



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

William Waybourn,
Managing Director

Contact: Alan Klein (212) 807-1700
Pager: (800) 601-5483 (please include area code)
Email: klein@glaad.org

**GLAAD LAUNCHES OFFICIAL "COME OUT WITH ELLEN"
WORLD WIDE WEB SITE
*GAY GROUP CONTINUES NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN TO CELEBRATE
AMERICAN TELEVISION'S FIRST LESBIAN LEAD CHARACTER***

▼ Los Angeles
8455 Beverly Blvd
Suite 305
Los Angeles, CA 90048
213-658-6775
fax. 213-658-6776

Los Angeles, CA, March 26, 1997—The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) today launched the official "Come Out With *Ellen*" World Wide Web site as the media watchdog group continues its nationwide campaign to mark the historic coming out of ABC Television's Ellen Morgan, the first-ever lesbian lead character on American television. The coming out episode will air on ABC on April 30, 1997. The "Come Out With *Ellen*" Web site is located at www.glaad.org.

▼ New York
150 West 26th Street
Suite 503
New York, NY 10001
212-807-1700
fax. 212-807-1806

GLAAD's official "Come Out With *Ellen*" site provides up-to-the-minute information about the groundbreaking coming out episode and about GLAAD's "Come Out With *Ellen*" viewing parties scheduled to take place in cities nationwide. The site also provides information about how to host *Ellen* house parties, contact information for sponsors, online *Ellen* resources as well as information about coming out. GLAAD began its successful "Let *Ellen* Out" campaign nearly eight months ago and launched "*Ellen* Watch," a Web page dedicated to monitoring the show and to following the rumors that the title character would be coming out.

▼ Northampton
10 West Street
Northampton, MA 01060
413-586-8928
fax. 413-586-5185

"Many lesbians and gay men start their coming out process on the Internet because it is a safe, anonymous place," said Loren Javier, GLAAD Interactive Media Director, "Thousands of people visit GLAAD's Web site each day, and we hope that we can play a role in helping them break down their closet doors, and to enjoy this landmark coming out event."

▼ Portland
707 Southwest Washington
St Suite 350
Portland, OR 97205
503-224-5285
fax. 503-224-5480

According to Chastity Bono, GLAAD Entertainment Media Director, "This episode marks a historic turning point in television history, and we hope that lesbian and gay fans of the show will turn out with GLAAD to come out with *Ellen*."

▼ Washington, DC
1875 Connecticut Ave,
Northwest, Suite 640
Washington, DC 20009
202-986-1360
fax. 202-667-0902

For more information about GLAAD's "Come Out With *Ellen*" campaign, please call (800) GAY-MEDIA or e-mail to glaad@glaad.org. In Los Angeles, call (213) 658-6775 or in New York call (212) 807-1700 or visit the "Come Out With *Ellen*" Web page at www.glaad.org.

GLAAD is the nation's lesbian and gay news bureau and the only national lesbian and gay multimedia watchdog organization. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.