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Selected American Stories from StoryCorps to be featured Weekly on WNYC® Radio during local broadcast of NPR's *Morning Edition* beginning September 20, 2004

Recordings of New Yorkers in StoryCorps Booth reveal amusing and touching stories of ordinary people.

NEW YORK, Sep. 16, 2004—Beginning September 20, stories told by ordinary New Yorkers in the StoryCorps recording booth located in Grand Central Terminal will become a regular feature on WNYC, New York Public Radio ® during its local broadcast of NPR's *Morning Edition*.

StoryCorps is a revolutionary national initiative to create an oral history of America. Created by Dave Isay, MacArthur “genius fellow” and founder of the award-winning radio documentary house, Sound Portraits Productions, StoryCorps instructs and inspire Americans to record one another's stories in sound.

WNYC will feature a weekly story recorded at the StoryCorps booth. StoryCorps has already collected more than 1000 interviews since the project launch, ranging from end-of-life reflections to stories of struggling to adjust to a new life in America.

Visitors to the booth record 40-minute oral histories with a loved one with the help of a trained facilitator. A broadcast quality CD of the interview copy goes to the participants and a second copy goes to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to become part of an oral history of America.

Individuals can reserve an interview session in the booth at storycorps.net, an online resource center that includes a reservation and payment system, excerpts from recorded interviews, and a 'question helper' utility. Each interview costs \$10.

The StoryCorps booth in Grand Central Terminal opened in October 2003 and is the first booth of the organization's 10-year project. In 2005, StoryCorps will open a booth at the site of the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan.

WNYC®, New York Public Radio®, is New York 's premier public radio station, comprising WNYC 93.9 FM and WNYC AM 820. As America's most listened-to public radio stations, reaching more than one million listeners every week, WNYC FM and AM extend New York City's cultural riches to the entire country and air the best national offerings from affiliate networks NPR ® and Public Radio International ®. WNYC 93.9 FM broadcasts a wide range of daily news, talk, cultural and classical music programming, while WNYC AM 820 maintains a stronger focus on breaking news and international news reporting. For more information, visit wnyc.org.

Sound Portraits Productions, a non-profit company based in New York City, is one of the country's most acclaimed documentary production houses. Under the direction of MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay, its mission is to tell the stories of ordinary Americans. Sound Portraits has accomplished this goal

primarily through the creation of dozens of award-winning radio programs broadcast on NPR's *All Things Considered*. Whether on the radio, in print, or on the Web, Sound Portraits is committed to producing innovative works of lasting educational, cultural, and artistic value. To hear Sound Portraits past radio programs, visit soundportraits.org.

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