



2025

UPPER MIDWEST
EMMYS[®]

October 18, 2025

MYSTIC LAKE EVENT CENTER | PRIOR LAKE, MINNESOTA

I. The Code of Ethical Conduct

The Code of Ethical Conduct ("Code of Conduct") is a policy outlining the principles and standards that all employees, members, and third parties acting on behalf of NATAS and its chapters must follow to maintain the high standard of professional conduct critical to the continued prestige of the organization (NATAS) and the National and Regional Emmy® Awards. All NATAS national and regional events are to be a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy and celebrate. This Code of Conduct applies to all participants at events, competitions, or on our social media channels; to Chapter members, guests, staff, volunteers, and vendors.

II. Definition of Ethical Conduct and Practices

NATAS has zero tolerance for discrimination or harassment, illegal, dishonest, or unethical conduct. As such, members are expected to refrain from committing any act that will degrade NATAS in society, or prejudice, damage or harm the standing, reputation, welfare, and/or best interests of NATAS and its Members. NATAS will not tolerate, condone, or ignore unethical conduct and is committed to enforcing these standards at all levels.

III. Covered Conduct

NATAS AND ITS REGIONAL CHAPTERS DO NOT TOLERATE:

- Intimidation or threats
- Inappropriate disruptions
- Unwanted physical contact
- Hurtful language, hate speech, or discriminatory acts
- Physical assault
- Unwanted sexual attention
- Bullying or stalking
- Disorderly behavior as a result of public intoxication or other impairment related to substance abuse
- Any other action or activity which could reasonably be construed as contrary or detrimental to the best interests and reputation of NATAS and its regional chapters.
- A present conviction of a felony or other crime of moral turpitude is also a violation of this code of conduct.

Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests as well.

IV. Enforcement

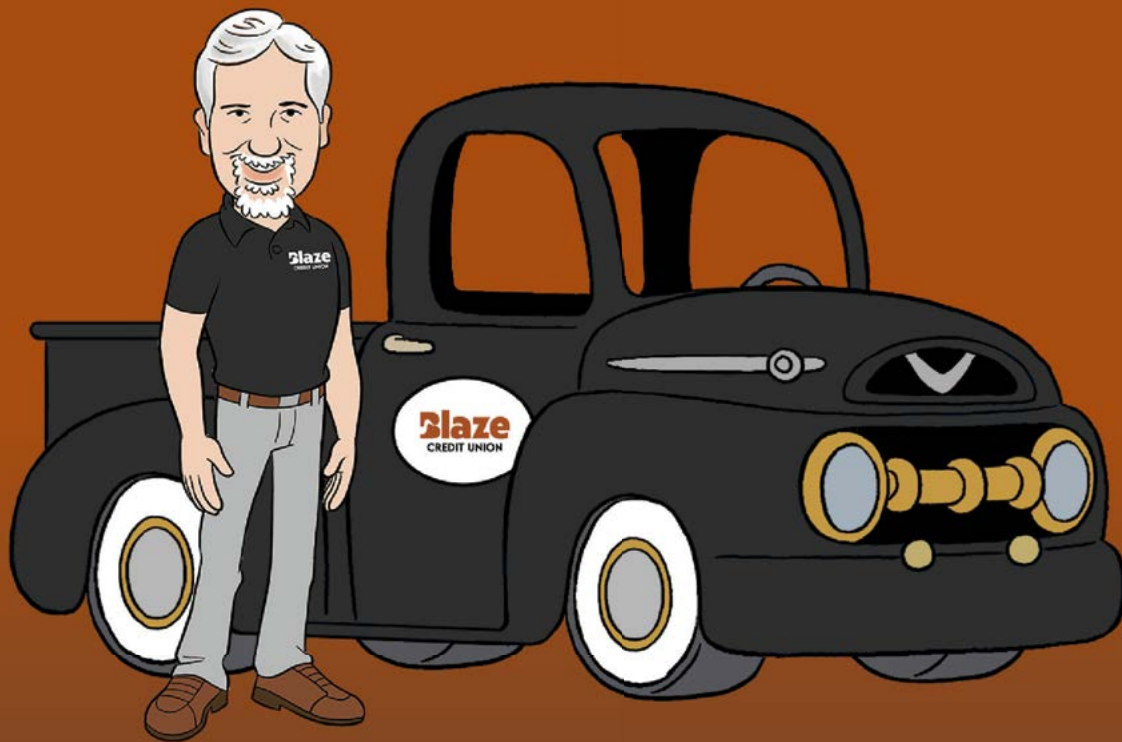
NATAS and its regional chapters reserve the right to remove or ban any person who does not adhere to the Code of Conduct: If you are asked to stop any harassing behavior, you must cease the behavior immediately.

