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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WCNY'S "THE IVORY TOWER HALF HOUR" CELEBRATES 300TH EPISODE

SYRACUSE, NY, (November 3, 2009) – WCNY's "The Ivory Tower Half Hour" celebrates its 300th episode on November 13, 2009, at 8 p.m. "The Ivory Tower Half Hour" first aired in 2002 and is WCNY's prevailing program for political commentary. The 300th show will be televised live with the studio audience in attendance followed by a special live, televised half hour of feedback and reaction from audience members.

The engaging round-table discussions are facilitated by David Rubin, interim director of the Goldring Arts Journalism Program at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Six regular panelists who are associated with various Central New York colleges and universities engage weekly in civilized deliberations that are at times in accord with one another and at other times not.

The panelists include: Kristi Andersen, professor of political science at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University; Tim Byrnes, professor of political science at Colgate University; Lisa Dolak, the Angela S. Cooney Professor of Law at the Syracuse University College of Law; Bob Greene, The Paul J. Schupf Professor of History and Humanities at Cazenovia College; Tara Ross, professor of history at Onondaga Community College; and Bob Spitzer, Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science at SUNY Cortland. Barbara Fought, associate professor of broadcast journalism and director of the Tully Center for Free Speech at the Newhouse School, is occasionally featured as a guest host.

"We are very proud to be celebrating the 300th episode," said Doug Moreau, producer for "The Ivory Tower Half Hour." "The program reflects what is really happening in the news today and the panelists provide entertaining and informative insights that help connect the community to these pertinent issues."

"The Ivory Tower Half Hour" airs on WCNY 24.1 on Fridays at 8 p.m. The latest show webcast is available online at www.wcnny.org/ivorytower.

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WCNY is a private, tax-exempt, nonprofit organization, and member-supported affiliate of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) founded in 1965. We serve a 19-county viewing and listening area, reaching more than 1.8 million households via on-air, radio and online content.

WCNY broadcasts television programming on "Main Channel" 24.1 in Syracuse, WCNY2, and digital channels: Your TV 24.2, Cinema 24 – 24.3, and WCNY-HD – 24.4. All channels are carried by 33 cable carriers including Time Warner. WCNY is also the only station in our broadcast area that offers true HD 24-hours a day.

WCNY-FM, the only classical music station in Central New York, is broadcast on WCNY-FM, 91.3 in Syracuse, WJNY-FM, 90.9 in Watertown, WUNY-FM, 89.5 in Utica, and is broadcast over the World Wide Web at www.wcny.org. Our visually impaired audience can access "Read-Out," a radio reading service.

WCNY offers educational videos online. We also produce original programming that inspires, educates, and entertains, and offer award-winning video production and media consulting services to the public.

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