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**CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR NAMED
2008 AWC INTERNATIONAL MATRIX AWARD HONOREE**

ALEXANDRIA, Va, Aug. 22. – The Association for Women in Communications (AWC) announces Christiane Amanpour, CNN's chief international correspondent, is the 2008 International Matrix Award recipient.

Since its conception in 1998, the International Matrix Award has honored one individual each year for achieving the highest level of professional excellence in communications. Amanpour will be presented with the award at the International Matrix & Clarion Awards Celebration on the evening of Sat., Sept. 27, during the 2008 AWC National Conference, in Washington.

Christiane Amanpour is best known for her reporting on international crises and exclusive interviews with world leaders. Her assignments have ranged from reporting on the human consequences of natural disasters, the War in Iraq, and coverage of conflicts on the Balkans, Africa and the Middle East.

Most recently, Amanpour has produced a series of highly acclaimed long-form programs that have aired across the CNN networks. Last year, she presented *The War Within*, an in-depth assessment of the growing Islamic conflict in the United Kingdom. In 2006, Amanpour presented two award-winning documentaries, *Where Have All the Parents Gone?*, a powerful film examining the dilemma of the more than 1 million children orphaned to AIDS in Kenya; and *In the Footsteps of Bin Laden*, an exploration of the life of the world's most wanted terrorist.

Amanpour began her CNN career in 1983 as an assistant on the network's international assignment desk in Atlanta. She has since worked in CNN's London, New York, Paris and Frankfurt bureaus. Over the years, she has received many prestigious awards, including nine Emmy awards, in recognition of her reporting on major world stories. In 2007, Amanpour was recognized in the birthday honors list of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a highly prestigious Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

The AWC National Conference is the premier professional event for the communications industry. The Association for Women in Communications is a professional organization that champions the advancement of women across all communications disciplines by recognizing excellence, promoting leadership and positioning its members at the forefront of the evolving communications era. For more information, go to www.womcom.org. For more information on the Sept. 25-27th conference, go to <http://www.womcom.org/AWCConferences/2008/welcome.asp>.