

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY PARTICIPATE IN STORYCORPS' NATIONAL DAY OF LISTENING**

**President and Mrs. Bush to Add Personal Stories to Nation's Largest Oral History Project**

**Washington, DC** – President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush will participate today in StoryCorps, the acclaimed national oral history initiative which documents everyday history and the unique stories of Americans. Over the past five years, more than 40,000 Americans have participated in StoryCorps.

The pair will be interviewed by the President's sister, Dorothy "Doro" Walker Bush Koch, in the family's White House quarters. The interview, expected to be a candid and intimate conversation about the First Family, will be archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

*"StoryCorps has become part of the cultural heritage of our country,"* said White House Press Secretary **Dana Perino**. *"Generations from now, our descendants will be able to listen to StoryCorps recordings and know that each and every American played an important role in making this nation great."*

StoryCorps was created by public radio documentary producer and MacArthur "genius" Dave Isay to honor and celebrate the lives of everyday Americans through the simple act of listening. Since 2003, participants have recorded more than 20,000 interviews in 50 states. Interviews become part of an archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, and excerpts are broadcast on NPR and at [storycorps.net](http://storycorps.net). StoryCorps is the largest and most ambitious oral history project ever undertaken, a growing and powerful portrait of who we really are as Americans.

*"We are honored to have the President and Mrs. Bush participate in StoryCorps,"* said **Dave Isay**. *"From the President of the United States to steelworkers, from grade-school teachers to grandmothers, StoryCorps helps us recognize the wisdom and value in all of our stories."*

Each week, over fourteen million Americans listen to StoryCorps' award-winning broadcasts on NPR's "Morning Edition." **Patricia de Stacy Harrison**, president and CEO of CPB, said, *"The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is pleased to support StoryCorps in its remarkable efforts to celebrate this nation's*

*character and history. StoryCorps represents the essence of public broadcasting: high-quality, groundbreaking public service that informs, enlightens and inspires our populace.”*

StoryCorps will launch a first annual “National Day of Listening” the day after Thanksgiving this year, encouraging Americans to honor loved ones and elders by interviewing them about their lives.

StoryCorps will provide instructions, pointers and sample questions for conducting interviews at their website: [www.storycorps.net](http://www.storycorps.net).

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**About StoryCorps**      [www.storycorps.net](http://www.storycorps.net)

StoryCorps is the largest oral history project ever undertaken. Founded in 2003 by MacArthur “genius” Dave Isay, StoryCorps gives pairs of participants the opportunity to leave a legacy in sound for future generations. Across the country, everyday people have visited our sound proof booths to record a 40-minute interview with a loved one. One copy of the interview goes home with the participants on a CD, a second copy goes to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. To date, StoryCorps has recorded more than 20,000 audio interviews with 40,000 participants. Excerpts of select stories are broadcast weekly on NPR’s *Morning Edition*. For its ground-breaking public service, StoryCorps was awarded a special Institutional Peabody Award in 2007, an honor bestowed only once or twice a decade.

Special initiatives launched by StoryCorps include the Griot Project, the largest African American oral history project since the WPA Slave Narratives of the 1930’s (in collaboration with the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture); The September 11<sup>th</sup> Project, an effort to record at least one interview to commemorate each life lost on 9/11 (in collaboration with the September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial and Museum); and the Memory Loss Initiative, which brings StoryCorps to individuals, families and caregivers struggling with Alzheimer’s disease.

**About CPB**      [www.cpb.org](http://www.cpb.org)

CPB, a private, nonprofit corporation created by Congress in 1967, develops educational public radio, television, and online services for the American people. The Corporation is the industry’s largest single source of funds for national public television and radio program development and production. CPB, a grant making organization, funds more than 1,000 public radio and television stations.