If you experience or witness any form of harassment or violation of this Code of Conduct, contact:

- The nearest NATAS staff member, if a national event
- The nearest Chapter Governor or regional staff member, if a regional event
- You may submit an email complaint to reports@emmyonline.tv or to your chapter's Executive Director

Alleged violations of this Code of Conduct shall be reviewed and resolved in accordance with procedures adopted by NATAS Bylaws and/or Chapter Bylaws. Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including but not limited to being refused admission or ejected from an event, being barred from future events, disqualification or suspended from participation in NATAS or Chapter competitions, or the suspension or expulsion of membership.

This Code of Conduct is subject to change and may be amended, supplemented or superseded by one or more separate policies without further notice. All Members are responsible for continuous review of this Code.



*Congratulations to all the nominees,
honorees, and award winners!*

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Welcome to the 26th Annual Upper Midwest Emmy® Gala.

On behalf of the Board of Governors and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, welcome to the 26th Annual Upper Midwest Regional Emmy® Awards, where we're dedicated to honoring excellence in television!

Tonight, we're also recognizing more than 400 Upper Midwest Emmy® nominees and announcing the 2025 Upper Midwest Emmy® recipients.

We kick off our celebration during dinner by honoring the newest inductees to our prestigious 2025 Gold Circle Honorees – Terry O'Reilly/National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and Cortney Kinzter/KCCI – and four Silver Circle Honorees: Joe Conlon/Town Square TV, Stacey Nagy/KARE, Judy Clark/WEAU, and Mary Lahammer/Twin Cities PBS. You will hear all about their years of service and dedication to excellence in television.

Tonight's Emmy® Gala may be the most visible of our Chapter's work, but we also provide year-round professional development for our more than 600 members in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and western Wisconsin. We also recognize the next generation of media industry leaders through innovative workshops, Student Awards, Student Scholarships, Classroom Grants, and AV All-Stars.

If you are joining us tonight and are not yet a NATAS member, I invite you to consider joining the Academy, our Foundation, and our Board or our Committees.

I extend a big thanks to our amazing Executive Director and our incredible Board of Governors. Without all the work they've done behind the scenes, we would not enjoy an evening like tonight. I also extend a special thanks to tonight's Emcees Joe Schmit and Carla Beaurline, who help make tonight possible.

Thank you!

Now, let's celebrate!



Ben Houtkooper
President, Board of Governors
NATAS – Upper Midwest Chapter
Email: BHoutkooper@theemmys.tv

Congratulations to all of this year's nominees!

Welcome to the 26th Annual Upper Midwest Emmy® Gala. Congratulations to all of this year's nominees! What an honor it is to be recognized by your peers.

Tonight's gala marks my first full year as Awards Chair for the NATAS Upper Midwest Chapter. It's been a year of learning. From selecting judges to the process of nominating and honoring recipients, there is a lot that goes into the awards process. But I think I speak for everyone involved in that process when I say the time and effort is worth the satisfaction of seeing so many people recognized on nights like tonight.

