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Contact information follows

A Way with Words

The Radio Show *A Way with Words* Continues!

**Co-hosts and producer found production company —
KPBS to air brand-new episodes — Language-loving listeners applaud!**

SAN DIEGO, CALIF., (Sept. 28) — The popular coast-to-coast public radio show *A Way with Words* has inked a deal to keep the show on the air in major markets across the country.

The arrangement between the new independent production company, **WayWord LLC**, and **KPBS Radio** in San Diego, the show's former producing station, will have brand-new full-length episodes airing as soon as November, the co-hosts and producer announced today. The three key members of the show—co-hosts **Martha Barnette** and **Grant Barrett**, and longtime producer **Stefanie Levine**—formed WayWord LLC shortly after receiving news in August that KPBS no longer had the budget to produce the show.

Under the agreement, KPBS, among other stations, will continue to broadcast the call-in language program, first aired in 1998 and now heard worldwide by tens of thousands of podcast listeners and nationwide by radio listeners from California to New York.

"I'm ecstatic," said Barnette, the San Diego journalist and author who joined the show in 2004. "The response from our audience has been overwhelming. Our listeners are smart and insatiably curious, with a passion for lifelong learning. They've been telling us they value intelligent conversation combined with a sense of humor. There was never any question that we'd find a way to keep bringing them a show that gives them just that."

"I'm delighted to be able to tell the thousands of fans who called and wrote that the show will go on," said Barrett, the New York-based slang lexicographer and writer who in January succeeded longtime co-host Richard Lederer when he retired. "They let us know that there's nothing else like us on the radio."

"We're thrilled that our new season's already in production. We see this as a win-win for everybody," said Levine, who has spent the past five years refining the show's format and production.

In August, the *A Way with Words* team launched a new web site, www.waywordradio.org, featuring an e-newsletter, contests, mini-podcasts, and an online forum where listeners worldwide discuss topics from the radio show.

Levine says sponsors and underwriters have already expressed support for the new production

company and the show's partners continue to meet with other potential sponsors and underwriters.

About the Show

A Way with Words is a lively radio show about language with two hosts who are experts in their fields. They delve into word histories, solve grammar disputes, and puzzle over word quizzes -- and their sense of fun is infectious. Listeners worldwide call in to vent their grammatical peeves, offer up word-origin theories, and ask the pesky linguistic questions that have bugged them for years.

The format is similar to *Car Talk*—but the subject is language, the callers are more passionate, and the conversation and wordplay wander into a wide range of subjects, including current events, pop culture, history, trivia, politics, science, literature, sports, music, slang, and foreign languages.

For more information:

Visit **<http://www.waywordradio.org/about>**

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