



For Immediate Release

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Lean & Hungry and National Federation of the Blind Announce Collaboration *National Federation of the Blind Endorses Lean & Hungry's Radio Drama Adaptations of Theater Classics*

Washington, DC March 13, 2012 – National Federation of the Blind is pleased to announce that it is now partnering with Lean & Hungry Theater, a company that produces radio drama adaptations of Shakespeare's plays and other classics for underserved communities.

As part of the collaboration agreement, National Federation of the Blind is endorsing the recorded works of Lean & Hungry Theater as being appropriate for its constituency. Lean & Hungry will use the National Federation of the Blind's logo on the marketing and packaging materials for all its productions. The two organizations also will share links on each of their respective Web sites, and will cooperate together on additional work that serves the common interests of the groups they serve.

The constituency for National Federation of the Blind, which is inclusive of people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired, will benefit from the descriptive art that Lean & Hungry provides. Lean & Hungry Theater uses music, sound effects and narrative characters to make classic theater clearly understandable as an audio-only medium. Audio-description, available at movie theaters and playhouses, is a related technology widely enjoyed by people who are blind or visually impaired.

According to National Federation of the Blind's President, Dr. Marc Maurer, "The National Federation of the Blind is pleased to be associated with the quality radio dramas produced by Lean & Hungry Theater. We believe that this work can spark a new appreciation for radio drama and for the works of William Shakespeare throughout our society."

Jessica Hansen, Lean & Hungry Theater's Artistic Director, said, "We are thrilled to work in partnership with the National Federation of the Blind. We look forward to our combined efforts to create educational and entertainment opportunities for the blind."

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About National Federation of the Blind:

With more than 50,000 members, the National Federation of the Blind is the largest and most influential membership organization of blind people in the United States. The NFB improves blind people's lives through advocacy, education,

research, technology, and programs encouraging independence and self-confidence. It is the leading force in the blindness field today and the voice of the nation's blind. In January 2004 the NFB opened the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute, the first research and training center in the United States for the blind led by the blind.

About Lean & Hungry Theater:

Conceived in 2006, Lean & Hungry Theater (Lean & Hungry) is a non-profit, educational radio theatre company. Drawing primarily on the works of William Shakespeare, Lean & Hungry provides adaptations of classic dramatic works to underserved areas, in established or improvised venues (both live and electronic), for the educational benefit and cultural enrichment of students, families, seniors and other interested groups in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and beyond. Lean & Hungry performances are recorded and/or broadcast before a live audience, complete with sound effects and original musical underscore. The recorded performances are made available as audio streams, mp3 downloads, audio CD and as radio broadcast productions. For more information, visit www.leanandhungrytheater.com.