This year, I attended my first NATAS Annual Chapter Awards Meeting in Las Vegas. As nominees, you should take comfort in knowing how much thought and consideration goes into the awards process. From category descriptions to judging rules, a lot was covered during the day-long meeting. In some cases, there were lengthy conversations about the choice of one word. Think about how the words may, can, or should change the meaning of a sentence or a rule. I can tell you that the Awards Chairs of every Chapter, including myself, take those discussions and decisions seriously. Maintaining the integrity of the Emmy® Awards is important to all of us.

As you spend tonight celebrating your friends and colleagues, keep in mind that none of this would be possible without the people who volunteer their time to judge entries. This year, our Chapter received almost 800 submissions. Each one of those entries is judged by colleagues from Chapters around the country. Our members do the same for other Chapters. But we can always use more judges.

A complete list of all names on nominated entries is posted on our website www.midwestemmys.org. Tonight's print/digital program only lists the main entrant. We will present one Regional Emmy® Statuette per category to the main entrant. PLEASE DO NOT SEND SOMEONE TO THE STAGE to get an award for someone who is not here. Station or company representatives may pick up and sign for the award at the statuette-verification table.

Once again, congratulations to everyone nominated this year. Best of luck tonight!



Terrence Thames
Awards Chair
NATAS - Upper Midwest Chapter
Email: AwardsChair@MidwestEmmys.org

Welcome to a Night of Inspiration – The 26th Annual Upper Midwest Regional Emmy® Awards!

Tonight, we celebrate more than awards—we celebrate the power of storytelling and the passion which drives our industry forward.

With nearly 800 submissions from over 90 companies and more than 400 nominations, the creativity in this room is nothing short of extraordinary. Every project represents vision, perseverance, and excellence.

A special thank you to John M. James, C.P.A. for safeguarding the integrity of the awards process. To our nominees—your work elevates the art of storytelling. To our winners—you carry the torch of inspiration for all who follow.

And remember, this night is only the beginning. Through Emmy® on the Road workshops, we're bringing free, hands-on learning opportunities to professionals and students across the region. If you'd like to host one, reach out at info@midwestemmys.org.

Tonight, we celebrate your vision, your passion, and the stories that shape our world.

Congratulations—you are the inspiration!



John (JJ) Murray
Executive Director
NATAS – Upper Midwest Chapter
Email: JJ@MidwestEmmys.org



GOLD & SILVER CIRCLE HONORS HOST - CARLA BEAURLINE



Carla Beaurline is a seasoned television and media professional with a career spanning over 38 years, both in front of and behind the camera. She currently serves as the Regional Vice President of Sales for Stream Companies, an award-winning, full-service, tech-enabled advertising agency that has earned a spot on the Inc. 5000 list 18 times.

Carla is also the founder and owner of Around Town TV & Around Town TV LIVE, the longest-airing community television showcase in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Her show is streamed live worldwide across multiple platforms, showcasing her continued innovation in live streaming, production, and community engagement.



Her on-air experience includes a 13-year run with Shop NBC, guest hosting for QVC, and serving as a host for Talk of the Twin Cities. She's also recognized for her work as an on-air spokesperson for numerous Twin Cities businesses and as a featured Lifestyle and Business Expert. Carla served eight years on the Board of Governors for the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS), Upper Midwest Chapter, and has been a long-standing member of its Foundation Board for over a decade. In 2022, she was inducted into the prestigious Upper Midwest Emmy® Silver Circle Honor Society, recognizing her extraordinary contributions to the television industry and her lifetime of achievements.



In addition to her media work, Carla is the founder of Leaders and Achievers of America™, a nationwide scholarship, mentorship, outreach, and youth recognition program established in 1993. The organization supports students from grades 2–12 by helping fund their participation in hobbies, sports, music, and camps. It also provides college, career, and trade preparation, guiding the next generation toward a successful future.

Carla Beaurline is widely respected in her industry as an award-winning journalist, producer, host, and business leader, and continues to make a lasting impact both on and off camera.



Joe Conlon has been actively engaged as a volunteer, public access producer, board member, and an employee at Town Square Television (TST) in Inver Grove Heights, MN, since he was a student at South St. Paul High School in 1988. Joe joined the TST nonprofit Board of Directors in 1990 and served for five years, then served on the Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission for 3 years, before being hired as a TST staff member in December 1997.

