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## **Christian film producer and media personality Cheryl Ariaz Wicker to speak at 7th Annual Christian Women in Media Association National Conference**

*Christian film producer and media personality Cheryl Ariaz Wicker will speak at the Christian Women in Media Association (CWIMA) National Conference on February 15-17, 2012 in Nashville, Tennessee, along with top media professionals including Jennifer O'Neill, Kay Arthur, Ruth Graham, Kathleen Cooke, Carol Swain and Thelma Wells. For more information on Wicker, go to [CherylWicker.com](http://CherylWicker.com). For more information on CWIMA, go to [cwima.org](http://cwima.org).*

Monroe, LA, Jan. 31, 2012—Cheryl Ariaz Wicker will join a group of top women in media as a speaker at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christian Women in Media Association (CWIMA) National Conference on February 15-17, 2012 in Nashville, Tennessee. She will co-moderate a media seminar with Kathleen Cooke entitled, "Communicating Your Message On Camera and Off" at the annual conference which attracts media professional from across the country. Cooke is the Regional Director for the West Coast/Los Angeles region of CWIMA. "It is an honor to be involved in the promotion this exciting organization," says Wicker, who serves on the President's Task Force. "CWIMA is a mighty force in the empowerment of Christian women impacting the culture through media."

Wicker's 16-year entertainment career has allowed her to work behind the camera as a Christian film and television producer, casting director and entertainment publicist, and in front of the camera as an actress and media personality. She has recently become known to faith-based movie fans as the producer and host of the popular Christian Movie Connect, which allows viewers to meet the personalities behind the movies. Her celebrity interviews throughout the years include Grammy and Dove award winning recording artists, veteran actors, filmmakers, best-selling authors, and nationally known culture leaders.

Cooke, who is on the top media panel of the CWIMA national conference and will co-moderate the media seminar with Wicker, is an actress, writer, speaker and businesswoman, and the founding partner and VP at Cooke Pictures in Burbank, California. Cooke also co-directed the

Biola Media Conference—the largest media conference in the country for professionals of faith working in Hollywood for the past five years.

CWIMA, originally known as Women in Christian Media, is a national organization founded by Suellen Roberts in 2002 for the purpose of providing opportunities for industry networking, professional equipping, and spiritual refreshment. It includes women from all areas of media: TV, film, radio, internet, publishing, music, arts & entertainment.

The three day CWIMA National Conference includes keynote sessions and media seminars; luncheons, evening receptions, and the President's Dinner. A top media panel hosted by author and speaker Thelma Wells (part of the Women of Faith tour) and including Ruth Graham, will give attendees a chance for Q&A. Social activities include a Movie Trailer and Music Night and a sightseeing excursion to downtown Nashville. The event culminates with the 10th Anniversary CWIMA Excellence in Communication Awards Gala hosted by best-selling author and speaker Karol Ladd with a keynote address by actress Jennifer O'Neill ("Scanners," "Rio Lobo," "Summer of '42"). Other keynote speakers are Bible teacher and author Kay Arthur (co-founder of Precept Ministries International) as well as author, professor and media personality Carol Swain.

CWIMA also holds four Regional Connection Dinners in five cities across the U.S. throughout the year: Los Angeles, Dallas, Nashville, New York City and Chicago.

For more information about Cheryl Ariaz Wicker, go to [CherylWicker.com](http://CherylWicker.com) or [ChristianMovieConnect.com](http://ChristianMovieConnect.com). For more information about Christian Women in Media Association or to register for the National Conference, go to [cwima.org](http://cwima.org).

## **ABOUT CHERYL ARIAZ WICKER:**

Cheryl Ariaz Wicker is a film producer, media personality and publicist, having worked in media for 16 years. She most recently produced the faith-based film "Flag of My Father," featuring John Schneider GiGi Erneta, Andrew Sensenig and William Devane, which garnered the Best Narrative Feature Award at the 2011 GI Film Festival and has aired on TBN. She also owns Premier1 Studios, a Christian entertainment media and public relations agency which specializes in branding, publicity and social media. As a publicist, she has covered the gamut of Christian entertainment, including the arenas of publishing, music and film. She also writes for Examiner.com as the National Christian Movies Examiner and is a contributor for various other publications. She also produces and hosts the weekly video podcast, Christian Movie Connect.

## **ABOUT CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN MEDIA ASSOCIATION**

Founded in 2002 as Women in Christian Media and renamed in 2011 as Christian Women in Media Association, this organization is for Christian women who work in Christian or secular media. The purpose of CWIMA is to empower Christian women in media as they impact the culture for Christ through networking, professional enrichment and spiritual encouragement. Former Gucci executive Suellen Roberts is the Founder and President.