

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEW WEB SITE ON UNDERSTANDING AMERICAN CULTURE
WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS THE WORLD OVER**

Chicago, IL – October 25, 2006 – Tired of the world’s negative perspective of America, a Chicago writer took matters into her own hands earlier this month by launching Dear Lizzie, an online column and forum dedicated to providing an accurate portrayal of American culture and the American people.

Dear Lizzie, penned by Elizabeth A. Grant, answers questions about American culture and American life from people all over the world. In addition, Americans can choose to be featured on the site by filling out a survey about their backgrounds, opinions, and views. These profiles are featured on the Web site so that people can learn first-hand what real Americans are all about.

In only three weeks, DearLizzie.net has experienced an overwhelming response, already receiving visitors from 53 countries. The site has been enthusiastically received by Americans as well and has already been featured on numerous radio newscasts. The site went live on October 5th. “I am thrilled with the positive response Dear Lizzie is experiencing. The questions I’ve received are fascinating and are a real key to how we are viewed internationally. It is obvious, too, that Americans are thirsty for the world to see something positive given our current situation,” says Grant.

She says that the world sees America through the lens of an international press that tends to focus on violence, politics, and the plastic image of Hollywood. Dear Lizzie humanizes Americans and gives the world a more accurate view of American life at a time when it’s needed most.

For more information on Dear Lizzie, please visit <http://www.dearlizzie.net>.

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