

RECORDED BOOKS **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECORDED BOOKS INTRODUCES *DR. JANET ALLEN'S PLUGGED-IN TO NONFICTION*

New Program Extends the Best-Selling Dr. Janet Allen's *Plugged-In to Reading*

Prince Frederick, MD – March 13, 2008 – Recorded Books, the world's premiere publisher of unabridged audiobooks since 1979 and a Hights Cross Communications company, today announced it will introduce *Dr. Janet Allen's Plugged-in to Nonfiction*, the latest extension of Dr. Janet Allen's literacy program *Plugged-in to Reading*, which is used in classrooms nationwide. This new program is available immediately.

Plugged-in to Nonfiction is a non-textbook, nonfiction reading program for secondary schools based in authentic literature and created by Dr. Janet Allen, an expert in adolescent literacy. The program uses high-interest books to teach effective strategies that students can transfer to content area textbook comprehension. Students are supported by audio and additional tools that reflect the text-types and structures they encounter in tests and the real world.

"*Plugged-in to Nonfiction* offers schools a new set of tools to teach students how to break down and comprehend nonfiction texts," says William DeLamater, Director of Recorded Books' school division. "Teachers are given the support needed to motivate students and move them from teacher-directed instruction, to peer-supported learning, to independent reading. Meanwhile, students are provided with the instructional scaffolding necessary to master the essential reading and writing skills taught in the program."

An international consultant, researcher, author, and veteran educator, Dr. Janet Allen has become a major force in literacy work with at-risk students. She is the author of well-regarded books on literacy: *On the Same Page: Shared Reading Beyond the Primary Grades*; *Yellow Brick Roads: Shared and Guided Paths to Independent Reading*; *Words, Words, Words: Teaching Vocabulary in Grades 4-12*; *It's Never Too Late: Leading Adolescents to Lifelong Literacy*; and *Using Literature to Help Troubled Teenagers Cope*

with End-of-Life Issues.

Dr. Allen taught high school reading and English in Maine for 20 years. In 1992, she relocated to Florida to teach English and reading education courses at the University of Central Florida (UCF). She has received several teaching awards, including the Milken Foundation's National Educator Award. During her tenure at UCF, she directed the Central Florida Writing Project and assisted in the creation of the Orange County Literacy Project. Dr. Allen currently devotes herself to research, writing, and conducting institutes across the country as part of her Literacy Leadership Collaborative.

For more details on Plugged-in to Nonfiction visit www.pluggedintoreading.com/nonfiction. To speak with sales support, please call Karen Stone at 1-800-638-1304 ext. 1410. (Editors: For digital photos of the cover of Dr. Janet Allen's Plugged-in to Nonfiction, please send an e-mail to donnac@recordedbooks.com.)

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 8,000 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 Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, audio products, periodicals, software and online services, serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school libraries, consumers, and continuing medical education. Hights Cross companies include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Buckle Down Publishing and Options Publishing (Iowa City, IA), 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.