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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AL ROKER OF NBC'S "TODAY" TO HOST
2008 EDGAR® AWARDS BANQUET
For Second Consecutive Year

(NEW YORK, NY) – Mystery novel fan and morning show host of the “Today” show, Al Roker has been selected again by the Mystery Writers of America to be the Master of Ceremonies for the 62nd Annual Edgar® Awards. Last year was Roker’s first time to host the ceremony.

“The Mystery Writers of America are very excited to have Mr. Roker return as Master of Ceremonies,” said Harry Hunsicker, Executive Vice President of Mystery Writers of America. “His wit and humor last year made for a wonderful time, and we look forward to another great evening.”

The Edgar Awards, or "Edgars," as they are commonly known, are named after Mystery Writers of America's patron saint Edgar Allan Poe and are awarded to authors of distinguished work in more than a dozen categories. Also being honored this year with the coveted Grand Master Award is the creator of one of the longest lasting detective series, author Bill Pronzini. The Edgar Awards Banquet will be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City, on Thursday, May 1, 2008.

About Mystery Writers of America

Mystery Writers of America (MWA) is the premier organization for mystery writers, professionals allied to the crime writing field, aspiring crime writers, and those who are devoted to the genre. MWA is dedicated to promoting higher regard for crime writing and recognition and respect for those who write within the genre. We provide scholarships for writers, sponsor MWA:Reads (our youth literacy program), sponsor symposia and conferences, present the Edgar Awards, and conduct other activities to further a better appreciation and higher regard for crime writing. With 11 chapters covering the 50 states, membership is open to the public, and you need not reside in the U.S. to join. MWA is a nonprofit organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. www.mysterywriters.org.

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