

RECORDED BOOKS **PRESS RELEASE**

Editorial Contact:
Michael Stugrin
562-498-6353
mstugrin@earthlink.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECORDED BOOKS INTRODUCES *SMARTPASS AUDIO GUIDES TO SHAKESPEARE*

The new *SmartPass Audio Guides to Shakespeare* series will be featured at the 2007 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Convention, November 15-19, 2007 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York. Please visit Recorded Books at Booth #335.

Prince Frederick, MD, November 12, 2007—Recorded Books, the world's premiere publisher of unabridged audiobooks since 1979 and a Hights Cross Communications company, today announced the publication of the *SmartPass Audio Guides to Shakespeare* series. The series is available on CD and can be played using an MP3 player, PC, or conventional CD player.

The *SmartPass Audio Guides to Shakespeare* is a new resource that makes Shakespeare's works immediately accessible through powerful professional audio performances. Winner of the UK's Spoken Word Award for Drama, the guides are performed by accomplished actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, and the BBC. Commentary and analysis are provided by Shakespeare experts and experienced teachers of English and History.

Each Shakespeare audio guide includes a full-cast performance of the play with interpretation strategically placed to maximize understanding. Also included is the full-length audio recording of the play without commentary. SmartPass uses a teacher figure, the PassMaster, to guide listeners through the text and help them comprehend unfamiliar vocabulary. A Teacher's Pack for each title includes 15 multi-page projects and student work sheets at three levels and read-along scripts.

The *SmartPass Audio Guides to Shakespeare* series currently includes *Henry V*, *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Othello*, *King Lear*, and *Shakespeare: The Works*. The series was produced and directed by accomplished British director and playwright Philip Viner, who has also co-authored several SmartPass guides

About Recorded Books:

Recorded Books, a Hights Cross Communications company, produces and distributes unabridged audiobooks and other audio products to public and university libraries and schools, in cassette, CD, and downloadable formats. Over 7,000 titles are available for adults, children, and young adults in English and Spanish languages narrated by professional, award-winning actors. Recorded Books also distributes music, educational lectures, independent films, and nonfiction films on DVD. Packaging is designed for high circulation. One-year warranty, cataloging, processing, and free marc records are available. 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.