



**THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES
TO HONOR BARBARA WALTERS
WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
AT THE NEWS & DOCUMENTARY EMMY® AWARDS, SEPT 21**

New York, N.Y. – July 9, 2009 –Barbara Walters, one of the most acclaimed correspondents in the history of television news, and creator and Co-Host of ABC’s *The View*, will receive the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) at the 30th Annual News and Documentary Emmy® Awards. The award will be presented on September 21, 2009 at Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, located in the Time Warner Center in New York City.

“NATAS is delighted to honor this very special woman,” said Frank Radice, President of the Academy. “Barbara’s career is a remarkable one with few in broadcast journalism coming close to matching it. Many years ago I worked as a field producer with Barbara at ABC News and I never saw anyone work as hard. She was, and continues to be, an inspiration.”

Bill Small, Chairman of the News and Documentary Emmy® Awards, cited her long and distinguished service at ABC, and before that at NBC. “Barbara is one of a kind,” he said, “a prime example of what journalists can achieve in television news. She remains one of the medium’s great interviewers and also an inspiration to women who, as a result of Barbara’s pioneering role, now work in every phase of broadcast journalism. When Barbara began her career few women could expect to get ahead in news, but she did, with skill, intelligence and perseverance.”

Ms. Walters first received national attention during her 15 years on NBC’s *Today Show*. In 1976 she joined ABC News, becoming the first woman to co-host the network news. For 25 years she served as co-host and chief correspondent of ABC News’ *20/20*, and has hosted numerous primetime specials, as well as the top-rated *Barbara Walters Specials*.

She has interviewed every American President and First Lady since Richard Nixon as well as world figures such as Margaret Thatcher, Premier Jiang Zemin of China, Iraq’s Saddam Hussein, Fidel Castro and Russian President Vladimir Putin. Her joint interview with Egypt’s President Anwar Sadat and Israel’s Prime Minister Menachem Begin in 1977 made world headlines. Her interview hours have also included the greats of the

entertainment world, including Michael Jackson, Bing Crosby, Lawrence Olivier, John Wayne, Bette Davis, Aubrey Hepburn, George Clooney, Harrison Ford and many others.

Among her many honors are the President's Award of the Overseas Press Club, induction into the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame, a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Women's Media Foundation, numerous News & Documentary Emmy® Awards, a Daytime Emmy® Award for *The View*, and five honorary degrees.

Previous winners of the Lifetime Achievement Emmy® Award for News & Documentary include Boone Arledge of ABC, Don Hewitt and the correspondents of *60 Minutes*, Tom Brokaw, Sheila Nevins of HBO, Bill Moyers, Ted Koppel, Ken Burns, Tim Russert and Bob Schieffer.

About The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) is a professional service organization dedicated to the advancement of the arts and sciences of television and the promotion of creative leadership for artistic, educational and technical achievements within the television industry. It recognizes excellence in television with the coveted Emmy® Award for News & Documentary, Sports, Daytime Entertainment, Daytime Creative Arts & Entertainment, Public & Community Service, Technology & Engineering, and Business & Financial Reporting. Regional Emmy® Awards are given in 19 regions across the United States. NATAS also presents the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Global Media Awards™ which recognizes excellence in the world-wide intersection of digital entertainment and technology. Excellence in Primetime programming and international programming is recognized by its affiliate, the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Beyond awards, NATAS has extensive educational programs including National Student Television and its Student Award for Excellence for outstanding journalistic work by high school students, as well as scholarships, publications, and major activities for both industry professionals and the viewing public. For more information, please visit the website at www.emmyonline.tv

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