon S. Wood, Narrated by Robert Fass, Audible, Inc.

The History of Rome, Volume 1, by Livy, Narrated by Charlton Griffin, Audio Connoisseur

Vikings of the Ice, by George Allan England, Narrated by Frank Holden, Rattling Books

HUMOR

Old Jews Telling Jokes, by Sam Hoffman and Eric Spiegelman, Narrated by Sam Hoffman with Eric Spiegelman and an ensemble cast, HighBridge Company

Paul Is Undead: The British Zombie Invasion, by Alan Goldsher, Narrated by Simon Vance, Blackstone Audio

The Daily Show with Jon Stewart Presents Earth (The Audiobook), by Jon Stewart and The Daily Show, Narrated by Jon Stewart, with Samantha Bee, Wyatt Cenac, Jason Jones, and John Oliver, featuring Sigourney Weaver, Hachette Audio

Sh*t My Dad Says, by Justin Halpern, Narrated by Sean Schemmel, HarperAudio

Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk, by David Sedaris, Narrated by David Sedaris, Elaine Stritch, Dylan Baker, and Siân Phillips, Hachette Audio

INSPIRATIONAL/FAITH-BASED FICTION

Edge of Apocalypse, by Tim LaHaye and Craig Parshall, Narrated by Stefan Rudnicki, Zondervan

Fireflies in December, by Jennifer Erin Valent, Narrated by Kate Forbes, Recorded Books

Missing Max, by Karen Young, Narrated by Laural Merlington, Oasis Audio

The Gathering Storm, by Bodie Thoene, Ph.D. and Brock Thoene, Ph.D., Narrated by Bodie Thoene, Ph.D., Oasis Audio

Unlocked, by Karen Kingsbury, Narrated by Roxanne Hernandez, Zondervan

INSPIRATIONAL/FAITH-BASED NON-FICTION

God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours, by Regina Brett, Narrated by Regina Brett, Hachette Audio

In a Heartbeat: Sharing the Power of Cheerful Giving, by Leigh Anne Tuohy and Sean Tuohy with Sally Jenkins, Narrated by Leigh Anne Tuohy, Sean Tuohy, Kathleen McInerney, and Rick Adamson, Macmillan Audio

Shattered: Struck Down But Not Destroyed, by Frank Pastore and Ellen Vaughn, Narrated by Frank Pastore, Oasis Audio

The Blueprint: A Plan for Overcoming Life's Obstacles, by Kirk Franklin, Narrated by Dion Graham, Brilliance Audio

Toward a True Kinship of Faiths: How the World's Religions Can Come Together, by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Narrated by Richard Gere, Random House Audio

JUDGES' AWARD: PARANORMAL

Bayou Moon, by Ilona Andrews, Narrated by Renée Raudman, Tantor Audio

Beautiful Creatures, by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl, Narrated by Kevin T. Collins, Hachette Audio

Skinwalker: Jane Yellowrock, Book 1, by Faith Hunter, Narrated by Khristine Hvam, Audible, Inc.

So Cold the River, by Michael Koryta, Narrated by Robert Petkoff, Hachette Audio

The Girl on Legare Street, by Karen White, Narrated by Aimee Bruneau, Listen & Live Audio

LITERARY FICTION

Beautiful Maria of My Soul, by Oscar Hijuelos, Narrated by Armando Duran, Blackstone Audio

Freedom, by Jonathan Franzen, Narrated by David LeDoux, Macmillan Audio

My Life As a Man, by Philip Roth, Narrated by Dan John Miller, Brilliance Audio

Snakewoman of Little Egypt, by Robert Hellenga, Narrated by Coleen Marlo, Tantor Audio

Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet, by David Mitchell, Narrated by Jonathan Aris and Paula Wilcox, Recorded Books

MULTI-VOICED PERFORMANCE

Great Classic Science Fiction, by H. G. Wells, Stanley G. Weinbaum, Lester del Rey, Fritz Leiber, James H. Schmitz, Philip K. Dick, Frank Herbert and Andre Norton, Narrated by Simon Vance, Nick Sullivan, Robert Fass, Katherine Kellgren, Stephen R. Thorne, Greg Itzin, Scott Brick, and Barbara Rosenblat, AudioGO (formerly BBC Audiobooks America)

Jitters-A Quirky Little Audio Book, by Adele Park, Narrated by a full cast, Straight to Audio Productions

Room, by Emma Donoghue, Narrated by Michal Friedman, Ellen Archer, Robert Petkoff, and Suzanne Toren, Hachette Audio

The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde, Narrated by Emily Bergl, Charles Busch, Neil Dickson, Jill Gascoine, James Marsters, Christopher Neame, Matthew Wolf, and Sarah Zimmerman, L.A. Theatre Works

The Shadow Effect: Illuminating the Hidden Power of Your True Self, by Deepak Chopra, Debbie Ford and Marianne Williamson, Narrated by Deepak Chopra, Debbie Ford, and Marianne Williamson, HarperAudio

MYSTERY

Dog Tags, by David Rosenfelt, Narrated by Grover Gardner, Listen & Live Audio

Her Royal Spyness: A Royal Spyness Mystery, by Rhys Bowen, Narrated by Katherine Kellgren, Audible, Inc.