In his current role as Engineering Manager, Joe manages the audio/visual engineering needs of the TST facility, production truck and four city council chambers. He helps oversee public access services and spearheads productions of multi-camera live events with the TST production truck.



Growing up in South St. Paul, MN, Joe was always curious how technology worked and started taking apart disused electronics at about six years old. Unfortunately for his parents, he didn't start putting things back together until he was about thirteen years old. As a South St. Paul High School student, he had the opportunity to take four years of electronics as an elective from instructor Jim Bristol. Those classes led Joe to recording South St. Paul High School Sports and working for the Audio-Visual department.

Joe attended the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN as a seminarian at St. John Vianney Seminary. As a St. Thomas student, he studied Communications (telecommunications emphasis) and Philosophy for three years. In 1989 Joe started volunteering with a low power Catholic TV station that broadcasted from the IDS building in downtown Minneapolis, and still volunteers with that station. After three years as a college seminarian Joe decided not to pursue studying for the priesthood.

In 1993, Joe had the opportunity to go to the Caribbean island of St. Lucia for four months to volunteer at a Catholic TV station. He worked on field recording, editing and transmitter repair. In 1995, he returned to St. Lucia for ten months to again help at the station, and was blessed to meet his future wife, Mirla. They just celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in September!

Joe is an active member of SBE (Society of Broadcast Engineers) and has served as an officer for the Minnesota Chapter 17 for the past 15 years. In 2023, SBE recognized Joe as the national Robert W. Flanders Engineer of the Year. Joe is a leader in our metro-wide network of local community media stations that generously share resources and programming. Joe's passion for the mission of local community media has remained strong over 37 years of service and is still obvious in his work every day.

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences – Upper Midwest Chapter recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to television well above and beyond what's required by their job. That contribution can be in service to the industry, to NATAS, to the community, or to people training for a career in the field.



The Gold & Silver Circle is not an award; it's a society of honor. It is recognition of eligible individuals who have made a significant contribution to television well above and beyond what's required by their job. That contribution can be in service to the industry, to NATAS, to the community, or to people training for a career in the field. Nominees answer to the highest standards of integrity and honor in all aspects of their personal and professional lives.

Nominations are accepted from the performing, creative, technical or administrative roles within the industry or in peripheral areas directly related to television such as commercial production, journalism or education. Neither nominators nor nominees need to be members of NATAS.

The Gold & Silver Award Committee reviews all nominees past and present to make a recommendation to the NATAS – Upper Midwest Board of Governors.

Congratulations, Stacey!



Stacey Nogy

2025 Silver Circle Inductee

From your KARE  family.



Stacey Nogy grew up in western Pennsylvania and knew from an early age she wanted to be a journalist. She was the editor-in-chief of her college newspaper, and after graduating from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania with a degree in English Writing/Journalism, she aspired to a career as a print journalist.

After working for a weekly and two daily newspapers, circumstances led her to broadcast journalism. She worked as a reporter and producer in both Erie, PA and San Diego, CA at WJET-TV, WSEE-TV and KNSD-TV. Having never taken a class in broadcast journalism, she learned to shoot, edit and write in broadcast style, on the fly, from a wonderful group of patient and talented mentors. She was in California when she got a call that would change the direction of her career – an offer to work for KARE in Minneapolis. She came to Minnesota in late 1993 as a producer and quickly climbed the ranks, becoming Executive Producer of Special Projects, Assistant News Director and Director of News – leading the newsroom through the biggest stories of our time.



Her tenure as news director included coverage of the community impact following the murder of George Floyd, the COVID pandemic, the trial of Minneapolis Police officer Derek Chauvin, the tragic shooting of three first responders in Burnsville, tornadoes, floods, Presidential elections and campaigns and most recently, the tragic murder of Minnesota Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her husband.

