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WHYY to Open Access to Nearly Forty Years of *Fresh Air* Content

PHILADELPHIA, February 3, 2015 — WHYY has been awarded a \$254,769 grant over two years from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to support the creation of open and free access to its 38-year collection of the Peabody Award-winning national radio program *Fresh Air with Terry Gross*.

With the expertise of archival consultants from Drexel University, WHYY will use the grant to establish free and open access to 8,000 *Fresh Air with Terry Gross* programs spanning over 38 years. A finding aid and cataloguing system will be generated through this project and will include a rich metadata base that uses the global library collaborative standards set by Online Computer Library Center (OCLC). The collection will eventually be made internationally accessible via WorldCat, a global catalog of library collections.

“WHYY’s *Fresh Air with Terry Gross* is of interest to and could be used by scholars across a wide range of disciplines including professors at academic institutions, curators and exhibit managers at museums, researchers, authors, documentary film makers, and journalists,” said Bill Marrazzo, WHYY president and CEO. “The program’s diversity of topics and interviewees makes *Fresh Air* an invaluable resource and we are thrilled to begin the process of making the collection accessible.”

“The archive of Terry Gross’s *Fresh Air* interviews, always characterized by genuine curiosity, equanimity, rigor, and depth, represents an exemplary aspect of America’s cultural heritage that embodies our finest achievements and defines us as a nation,” said Chuck Henry, CLIR president.

“We recently completed the mammoth task of transferring our collection of deteriorating audio tape to digital media, preserving thousands of interviews, some dating back to the mid ‘70s,” said Danny Miller, co-executive producer of *Fresh Air with Terry Gross*. “The names of guests featured in the archives reveal what an amazing collection it is of conversations with some of the most significant figures in 20th and 21st century American culture.”

WHYY’s *Fresh Air* Hidden Collection project was one of only 19 selected from a total of 92 grant applications to Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). CLIR is a nonprofit organization that forges strategies to enhance research, teaching, and learning environments in collaboration with libraries, cultural institutions, and communities of higher learning.

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