Our Kind of Traitor, by John LeCarre, Narrated by Robin Sachs, Penguin Audio

The Dead Room, by Chris Mooney, Narrated by Regina Reagan, Isis Publishing Ltd

The Reversal, by Michael Connelly, Narrated by Peter Giles, Hachette Audio

This Body of Death, by Elizabeth George, Narrated by John Lee, HarperAudio

NARRATION BY THE AUTHOR or AUTHORS

Thomas Cobb, Crazy Heart, HarperAudio

Garrison Keillor, A Christmas Blizzard, HighBridge Company

Emma Thompson, Nanny McPhee Returns, Macmillan Audio

Alice Walker, The Color Purple, Recorded Books

John Waters, Role Models, Tantor Audio

NON-FICTION

Game Change: Obama and the Clintons, McCain and Palin, and the Race of a Lifetime, by John Heilemann, Narrated by Dennis Boutsikaris, HarperAudio

No One Would Listen: A True Financial Thriller, by Harry Markopolos, Narrated by Scott Brick, Harry Markopolos, Frank Casey, Neil Chelo, David Kotz, Gaytri Kachroo, and Michael Ocrant, Audible, Inc.

Obama's Wars, by Bob Woodward, Narrated by Boyd Gaines, Simon & Schuster Audio

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot, Narrated by Cassandra Campbell with Bahni Turpin, Random House Audio

The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York, by Deborah Blum, Narrated by Coleen Marlo, Tantor Audio

ORIGINAL WORK

Fashionably Undead, by Meg Cabot and the Twitterverse, Narrated by Sarah Drew, AudioGO (formerly BBC Audiobooks America)

Hearts, Keys and Puppetry, by Neil Gaiman and the Twitterverse, Narrated by Katherine Kellgren, AudioGO (formerly BBC Audiobooks America)

New Adventures of Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer Vol. 2: The Little Death, by Max Allan Collins from a story by Mickey Spillane and Max Allan Collins, Narrated by Stacy Keach and a full cast, Blackstone Audio

The Alchemist and the Executioness, by Paolo Bacigalupi, Tobias S. Buckell, Narrated by Jonathan Davis and Katherine Kellgren, Audible, Inc.

William's Leap for Freedom, Adapted by Renee Pringle with assistance by Sue Zizza, Narrated by Dion Graham and Mirron E. Willis and a full cast, SueMedia

PACKAGE DESIGN

Malcolm Gladwell: The Box Set, by Malcolm Gladwell, Narrated by Malcolm Gladwell, Hachette Audio

Martin Luther King, Junior: The Essential Box Set, by Dr. Martin Luther King, Edited by Clayborne Carson, Kris Shepard, and Peter Holloran, Narrated by Keith David, Jay Gregory, and Martin Luther King, Hachette Audio

Peter & Max, by Bill Willingham, Narrated by Wil Wheaton, Brilliance Audio

Shakespeare the Essential Tragedies Volume 1, by William Shakespeare, Narrated by a full cast, AudioGO (formerly BBC Audiobooks America)

The Very Best of Bob and Ray: Legends of Comedy, by Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding, Narrated by Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding, HighBridge Company

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Good Discipline, Great Teens, by Dr. Ray Guarendi, Narrated by Dr. Ray Guarendi, St. Anthony Messenger Press

Put on Your Crown: Life-Changing Moments on the Path to Queendom, by Queen Latifah, Narrated by Queen Latifah, Hachette Audio

Spiritual Partnership, by Gary Zukav, Narrated by Gary Zukav, HarperAudio

The Music Lesson: A Spiritual Search for Growth Through Music, by Victor L. Wooten, Narrated by Victor L. Wooten, Tantor Audio

This Is Water: The Original David Foster Wallace Recording, by David Foster Wallace, Narrated by David Foster Wallace, Hachette Audio

Zig Ziglar's Leadership & Success Series, by Zig Ziglar, Narrated by Zig Ziglar, Blackstone Audio

ROMANCE

A Kiss at Midnight, by Eloisa James, Narrated by Susan Duerden, HarperAudio

By King's Command, by Linda Lea Castle, Narrated by a full cast, Siren Audio Studios

Fantasy in Death, by J.D. Robb, Narrated by Susan Ericksen, Brilliance Audio

The Secret Diaries of Charlotte Bronte, by Syrie James, Narrated by Bianca Amato, Recorded Books

The Elusive Bride, by Stephanie Laurens, Narrated by Simon Prebble, HarperAudio

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Black Magic Sanction, by Kim Harrison, Narrated by Marguerite Gavin, Blackstone Audio

Feed, by Mira Grant, Narrated by Paula Christensen and Jesse Bernstein, Hachette Audio

Halo: Evolutions, by various authors including Tobias S. Bucknell, B.K. Evenson, and Jonathan Goff, Narrated by Steve Downes, Holter Graham, Frank O'Connor, and Jen Taylor, Macmillan Audio

The Day of the Triffids, by John Wyndham, Narrated by Graeme Malcolm, Audible, Inc.

