



Contact Information:

Mary Stewart
Phone: 703-535-3762
Email: newsroom@entnet.org

Embargoed for Release Until:

August 2, 2011

Guest Lecturer Marlee Matlin, Academy Award Winning Actress and Activist to Deliver the John Conley Lecture on Medical Ethics at the 2011 AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO

Acclaimed New Western Singer, Songwriter, Carin Mari, to Open the Event

Alexandria, VA - The 2011 Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO of the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation (AAO-HNSF), the largest meeting of ear, nose, and throat doctors in the world, will convene September 11-14, 2011, in San Francisco, CA.

Marlee Matlin received worldwide critical acclaim for her motion picture debut in *Children of a Lesser God*, earning her the Academy Award for Best Actress. At age 21, she became the youngest recipient of the Best Actress Oscar, making her one of only four actresses to receive that honor for a film debut.

Since then, Matlin has starred in numerous feature films and television productions. For seven seasons, Matlin starred opposite Martin Sheen, on NBC's Emmy Award winning series, *The West Wing*. She has also guest starred on *ER*, *Judging Amy*, and *CSI: New York* and *My Name is Earl*. In 2008, Matlin broke barriers when she joined the cast of ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*. She also appears on the most recent season of NBC's *The Celebrity Apprentice*, opposite Gary Busey, Star Jones and of course, Donald Trump.

She is the author of three novels for children, and an activist for children and on health issues. Matlin served as host of PBS's Emmy Award winning series *People in Motion* and, in 2007, was featured in the PBS documentary, *Through Deaf Eyes*. She is seen currently starring in Disney's highly acclaimed *Baby Einstein* DVD series, teaching sign language to infants and toddlers. She also serves as National Celebrity Spokesperson for the American Red Cross, encouraging Americans to donate blood, and has worked on behalf of closed captioning legislation requiring all televisions manufactured in the United States be equipped with this technology. Matlin lives in the Los Angeles area, with her husband, law enforcement officer Kevin Grandalski, and their four children.

About Carin Mari:

Acclaimed as one of western music's brightest hopes, Carin Mari will be performing at the Annual Meeting Opening Ceremony on Sunday, September 11, 2011 in San Francisco, CA.

She finds inspiration from life at home in the mountains of Colorado where she was born and raised. Friend and mentor, Michael Martin Murphey suggested Carin learn, "I Want to be a Cowboy's Sweetheart" in 2001, and from that moment Country Music quickly became her passion. Not a far stretch from her roots, Country Music fit her lifestyle perfectly since she was already passionate about her horses and an avid rider with a love for the western way of life. After 10 years of continued dedication, her talents as a guitarist/singer/songwriter have won her numerous awards, including 2010 Texaco Country Showdown Southwest Regional Winner and Runner-up in the National Final – and she did it with her own original western music!

For the past seven years, Carin and her two brothers have been performing coast-to-coast as the band "Carin Mari & Pony Express" - adding their own flavor to Western Music. The band has released five CD's in this time, one of which winning the title of 'Most Promising Album.' Carin, who is now nineteen, is pursuing her dreams of being a Singer/Songwriter and is studying Commercial Music at South Plains College in Texas.

Information for the Media

The AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO Newsroom will be located in the Moscone Convention Center, Room 250. Hours of operation: Saturday, September 10, 12pm to 5pm; Sunday – Tuesday, September 11 – 13, 7:30 am to 5 pm; and Wednesday, September 14, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. There will also be a Meet & Great for all press with Richard Rosenfeld, MD, MPH, Editor in Chief of *Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery* on Sunday, September 11, 2011 from 12:30 – 1:15pm in the newsroom.

The newsroom serves as a work space for credentialed members of the news media. The newsroom is managed and staffed by the AAO-HNS Communications Unit. Please see the AAO-HNS website for media credentialing requirements for the event.

To register and view advance press releases, log onto the AAO-HNS website at <http://tinyurl.com/657a292>.

About the AAO-HNS

The American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (www.entnet.org), one of the oldest medical associations in the nation, represents more than 11,000 physicians and allied health professionals who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the ears, nose, throat, and related structures of the head and neck. The Academy serves its members by facilitating the advancement of the science and art of medicine related to otolaryngology and by representing the specialty in governmental and socioeconomic issues. The organization's vision: "Empowering otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care."

###