

Wednesday 2 May 2012

ROLF HARRIS TO RECEIVE ACADEMY FELLOWSHIP AT THE ARQIVA BRITISH ACADEMY TELEVISION AWARDS

London, 2 May 2012: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) has today announced that Rolf Harris CBE, Australian television personality, musician and artist, will be presented with the Fellowship at this year's Arqiva British Academy Television Awards on Sunday 27 May at the Royal Festival Hall.

Awarded annually, the BAFTA Fellowship is the highest accolade bestowed upon an individual in recognition of their outstanding and exceptional contribution to television. Previously honoured Fellows include Lord Bragg, Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders, Richard Curtis, Sir David Jason, Sir Bruce Forsyth and Sir David Frost. Sir Trevor McDonald received the Fellowship at last year's Television Awards.

Tim Corrie, Chairman of BAFTA, said: "Rolf Harris is one of the world's most iconic entertainers. He has huge audience appeal across multiple generations, and we are delighted to honour his contribution to television and the arts at the BAFTA ceremony on 27 May."

Signed by the BBC in 1953, Rolf Harris' broadcast career has spanned six decades with his television work covering a variety of genres including children's, factual, arts and factual entertainment. Audiences have grown up watching *Rolf's Cartoon Club*, *Rolf on Art* and *Animal Hospital* while also being entertained by Rolf the musician, accompanied by his 'wobble board'. In 2005, he was commissioned to paint a portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth II by the BBC to celebrate her 80th birthday and the accompanying programme, *The Queen by Rolf*, was watched by an audience of almost seven million. In 2006 he was awarded a CBE.

Learning about his BAFTA Fellowship, Rolf Harris said: "I'm hugely honoured and very thrilled."

The Arqiva British Academy Television Awards will be hosted by Dara O'Briain at the Royal Festival Hall, London, and broadcast on BBC One on Sunday 27 May.

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Notes to Editors

About BAFTA

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is an independent charity that supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. In addition to its Awards ceremonies, BAFTA has a year-round Learning & Events programme that offers unique access to some of the world's most inspiring talent through workshops, masterclasses, lectures and mentoring schemes, connecting with audiences of all ages and backgrounds across the UK, Los Angeles and New York. BAFTA relies on income from membership subscriptions, individual donations, trusts, foundations and corporate partnerships to support its ongoing outreach work. For further information, visit www.bafta.org.