The Stainless Steel Rat, by Harry Harrison, Narrated by Phil Gigante, Brilliance Audio

WWW: Watch, by Robert J. Sawyer, Narrated by Jessica Almasy, Marc Vietor, Oliver Wyman, Jennifer Van Dyck, and Robert J. Sawyer, Audible, Inc.

SHORT STORIES/COLLECTIONS

And Thereby Hangs a Tale, by Jeffrey Archer, Narrated by Gerard Doyle, Macmillan Audio

A Matter of Matter, by L. Ron Hubbard, Narrated by Corey Burton, R.F. Daley, Jim Meskimen, Tait Ruppert, and Josh Thompson, Galaxy Audio

A Touch of Dead, by Charlaine Harris, Narrated by Johanna Parker, Recorded Books

Ford County: Stories, by John Grisham, Narrated by John Grisham, Random House Audio

How Did You Get This Number, by Sloane Crosley, Narrated by Sloane Crosley, Penguin Audio

Long After Midnight, by Ray Bradbury, Narrated by Michael Prichard, Tantor Audio

Stories, by Neil Gaiman and Al Sarrantino, Narrated by Anne Bobby, Jonathan Davis, Peter Francis James, Katherine Kellgren, and Euan Morton, HarperAudio

SOLO NARRATION—FEMALE

Laura Bush, narrator of Spoken from the Heart, by Laura Bush, Simon & Schuster Audio

Katherine Kellgren, narrator of Rapture of the Deep, by L.A. Meyer, Listen & Live Audio

Katherine Kellgren, narrator of *The Invisible Order: Rise of the Darklings*, by Paul Crilley, Audible, Inc.

Juliet Stevenson, narrator of The Golden Notebook, by Doris Lessing, Naxos AudioBooks

Juliet Stevenson, narrator of *The Magician's Elephant*, by Kate DiCamillo, Brilliance Audio

Alfre Woodard, narrator of *Glorious*, by Bernice McFadden, Audible, Inc.

SOLO NARRATION—MALE

Alan Cumming, narrator of Zorgamazoo, by Robert Paul Weston, Penguin Audio

Jim Dale, narrator of *The Boy with the Cuckoo-Clock Heart*, by Mathias Malzieu, Blackstone Audio

Charlton Griffin, narrator of *The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes*, Volume 2, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Audio Connoisseur

George Guidall, narrator of Every Man Dies Alone, by Hans Fallada, Recorded Books

Edward Herrmann, narrator of Innocent, by Scott Turow, Hachette Audio

TEENS

Here in Harlem, by Walter Dean Myers, Narrated by a full cast, Live Oak Media

Rapture of the Deep, by L.A. Meyer, Narrated by Katherine Kellgren, Listen & Live Audio

The Rock and the River, by Kekla Magoon, Narrated by Dion Graham, Brilliance Audio

Will Grayson, Will Grayson, by John Green and David Levithan, Narrated by MacLeod Andrews and Nick Podehl, Brilliance Audio

Zora and Me, by Victoria Bond and T.R. Simon, Narrated by Channie Waites, Brilliance Audio

THRILLER/SUSPENSE

Dead Aim, by Thomas Perry, Narrated by Michael Kramer, Tantor Audio

Interface, by Neal Stephenson and J. Frederick George, Narrated by Oliver Wyman, Audible, Inc.

The Book of Spies, by Gayle Lynds, Narrated by Kate Reading, Blackstone Audio

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest, by Stieg Larsson, Narrated by Simon Vance, Random House Audio

Vengeance, by AJ Scudiere, Narrated by Kristoffer Tabori, Stephanie Zimbalist and Don Leslie, Griffyn Ink Corp

For more information about the Audies Gala, contact Kaitlin Friedmann at (609) 297-2215, or <u>kfriedmann@audiopub.org</u>. To purchase tickets, visit <u>www.audiopub.org</u> or contact Lindsay Piccolella at (609) 297-2226.

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About Audio Publishers Association (APA)

The Audio Publishers Association (APA) is a not-for-profit trade organization whose primary goals are to promote awareness of the audiobook industry, gather and disseminate industry statistics, encourage high production standards and represent the interests of audiobook publishers. Since 1986, the APA has worked to bring audio publishers together to increase interest in audiobooks. Please visit <u>www.audiopub.org</u> for more information.