Stacey has championed strong journalism throughout her career, from her time overseeing KARE's award-winning special projects unit, to her development of KARE's nationally recognized investigative team. In 2024, KARE was honored with the prestigious national Edward R. Murrow Award for 'Overall Excellence,' something the station had not won in 20 years.

Stacey remains energized by journalism's evolving challenges and is dedicated to ensuring that community-centered journalism thrives in whatever form the future takes. She's also committed to helping guide emerging journalists to pursue stories that make an impact, in this era of content transformation.

Where can a family like mine turn?

For some of life's questions, you're not alone.
Together we can find an answer.

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*Beyond the picket fence, 3Q15

We offer both investment advisory and brokerage services, which are separate and distinct and differ in material ways. For more information regarding the distinctions and the different laws and contracts that govern, please visit ubs.com/workingwithus. For designation disclosures visit <https://www.ubs.com/us/en/designation-disclosures.html>. © UBS 2017. All rights reserved. UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG. Member FINRA/SIPC. D-UBS-0B27AA73

Congratulations
Judy Clark

FROM YOUR FIRENDS AT:





Judy Clark has been a defining voice in the Eau Claire community for more than 35 years. A native of the Chippewa Valley and a proud graduate of UW-Eau Claire, she transitioned from radio to television in 1990, joining the WEAU-TV news team. With her remarkable poise and integrity, she quickly rose to the role of news anchor, earning the deep respect of her colleagues and the unwavering trust of viewers across western Wisconsin.

Known for her compassionate and ethical approach to journalism, Judy has been a dedicated mentor and has spent decades guiding and inspiring young journalists, emphasizing the importance of accuracy and a genuine connection to the community. Her dedication to fostering the next generation of broadcasters is a hallmark of her career and a testament to her commitment to the future of the industry.



Judy's contributions extend far beyond the newsroom. She has used her platform to champion local causes, interviewing thousands of people to raise awareness for non-profits and community events. Her long-standing feature segments have been instrumental in securing support for organizations like the Alzheimer's Association, United Cerebral Palsy, and the Eau Claire Children's Theatre, showcasing her passion for uplifting her community.

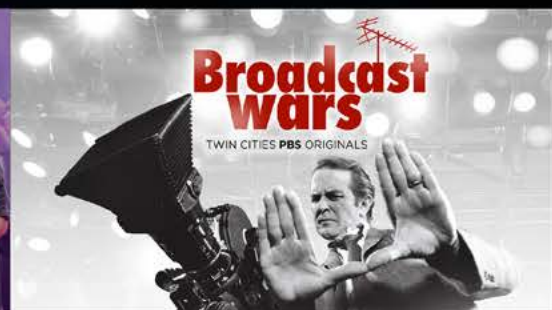
Judy Clark has built a lasting legacy of service. Her decades of work have established her as more than just an anchor; she is a trusted community leader and a cornerstone of western Wisconsin television.



Congratulations to all of the Twin Cities PBS
nominees in the 2025 Upper Midwest Emmys® and
to Mary Lahammer for her Silver Circle honor!



2025 REGIONAL EMMY® NOMINATIONS



Mary Lahammer
Upper Midwest Emmy®
Silver Circle Honoree



Stream the nominated shows on the **PBS APP**



Mary Lahammer has been a program host and political reporter for TPT – Twin Cities PBS since 1998. She has won more than a dozen regional Emmys® and numerous other awards in several states for her anchoring, reporting, producing, and photography. Lahammer was named one of the “Best Capitol Reporters in America” by the Washington Post, “Best TV Reporter” by Minnesota Monthly, and “Best Newscaster” by City Pages Magazine. Mary’s trademark has been getting politicians to open up and trust her. She has produced a variety of documentaries and programs on topics such as global trade missions, politics, Minnesota history, and farm-to-table cooking.

Prior to returning to TPT, where she interned during college, Lahammer was an anchor/reporter for an ABC station in Wisconsin and NBC in North Dakota. She is a native Minnesotan who began attending the University of Minnesota’s Honors College at age 15, where she went on to graduate Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude. She holds degrees in Journalism and Mass Communications and Constitutional Law History from the U of M. She served as President of the Alumni Board at the U’s Journalism School and Vice President of the Midwest Emmy® Awards Board of Governors.

