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55th Public Media Awards Winners Announced

Public Media Awards are presented by NETA

September 11, 2023

Columbia, SC – The National Educational Telecommunications Association recognized public media’s achievements at the 55th Annual Public Media Awards Gala on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at the [2023 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 nominees and award winners,” said NETA President Eric Hyypa. “This year 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.](#)

55th Public Media Award Winners:

EDUCATION CATEGORIES

Educational Resources for the Community

- Division 1 – Albie's Elevator, WHY?
- Division 2 – Careers That Work, WVIA Public Media

Educational Resources for the Classroom

- Division 1 (tie) – Let's Go Enviro, Georgia Public Broadcasting
- Division 1 (tie) – Mission US: No Turning Back, WNET
- Division 2 – Black Histories of the Northern Plains, Prairie Public

Innovation in Education

- Division 1 – Start It Up!, Georgia Public Broadcasting
- Division 2 – My Planet, My Voice, NorCal Public Media

Learning Events

- Division 1 – SciGirls Outreach Campaign, Twin Cities PBS
- Division 2 – The Legacy Project, WHUT - Howard University Television

Teacher Professional Learning

- Division 1 – Yellowhammer History Hunt: Immersive Professional Development, Alabama Public Television
- Division 2 – Hiding in Plain Sight Youth Mental Illness Teacher Professional Development, Montana PBS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CATEGORIES

Community Initiative

- Division 1 – Rise and Shine, Season 2, Arkansas PBS
- Division 2 – Life in the Heart Land, VPM

Kids & Family

- Division 1 (tie) – Arkansas PBS Family Day 2022, Arkansas PBS
- Division 1 (tie) – 2022 Vegas PBS Be My Neighbor Day, Vegas PBS
- Division 2 – Building a Strong Community at a Steady PACE, Alaska Public Media

Local Project

- Division 1 – Not So Black and White: A community's divided history, WFSU
- Division 2 – Our Best Lives, Rhode Island PBS

National Project

- Division 1 – Cyberchase Mobile Adventures in STEM National Community Engagement Initiative, WNET
- Division 2 – The Great Minnesota Recipe Season 2, PBS North

CONTENT CATEGORIES

Education

- Division 1 (tie) – Copper Queen Library, Arizona Public Media
- Division 1 (tie) – Teachers Share Video Diaries From Inside Their Classrooms, Milwaukee PBS
- Division 2 – Rhode Island PBS Weekly - Media Literacy, Rhode Island PBS

Cultural Feature

- Division 1 – This is Utah - "Culture Craft", PBS Utah
- Division 2 – It's More Than Hair, WVIA Public Media

Digital Media

- Division 1 – My Wisconsin Backyard Web First Series, Milwaukee PBS
- Division 2 – Indie Alaska, Alaska Public Media

Historical Feature

- Division 1 – Buffalo Soldiers: Fighting on Two Fronts: A Local, USA Special, WORLD Channel/GBH
- Division 2 – Blue Demons: A West Virginia Legacy, West Virginia Public Broadcasting

Military Chronicles

- Division 1 – USS Iowa, Iowa PBS
- Division 2 – Founded on Friendship & Freedom: The National WWII Museum, WYES

News & Public Affairs

- Division 1 – Idaho Listens, Idaho Public Television
- Division 2 – The High Cost of Higher Education, PBS Charlotte WTVI

Performing Arts

- Division 1 – Rhythm Café MKE, Milwaukee PBS
- Division 2 (tie) – Eye On The Arts | Lannie Turner, Lakeshore PBS
- Division 2 (tie) – Poetry Out Loud, KTWU

Visual Arts

- Division 1 (tie) – Monograph: Thorton Dial Special, Alabama Public Television
- Division 1 (tie) – Jose Vera: Day of the Dead Artist, Nashville Public Television
- Division 1 (tie) – Anagama Kiln, a feature segment from 'Making it Grow', South Carolina ETV
- Division 2 – Lehigh Valley Rising: "The Business of Creativity", Lehigh Valley Public Media

Podcast

- Division 1 – Indebted, South Carolina ETV
- Division 2 – Admissible: Shreds of Evidence, VPM

Short Form

- Division 1 (tie) – Iowa Miss Amazing, Iowa PBS
- Division 1 (tie) – Good Living Camp, Nebraska Public Media
- Division 2 – PBS Appalachia The Trout Farmer, Blue Ridge PBS/PBS Appalachia

Topical Feature

- Division 1 (tie) – Higgins Ridge, Montana PBS
- Division 1 (tie) – Last to Ask, WEDU PBS
- Division 2 – A State of Mind: The Lone Wolf, Wyoming PBS

Radio – Environment

- Division 1 – Crab Bank is back as a beacon for saving seabirds, South Carolina ETV and Public Radio
- Division 2 – Ear to the Wild, NorCal Public Media

Radio – Local Storytelling

- Division 1 – Working Virginia Series, WHRO Public Media
- Division 2 – Roger Cooper's 'Classically Black' provided a showcase for Black musicians, Illinois Public Media

Radio – News & Public Affairs

- Division 1 – Intermountain Health rethinks bottom surgeries for adult transgender patients, KUER
- Division 2 – From recreational pontoons to the Cajun Navy, Pine Island evacuation draws strong, mixed emotions, WGPU Public Media

Radio – Society & Culture

- Division 1 – I SEE U, Episode 87: The Souls of Russell Hornsby, Houston Public Media
- Division 2 – Us & Them: The Gun Divide, West Virginia Public Broadcasting

INDEPENDENT PRODUCER CATEGORY

- (Tie) Before They Take Us Away, Antonia Grace Glenn, Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Tim Becherer, Patrick Glenn - KVIE
- (Tie) Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People, Jennifer Loren, Maggie Cunningham, Tim Rogers, Colby Luper, Danielle Culp

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS CATEGORIES

Annual Report

- Division 1 – PBS Utah 2022 "Local Content & Service Report to the Community", PBS Utah
- Division 2 – 2022 Local Content and Service Report to the Community, NorCal Public Media

Integrated Media Campaign

- Division 1 – Shuttlesworth, Alabama Public Television
- Division 2 – ROAR Documentary Marketing and Promotions Campaign, WVIA Public Media

Promotion

- Division 1 – Strawberry Fields Gose Beer Branding, WHRO Public Media
- Division 2 – ROAR Documentary: Official Trailer Release, WVIA Public Media

Social Media

- Division 1 – SCETV Safe Space Social Media Campaign, South Carolina ETV
- Division 2 – Illustration From Unique Perspectives, VPM

Special Events

- Division 1 – WHRO's Great Music Library Giveaway - 2023, WHRO Public Media
- Division 2 – Ball State PBS's "Happy Little Fest", Ball State PBS

OVERALL EXCELLENCE CATEGORIES

Excellence in Marketing/Communications

- Get More Local Campaign, Lehigh Valley Public Media

Excellence in Community Engagement

- MPT's Harriet Tubman & Frederick Douglass Project, Maryland Public Television

Excellence in Content

- WVCU Hurricane Ian Lifeline, WVCU

Excellence in Innovation

- PBS Appalachia First All-Digital Public Television Station, Blue Ridge PBS

Excellence in Education

- Making a Digital Difference, WHRO Public Media

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About NETA

The National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA) is a professional association representing 302 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 [@NETA_Tweets](https://twitter.com/NETA_Tweets), Facebook [@NETAstations](https://www.facebook.com/NETAstations), Instagram and Threads [@NETA_grams](https://www.instagram.com/NETA_grams), and LinkedIn [@NETAbusiness](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NETAbusiness).