Toastmaster magazine ranks among the best of 'most improved'

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, Calif., May 1, 2012 — <u>Toastmaster magazine</u>, the exclusive monthly publication of <u>Toastmasters International</u>, has been named a 2012 "Maggie Award" finalist — Most Improved Publication/Trade & Consumer Category — for exhibiting excellence in publishing. Deemed one of "The Best in the West," *Toastmaster* magazine is delivered to more than 270,000 members worldwide and is available online. The publication earned this recognition for editorial and design changes made in September 2011 to reflect the Toastmasters brand refresh and respond to reader feedback.

For more than 86 years, Toastmasters International has been recognized as the leading organization dedicated to communication and leadership skill development. The *Toastmaster* magazine, therefore, highlights these same topics, and serves as a reference for members working toward personal and professional improvement.

The redesigned *Toastmaster* features new sections, more images and additional profiles on members, well-known speakers and leaders. Other updates include design changes to increase readability, standardized layouts to reflect current industry trends and more succinct editorial content. Relevant tips, profiles and information on topics such as language and humor are included to reinforce the skills members learn in Toastmasters meetings and instill a sense of community among clubs worldwide.

"Each month, the *Toastmaster* magazine is read by members of every ethnicity, education level and profession. They use it as a resource for their personal and professional development," says Daniel Rex, executive director of Toastmasters International. "This is a well-deserved accolade for a publication that truly inspires and educates our members."

The "Maggie Awards" are sponsored by the Western Publishing Association.

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About Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Founded in October 1924, the organization currently has more than 270,000 members in 13,000 clubs in 116 countries. Each week, Toastmasters helps more than a quarter million people of every ethnicity, education level and profession build their competence in communication so they can gain the confidence to lead others. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit <u>www.toastmasters.org</u>. Follow Toastmasters International on Twitter <u>@Toastmasters</u>.

For further information: Angela Burrell of Toastmasters International, +1-949-858-8255, aburrell@toastmasters.org

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