You might say Lahammer has been in training for her job since birth. She learned the business under the wing of her father, an Associated Press Capitol reporter for more than three decades. Her State Capitol office is just around the corner from her father’s former stomping grounds.



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PBS



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NEWS NOW

VALLEY NEWS
Live

NORTHERN
NEWS NOW

KTTC

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR NOMINEES



JODIE MILLER

Jodie Miller retired on February 7, 2025, after more than 35 years of visionary leadership and service to the Northern Dakota County community. Jodie began her career at NDC4 and Town Square Television in 1989. Jodie became Executive Director in 1993, a position she held with passion, innovation, and integrity for over 30 years.

Under Jodie's leadership, NDC4 and Town Square Television grew into a national model for community media. Serving seven cities near St. Paul, Minnesota, the organization became a trusted local voice, producing high-quality television and digital content covering government, education, sports, arts, faith, and more. She championed new technologies, built a talented team, and created a collaborative network of volunteers and partners. Her impact includes not just award-winning programming, but also the many individuals she mentored and inspired along the way.



JOE SCHMIT

Joe Schmit just retired from sports broadcasting where he covered every major sporting event in the past four decades and interviewed many of the biggest names in sports. He joined KSTP-TV in 1985 and has won 19 Regional Emmy® Awards from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. He was also honored with a National Headliner Award in 2001. Joe was also honored with the Sid Hartman Media Award by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation.



Joe is also a community leader and popular keynote speaker. His first book, *Silent Impact*, is now in its second edition. He also authored *The Impact Blueprint*. His latest book, *The Right Thing to Do*, is a children's book about Baseball Hall of Famer Joe Mauer, with 100% of the proceeds going to children's charities. Joe was recently honored by the National Speakers Association (NSA) with the Certified Speaking Professional (CSP) designation. He was also inducted into the Minnesota Speakers Hall of Fame in 2019.



LARRY WENTZ

Larry Wentz's broadcasting career goes back nearly 50 years. He is a native of Blue Earth, Minnesota, and is a graduate of Iowa State University. He began his broadcasting career at WHO Radio News in Des Moines in 1976 and later transitioned to WHO-TV. He worked as a main news anchor, news director, managing editor, and reporter at stations in Des Moines, Eau Claire, and Green Bay, Wisconsin. He then came to Sioux City in 1991 to be the Evening News Anchor at KTIV.



During his broadcasting career in Siouxland, Larry also anchored the news at KCAU-TV and KPTH/KMEG-TV. He returned to KTIV in June 2023, serving as one of the anchors on KTIV News 4 at Noon.



BRAD PAUTSCH (1966-2024)

Brad Pautsch grew up on a farm near Early, Iowa. He began his journalism career at WOI's studios at Iowa State University. While in college, he also worked as a reporter for KASI radio. After graduation, Brad took a job at KTIV in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1990, working as a news and sports reporter. He was later promoted to weekend sports anchor and then Sports Director.

Brad was inducted into the NATAS Upper Midwest Chapter's Silver Circle in 2021 and into the Iowa Broadcasters Association's Hall of Fame in 2023.

Brad passed away in October 2024 after a three-and-a-half-year battle with brain cancer. Throughout his journey, he would still periodically work as a photographer and advisor for KTIV Sports, always willing and excited to pick up a camera whenever he was able.



JEFF SANDLIN (1983-2024)

Jeff Sandlin expressed a passionate interest in broadcasting from a young age. He attended the summer high school broadcasting camp at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. In November 2003, Jeff was thrilled to be hired as an early-morning production assistant for KWWL. His talent and passion were evident, and it was not long before he was promoted to his dream job as a newscast director.

Jeff passed away in December 2024, when his heart could not overcome a brief illness after numerous medical challenges throughout his life. At the time of his death, many might have said that his highest professional honor was the Regional Emmy® he received in the Director category in 2023.

