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WEIRD NEWS RADIO TO LAUNCH JUNE 1ST
Weekly Weird News Podcast to Feature Hosts Jim Harold and Kate Botello

<http://weirdnewsradio.com>

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 16, 2011) Popular podcaster JIM HAROLD and television and stage veteran KATE BOTELLO are pleased to announce the launch of their new audio podcast, WEIRD NEWS RADIO. The free podcast will be available on iTunes, or streaming at <http://weirdnewsradio.com>.

Each week, hosts Harold and Botello will report and comment on the “weird” side of the world’s news. The half-hour show will wade through murky sources to bring listeners stories from categories like, “Dumb Criminals” and “Celebrity Trainwrecks”, “Strange But True,” “Beyond the Pale,” and “We’re All Doomed!”

Jim Harold says:

“I am absolutely thrilled to be hosting "Weird News Radio" with the great Kate Botello. The geeks of the world have spoken out, Kate is back and I'm glad to be joining her on the show. Each week we'll spotlight the weirdest and wackiest news out there, I hope my listeners and Kate's legions of fans will tune in for some fun times. I have just one question for the old "Screen Savers" fans out there. Where can I get a good deal on some Hawaiian shirts?"

Kate Botello says:

“Weird News Radio’ provides me with an excellent excuse to read trashy grocery store magazines and news sites, because now I can justify it as research. I love this show!” Jim Harold’s podcasts are a staple in Botello’s household, and she’s very excited to be working with him on such an unusual and entertaining project.

WEIRD NEWS RADIO will be available for subscription and download on iTunes starting June 1st, 2011.

The podcast is free, and will also be available from <http://weirdnewsradio.com>, RSS feed, or Facebook.

See our website: <http://weirdnewsradio.com> for more information.

ABOUT KATE BOTELLO:

Kate Botello made her performance debut at a dinner party for her parents' drunk friends in, *Fat Kid in Glasses: Robot Does the Hustle*, an interpretive "dance" to the disco non-classic, "A Fifth of Beethoven." She was eight.

Later in life, in San Francisco, Kate went from being a Senior Desktop Analyst (the day job) and professional Judy Garland impersonator (the night job) to being hired as on-air talent at ZDTV (now G4/TechTV). Her first gig at TechTV was puppeteering and doing the voice talent behind the network's virtual host, Tilde – for which she and the Virtual Media Team were awarded a Bronze medal in the New York Festival and a Bay Area Emmy Award.

Kate went on to become the cohost and one of the masterminds behind the creation of the live, national daily television show, *The Screen Savers*, with Leo Laporte. She sang show tune technology parodies, did beat poetry about RAM and Operating Systems, experienced an earthquake and repeatedly put cohost Leo Laporte in a headlock – all during more than 400 episodes of live television.

Kate then became cohost of TechTV's internationally distributed videogame show, *Extended Play*. When she wasn't globetrotting around London or Tokyo, she was interviewing the heroes and villains of the videogame industry, sparring with *Ultimate Fighters*, judging the *Consumer Electronic Show (CES)* in Las Vegas, or ranting about Lara Croft's enormous rack on PBS.

Following her California television career, Kate moved to New York city and worked in theatre. After playing Judy Garland and Kate Hepburn to critical praise and sold-out houses Off-Broadway in *Christmas with the Crawfords*, she formed *Love Bomb Productions* with Ray Weigel and acclaimed Disney director and original cast member of *A Chorus Line*, Donna Drake. Together, they produced multiple cabaret productions of two original shows: *Judy Garland and Uninvited Company* and *Judy's Christmas Garland*. Both shows were starred as "recommended" in *Time Out New York*, and received rave reviews. *Uninvited Company* was a Finalist for *New York Nightlife Award*, and Kate won a *Backstage Bistro* for her portrayal of Judy.

Kate then brought this national experience to Traverse City, where she is deeply involved in the community arts scene. She appears in and directs local productions and events, working heavily with the [Old Town Playhouse Young Company](#), where she serves as an acting teacher and director.

Kate's current favorite projects (other than *Weird News Radio*, of course) are: the *Young Company Summer Performing Arts Camp*, a four-week day camp bringing intensive musical theatre instruction to young actors aged nine to sixteen; and the improvisational comedy improv troupe, [Good On Paper](#).

When not performing or directing, Kate is half of [Traverse City Web Design](#) along with her husband, Ray Weigel IV.

ABOUT JIM HAROLD:

Jim Harold has worked in radio, video, and business to business media. He holds a Master's Degree in Communication and has taught at the university level.

In 2005, Jim's started podcasting on the paranormal. His life long interest in the supernatural, combined with his love of broadcasting and technology have resulted in the most successful web-based programs of their type in the world.

The Paranormal Podcast, *Jim Harold's Campfire*, and *The Paranormal Report with Clayton Morris* are regularly among the top podcasts in their categories on iTunes, often outranking

programs from mainstream media publishers such as The New York Times, PBS and NPR. One listener described him as “Art Bell Meets NPR”...Jim liked that.

He won't dress up in alien costumes and doesn't plan on buying that \$19.99 Super Official Ghost Detector off of late night TV but believes there is more to life than what meets the eye.

Jim thinks back to his childhood and fondly remembers grabbing sleazy tabloids off of supermarket racks much to his mother's chagrin. Unfortunately, he still does the same thing as a grown man embarrassing his wife and young children...think of *Weird News Radio* as part of his 12 step program to go cold turkey off of cheap newsprint.

Jim also writes. Jim Harold's *Campfire: True Ghost Stories*, published by New Page Books, is due out September 2011 in dead tree, Kindle, and Nook editions. He lives in Northeast Ohio with his fantastic wife and two daughters. He is incredibly thankful for them and his loyal audience. You can find his other work at jimharold.com.

Jim is thrilled to be working with the great Kate Botello on *Weird News Radio*, but is a little puzzled over his sudden, irresistible urge to stock up on Hawaiian shirts.

Jim's company is Jim Harold Media, LLC.