

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: StoryCorps

Contact: Sacha Evans
(646) 723-7020 ext. 75 / sevans@storycorps.org

STORYCORPS ANNOUNCES THE SECOND NATIONAL DAY OF LISTENING

Acclaimed oral history project creates a new holiday tradition where Americans share and record their stories on the day after Thanksgiving

NEW YORK – StoryCorps, the most ambitious oral history project ever undertaken, has announced the second annual National Day of Listening, to take place on November 27, 2009. The National Day of Listening is an effort to encourage all Americans to honor a friend, a loved one, or a member of their community by interviewing them about their lives. The interview process takes less than an hour and offers a meaningful alternative to holiday consumerism.

Participants are encouraged to record their National Day of Listening interviews using equipment that is readily available in most homes – from cell phones to tape recorders to computers or even pen and paper. StoryCorps offers a free Do-It-Yourself Instruction Guide with equipment recommendations, great questions to ask, and ways to preserve and share your interview at nationaldayoflistening.org.

“In the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, the idea of listening during the holiday season has clearly resonated with people across the country,” says StoryCorps founder and MacArthur “Genius” Dave Isay. “The National Day of Listening, which coincides with Black Friday – traditionally the largest shopping day of the year – proves that simply listening to one another is the least expensive and most meaningful gift we can give.”

StoryCorps’ national partners for the National Day of Listening include NPR, the Corporation for National and Community Service and the American Library Association. Audio recordings of National Day of Listening interviews can be uploaded to a special website provided by Entertainment: entertainment.com/nationaldayoflistening. StoryCorps does not have the capacity to include National Day of Listening interviews in its collection at the Library of Congress.

About StoryCorps

StoryCorps is an independent non-profit whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another’s lives through listening. StoryCorps has one of the largest archives of American voices ever created, with interviews gathered from more than 50,000 people in all 50 states. Each StoryCorps interview is recorded on a free CD for participants to take home and share, and is also archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of

Congress.

Each week, millions of Americans listen to StoryCorps' award-winning broadcasts on NPR's *Morning Edition*. Fifty of StoryCorps' most emblematic stories have been collected in the *New York Times* bestseller, *Listening Is an Act of Love* (Penguin Press). A follow-up book, *Mom: Remarkable Stories of American Mothers from the StoryCorps Project*, scheduled for publication in Spring 2010, will feature inspiring stories by and about mothers.

StoryCorps' major funders include: The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), The Atlantic Philanthropies, The Ford Foundation, The Annenberg Foundation, The Kaplen Foundation, and Joe and Carol Reich. For more information, visit storycorps.org.

About NPR

NPR is an award-winning, multimedia news organization and an influential force in American life. In collaboration with more than 880 independent public radio stations nationwide, NPR strives to create a more informed public – one challenged and invigorated by a deeper understanding and appreciation of events, ideas and cultures. NPR news, talk, entertainment and cultural programming is heard by more than 27.5 million listeners on public radio stations each week, and the 24/7 NPR Worldwide program stream reaches listeners in more than 100 countries. NPR recently relaunched its Web site – npr.org – and expanded its mobile applications for smart phones, making it easier to for the public to find stations and programming, and stay connected to the world.

About the Corporation for National and Community Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year the Corporation engages more than four million Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service to meet local needs through its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs. For more information, visit NationalService.gov.

About the American Library Association

The American Library Association is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with more than 65,000 members. Its mission is to promote the highest quality library and information services and public access to information. For more information, visit, ala.org.