However, it has become clear that his greatest professional contribution lives on in the careers of countless reporters, producers, production crew members, and others that Jeff supported and mentored.

On June 13, 2025, the production booth at KWWL was renamed the "Jeff Sandlin Control Room" in his memory.



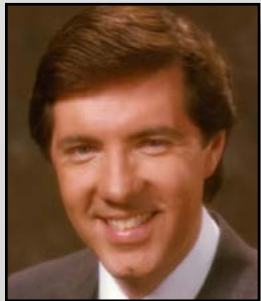


ERIC GARDNER (1965-2024)

At a young age, Eric Gardner developed an interest in meteorology, inspired by Harold Taft, the first TV weatherman in Texas. Eric's first professional TV job was in Missoula, Montana.

His career in meteorology took him from Missoula, Montana, to Wichita Falls, Texas, to Casper, Wyoming, to Helena, Montana, to Sioux City, Iowa, to South Dakota, and finally to a 22-year career at KOTA-TV in Rapid City.

Eric also had the opportunity to travel to England for the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. He was a member of the Magna Carta Society and a direct descendant of several Magna Carta Barons, including William Marshal.



STAN TURNER (1944-2025)

Stan Turner's voice and presence shaped Minnesota broadcasting for more than four decades. After a courageous three-year battle with cancer, he passed away in September 2025, leaving behind a legacy as both a trusted journalist and a mentor to countless others.

Turner began his career in 1965 at KDWB Radio. His path soon led him to KSTP and Hubbard Broadcasting, where he wore many hats such as general assignment reporter, news director, and both weekend and weekday anchor. In 1989, he embraced the future of journalism by helping launch the CONUS/All News Channel, serving as its primetime anchor and writer.

In 2009, Turner's extraordinary contributions were honored with induction into the Minnesota Broadcasting Hall of Fame.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BRAVE STORYTELLERS

who refuse to let fear, hate,
and censorship win.

We salute those who seek diverse voices
and representation in your stories.

mg RAE MACKENZIE
GROUP

Follow Our Work



Sharon

Sharon Smith-Akinsanya
CEO, Rae Mackenzie Group
Founder, People Of Color Career Fair
Producer, Celebrating the Sistas
Executive Producer of the Itasca Project
20 Docuseries

Congratulations Cortney Kintzer

Legendary Photojournalist



Celebrates your 50 years of service



CORTNEY KINTZER



Former KCCI Director of Photography Cortney Kintzer started his career as a TV news photojournalist at just 15 years old with an 8mm home movie camera.

Cortney became interested in becoming a news cameraman and began attending local news events to film them. As a junior in high school, he was hired to work in the film lab of WHO-TV Des Moines in 1975. Soon he was shooting 16mm color film for the station's newscasts. He studied Broadcast Journalism at Iowa State University while still working at WHO.

Upon graduation, he worked for a year at WMAQ-TV, NBC Chicago, as a vacation relief soundman and cameraman. By then, the industry had switched to 3/4-inch videotape. In 1981, he returned to WHO-TV and was named Chief Photographer.

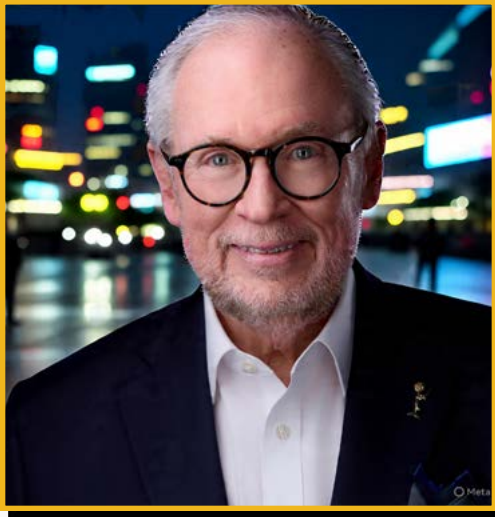


In 1987, he crossed the street to join KCCI-TV in Des Moines and was eventually named Director of Photography. He has called the profession the "ultimate backstage pass to life" and has said every day in the field is a new adventure. Career highlights include covering the Grammy Awards red carpet, conducting four one-on-one interviews with Presidents Clinton and Obama at the White House, and helping lead KCCI to win eight Small Market National Press Photography Station of the Year awards.

