WBUR PRESENTS FIRST-EVER CHILDREN’S PODCAST FESTIVAL APRIL 28-29

“The Mega Awesome Super Huge Wicked Fun Podcast Playdate” features family favorite Eleanor Amplified from WHYY, Inc.


“This is a great way to introduce kids and families to not just podcasts, but to new ways of storytelling,” said Eleanor Amplified creator John Sheehan, Manager of On-Demand Audio & Podcasts at WHYY, and formerly a producer of Fresh Air with Terry Gross. “Shows like Eleanor Amplified are entertaining and informative while sparking laughter and conversation, perfect for listening during long car rides with the family.”

To kick off screen-free week, The Mega Awesome Super Huge Wicked Fun Podcast Playdate will feature live performances with actors, musicians and producers that delve into a wide array of topics such as the science of where dreams come from or why animals hibernate, the excitement of the International Space Station, an action-packed radio theater adventure into the Amazon, the lessons of international folk tales and the joy of kids’ comedy sketches.

“Like so many parents, I’m always trying to find alternatives to screen time,” said Jessica Alpert, managing producer for program development at WBUR who is organizing the festival with Amy Macdonald, WBUR’s Director of Community Engagement. “We’re thrilled to be partnering with some of today’s most popular kid’s podcasts to bring the audio experience to the stage in front of a live
audience. With a great diversity of topics, themes, and formats, we’re looking forward to providing an awesome experience for kids—and their grown-ups!

Each performance will be recorded live for an upcoming podcast episode. Nearly 4,000 kids and their caregivers will have the opportunity to see the performances over two days.

The Mega Awesome Super Huge Wicked Fun Podcast Playdate Schedule:

**Story Pirates**  
*Saturday, April 28, 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.*  
The *Story Pirates* aren’t your typical swashbuckling sailors. They don’t steal gold, pillage villages, or claim land; they’re searching for a different kind of treasure: kids’ wildest, most imaginative stories.

**Eleanor Amplified**  
*Saturday, April 28, 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.*  
*Eleanor Amplified* is an adventure series for the whole family. Listen together as our hero, the world-famous radio reporter *Eleanor Amplified*, foils devious plots and outwits crafty villains, all in pursuit of the big story...

**Brains On!**  
*Saturday, April 28, 12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.*  
*Brains On!* is a science podcast for curious kids and adults. Co-hosted each week by kid scientists and reporters from public radio, they ask questions ranging from the science behind sneezing to how to translate the purr of cats and go wherever the answers take them.

**Circle Round**  
*Sunday, April 29, 10:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.*  
Circle Round, a storytelling podcast for kids ages 4 to 10, adapts global folktales for a modern audience. Featuring top talent and original music, each episode uses these unique stories to explore universal topics such as kindness, generosity, and compassion.

**But Why**  
*Sunday, April 29, 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.*  
*But Why* is a show led by kids! They ask the questions and adults find the answers. It’s a big interesting world out there. *But Why* tackles topics large and small, about nature, words and even the end of the world.

**Wow In The World**  
*Sunday, April 29, 12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.*  
The *Wow in the World* Pop-Up Party brings this insanely popular science-themed podcast out in the world, weaving short interactive games and foley-infused comedy skits between science themed songs from The Pop Ups, two-time Grammy nominees and creators of the *Wow in the World* theme song.
Eleanor Amplified is an adventure series for the whole family. Listen together as our hero, the world-famous radio reporter Eleanor Amplified, foils devious plots and outwits crafty villains, all in pursuit of the big story. Like all the public media shows you love, Eleanor Amplified is entertaining and informative. Eleanor will spark laughter and conversation the whole family will enjoy, while preparing kids to appreciate journalism and make smart media choices in the future. Eleanor Amplified is a production of WHYY in Philadelphia.

About WBUR
On your radio, laptop, phone or tablet, WBUR is a leading source of news, information, analysis and sophisticated entertainment. WBUR is Boston’s NPR News Station and the home of On Point, Here & Now, Only A Game and Car Talk, reaching millions of listeners each week on NPR stations across the country. The WBUR iLab is a Top 10 national podcast producer (Podtrac, Dec. 2017) with audience favorites including Modern Love: The Podcast, Dear Sugars, Endless Thread, Circle Round and Kind World.