

RECORDED BOOKS PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OVER 35 LONG ISLAND LIBRARIES OFFER DOWNLOADABLE AUDIOBOOKS VIA THE INTERNET

Downloadable Audiobooks Are Available to Patrons Anytime, Anywhere

Rosyln, NY – May 3, 2006 -- Over 35 libraries in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, New York, are now offering their patrons downloadable audiobooks from Recorded Books/netLibrary. Recorded Books, the largest unabridged audiobook publisher in the world and a unit of Hights Cross Communications, and netLibrary, the leading provider of downloadable eBook and Internet-based content management services, have teamed up to offer downloadable audiobooks via the Internet. The libraries' downloadable audiobook service allows patrons to access audiobooks remotely from their home PC and currently features access to 1,200 titles in the database, with more titles being added each month. Patrons may download any audiobook at any time they choose with no holds.

On April 1, 2006, 25 libraries in Nassau County and 11 in Suffolk County began offering downloadable audiobooks to their patrons. While some libraries in Suffolk/Nassau Counties have provided this service over the past few months, 24 libraries in Nassau are offering downloadable audiobooks for the first time.

Brian Downing, Recorded Books Publisher, said: "The downloadable library provides libraries with a service that their patrons find easy, convenient, and fun to use. It requires minimum investment and staff training. We will continue to expand our downloadable library, offering high quality unabridged titles – from the classics to the latest bestsellers."

In Nassau County at The Bryant Library, Director Cathy Mealing said: "The Bryant Library was an early adopter of the Recorded Books/netLibrary Service. With so many of our patrons having long daily commutes, this service has become very popular, very quickly. Because it is easy to download titles and is available around-the-clock, the service has truly broad appeal."

Downloadable audiobook titles are available over the Internet to participating library patrons remotely from their home computers or from computers in the libraries that are available to the public. Patrons may transfer audiobook files to over any of the 500 personal portable devices available on the market for listening on the go. An easy-to-use interface allows patrons to search quickly across all of the audiobooks in the collection to identify their favorite title or author. Library patrons may search for authors, titles, or keywords, or browse through the complete collection. Up to 10 titles can be downloaded

at a time and are available to patrons for a circulation period of 21 days with one renewal period permitted.

As an added feature, the Pimsleur Language Learning series covering 38 languages, the Modern Scholar series of recorded lectures, and The Holy Bible are also available for download. Nassau and Suffolk County residents should contact their local library for more details.

Participating Public Libraries

Suffolk County

Amagansett Free Library, Bay Shore-Brightwaters Public Library, Cold Spring Harbor Public Library, Emma S. Clark Memorial Library, Half Hollow Hills Community Library, Huntington Public Library, Northport-East Northport Public Library, Patchogue-Medford Public Library, Port Jefferson Free Library, Sachem Public Library, Sayville Library, and the Smithtown Library

Nassau County

Baldwin Public Library, Bayville Public Library, Bellmore Memorial Library, Bethpage Public Library, The Bryant Library, East Meadow Public Library, East Rockaway Public Library, Elmont Public Library, Farmingdale Public Library, Freeport Public Library, Great Neck Library, Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library, Hillside Public Library, Jericho Public Library, Levittown Public Library, Lynbrook Public Library, Malverne Public Library, Manhasset Public Library, North Merrick Public Library, Oyster Bay Public Library, Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library, Port Washington Public Library, Shelter Rock Public Library, Uniondale Public Library, and Williston Park Public Library

About netLibrary

netLibrary (www.netLibrary.com), a division of OCLC Online Computer Center, Inc., is the leading provider of downloadable audiobooks and Internet-based content management services for the institutional library market. netLibrary develops, archives, hosts, and maintains downloadable audiobook collections for thousands of academic, corporate, public, and school libraries throughout the world.

About Recorded Books:

Recorded Books was founded in 1979 and is the world's largest independent publisher of unabridged audiobooks. Recorded Books provides unabridged books on cassette, CD, and downloadable formats for consumer markets, libraries, and schools. For more information, visit www.recordedbooks.com.

About Hights Cross Communications:

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross is a leading developer and publisher of products for the kindergarten through twelfth grade, or K-12, supplemental education, library, and medical education markets. Hights Cross imprints include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Buckle Down Publishing (Iowa City, IA), Options Publishing (Merrimack, NH), Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD), and Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL). For more information, visit www.hightscross.com.

Safe Harbor Statement: This press release contains forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “potential,” and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. These risks, uncertainties, and other factors may cause our actual results, performances, or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements include, among others, changes in external market factors, changes in our business or growth strategy, or an inability to execute our strategy due to changes in our industry or the economy generally, the emergence of new or growing competitors and various other competitive factors. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the events and circumstances described in forward-looking statements contained in this press release will in fact occur. You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.