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56th Public Media Awards Winners Announced

Public Media Awards are presented by NETA

September 16, 2024

Columbia, SC – The National Educational Telecommunications Association recognized public media's achievements at the 56th Public Media Awards on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at the 2024 NETA Conference and CPB Public Media Thought Leader Forum.

The Public Media Awards, presented by NETA, honor their member's work in the highest caliber community engagement, content, education, and marketing and communications. A mosaic of relevant content that reflects both creativity and diversity that paint rich stories of truth and consequence. Piece-by-piece and member-by-member, we come together as choreographers of the public good, to spark more imagination and inspiration than we ever could have alone.

"Congratulations to all of this year's honorees and award winners," said NETA President Eric Hyyppa. "The entries were exemplary, showcasing the best of the best from across the public media system."

With the exception of the overall excellence categories, stations compete within their divisions based on their station size. Awards are judged by a group of expert panelists from within the public media system, as well as industry professionals working outside of public media.

View the PMA winners' gallery.

56th Public Media Award Honorees:

EDUCATION CATEGORIES

Educational Resources for the Classroom

- Division 1 WETA, Colorin' Colorado ELL Strategy Library
- Division 2 WOUB Public Media, Our Ohio High School Documentary Film Festival

Educational Resources for the Community

- Division 1 Arkansas PBS, Mystery League
- Division 2 KVCR, Learn with Me

Teacher Professional Learning

Division 1 – WETA, Reading Universe: Short Vowels Skill Explorer

Learning Events

- Division 1 WETA, PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Lab's First SRL Winter Academy
- Division 2 WQLN PBS NPR, WQLN PBS Stream Machine WQLN PBS Education Department Strategic Plan

Innovation in Education

- Division 1 WHRO Public Media, Empowering Parents: WHRO's Innovative Approach to Hazing Awareness and Prevention
- Division 2 Blue Ridge PBS, ECHO Channel Education, Community, Health & Opportunity

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CATEGORIES

Local Project

- Division 1 Iowa PBS, Iconic Iowa
- Division 2 Blue Ridge PBS, Hometowns, Marion Screening/Panel Discussion

National Project

- Division 1 WNET, Jobs Explained: A National Workforce Impact Project through Local Activation
- Division 2 Alaska Public Media, The Future of Alaska's Caribou: A Community Conversation

Community Initiative

- Division 1 South Carolina ETV, SCETV Safe Space
- Division 2 Basin PBS, Basin PBS West Texas Heritage Festival: A Fusion of Culture

Kids & Family

- Division 1 Arkansas PBS, Mystery League Premiere Screening
- Division 2 WCTE, WCTE: Inspiring Families to Prosper

MARKETING & COMMINICATIONS CATEGORIES

Integrated Media Campaign

- Division 1 PBS SoCal, Roots of Comedy with Jesus Trejo
- Division 2 KLCS Public Media, See You in School

Special Event

- Division 1 South Florida PBS, 2nd Annual Women's Health Fair
- Division 2 NorCal Public Media, NorCal Public Media Food & Wine Awards

Promotion

- Division 1 Arizona PBS, Your Arizona Connection Starts Here brand elevation campaign
- Division 2 KLCS Public Media, 2024 LAUSD Bus Transportation Promo

Social Media

- Division 1 South Carolina ETV, SCETV Safe Space
- Division 2 VPM, Black History Month Campaign

Annual Report

- Division 1 Houston Public Media, 2023 Houston Public Media Annual Impact Report
- Division 2 NorCal Public Media, 2023 Local Content and Service Report to the Community

CONTENT CATEGORIES

News & Public Affairs

- Division 1 Detroit PBS, Detroit PBS chronicles challenges of prison reentry and examines solutions
- Division 2 WTCI PBS, Our Voices Chattanooga

Cultural Feature

- Division 1 Maryland Public Television, ARTWORKS
- Division 2 Alaska Public Media, Talk to the Tundra: How a Yup'ik Village Heals Together | INDIE ALASKA

Historical Feature

- Division 1 Kansas City PBS, Nichols' Folly
- Division 2 WLRN Public Media, Never Drop the Ball

Topical Feature

- Division 1 Nebraska Public Media, "What If..."
- Division 2 VPM, Special: Caring for Others | VPM News Focal Point

Education

- Division 1 WNET, Camp TV
- Division 2 WGCU Public Media, Dream School: A Journey to Higher Ed

Visual Arts

- Division 1 LPB, Ziggy's Arts Adventure (Season 2)
- Division 2 WGCU Public Media, The Face of Immokalee: Public Art for Social Change

Performing Arts

- Division 1 WHRO Public Media, Exodus | Homecoming
- Division 2 PBS Western Reserve, The World According to Polka

Digital Media

- Division 1 Utah Education Network, UEN and NHU Research Quest Program
- Division 2 Alaska Public Media, Indie Alaska

Short Form

- Division 1 WNET, Say What?!
- Division 2 WHUT Howard University Television, Who's the REAL HU?

Podcast

- Division 1 WNET, The Plate Show
- Division 2 VPM, Track Change

Military Chronicles

- Division 1 South Carolina ETV, After Action Season 2
- Division 2 VPM, Veterans in Prison | VPM News Focal Point

Visual Design - New for 2024!

- Division 1 South Carolina ETV, Citizen Better
- Division 2 KLCS Public Media, Nationally Themed Month Celebrations

Radio - News & Public Affairs

- Division 1 AZPM, The Buzz: El Tour de Mayor of Tucson
- Division 1 WGTE Public Media, Rethinking Jails + Justice Radio Series

Radio – Society & Culture

- Division 1 Nebraska Public Media, Indigenous, intergenerational sewing group empowers and heals through fashion
- Division 2 WKU PBS, A true American story: how a celebrated Bransford family legacy continues to impact Mammoth Cave National Park

Radio - Environment

- Division 1 WHRO Public Media, At risk from rising seas, Norfolk plans massive, controversial floodwall
- Division 2 West Virginia Public Broadcasting, Ballad of Muddy Water Endures and Brings Healing

Radio - Local Storytelling

• Division 2 – WGCU Public Media, Reflections of a Colored Girl

INDEPENDENT PRODUCER CATEGORY

Sabiyha Robin and Samuel George – WHUT - Howard University Television, Barry Farm:
Community, Land, and Justice in Washington, DC

OVERALL EXCELLENCE CATEGORIES

Excellence in Education

PBS Wisconsin Education

Excellence in Community Engagement

Alaska Public Media, Rural Alaska Health Care and Family Wellness Engagement

Excellence in Marketing/Communications

South Carolina ETV and Public Radio

Excellence in Content

• WHYY, WHYY Children's Programming: Albie's Elevator and Infinite Art Hunt

Excellence in Innovation

• PBS Appalachia | Blue Ridge PBS

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About NETA

The National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA) is a professional association representing 303 member stations in 49 states, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. NETA provides leadership, general audience content, educational services, professional development, and trusted financial management services, including human resources and benefits administration, to individual public media licensees, their affinity groups, and public media as a whole. For more information, visit netaonline.org and follow us on X netaonline.org and LinkedIn netaonline.org and