His favorite photo essays have centered on nature and everyday neighborhood events. These small moments have echoed in his memory as "nuggets of life captured on video." But his greatest achievement has been mentoring photographers throughout their careers. "A teacher is only a success when the student surpasses the teacher."

Cortney is humbled and proud of his 50-year career and is honored to be inducted into the NATAS Upper Midwest Chapter's Gold Circle society.

TERRY O'REILLY



NATIONAL
ACADEMY
OF TELEVISION
ARTS & SCIENCES

Terry O'Reilly's illustrious career in broadcasting and media leadership is marked by innovation, excellence, and a commitment to storytelling. As Chair of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS), he has played a pivotal role in recognizing and nurturing talent within the television industry. His tenure has been characterized by efforts to adapt the Academy to the evolving media landscape, ensuring that the Emmy® Awards continue to represent the pinnacle of excellence in television.

O'Reilly's earlier career includes significant contributions to various media organizations. At Twin Cities PBS, he oversaw content strategy and production, leading to national recognition and awards. His work at The Weather Channel and Hubbard Broadcasting Inc. demonstrated his ability to innovate and lead in diverse and rapidly evolving media environments.

His achievements have been acknowledged through numerous awards, including a National Daytime Emmy® Award for the groundbreaking series "SciGirls" and multiple Regional Emmy® Awards. Programs and films developed by Mr. O'Reilly and his teams have been enjoyed by tens of millions of viewers across America.

In his role as President and CEO of Pittsburgh Community Broadcasting Corporation, O'Reilly has transformed the organization into a leading source of news and information. Under his guidance, 90.5 WESA and 91.3 WYEP have expanded their reach and impact, reflecting his dedication to journalism, public service, and community engagement.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, O'Reilly has contributed to the broader media community through his involvement with organizations like the Royal Television Society, BAFTA, the TV Academy, and IATAS. His leadership and vision have left an indelible mark on the industry, making him a deserving recipient of the Gold Circle Award.

GALA HOST - JOE SCHMIT



Joe Schmit is an award-winning broadcaster, community leader, author, and popular keynote speaker. Schmit has received 19 Regional Emmy® Awards from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. In 2020, Joe was awarded the Silver Circle designation by the Upper Midwest Chapter of the Emmys® for extraordinary contributions to the broadcasting industry.

Joe is a 2019 inductee into the Minnesota Speakers Hall of Fame and has earned his CSP (Certified Speaking Professional) designation from the National Speakers Association. He was also honored with a National Headliner Award in 2001.

Joe is the author of two award-winning books: *Silent Impact* and *The Impact Blueprint*. He is a long-time youth mentor and is a past president and board member of Big Brothers & Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities.

Joe recently teamed with Minnesota Twins legend and Baseball Hall of Famer Joe Mauer to write a children's book called "The Right Thing to Do." One hundred percent of the proceeds from this book go to two children's charities, and they have donated books to more than 800 elementary schools. The book is being developed into a musical production at Stages Theatre in Hopkins and will debut in April 2026.



CELEBRATE A WINNING ENTRY WITH YOUR OWN REGIONAL EMMY® STATUETTE

Regional Statuette Pricing

- Member: \$315
- Non-Member: \$455

Statuettes may be only purchased by Regional Emmy® awards honorees listed on the final entry. Stations, Production Companies, and Post Houses may purchase a single duplicate statuette.



Is your statuette damaged and need replacing? Order a replacement statuette. Your original broken/damaged statuette must be returned to NATAS office before replacement statuette order is confirmed.

Replacement Statuette pricing

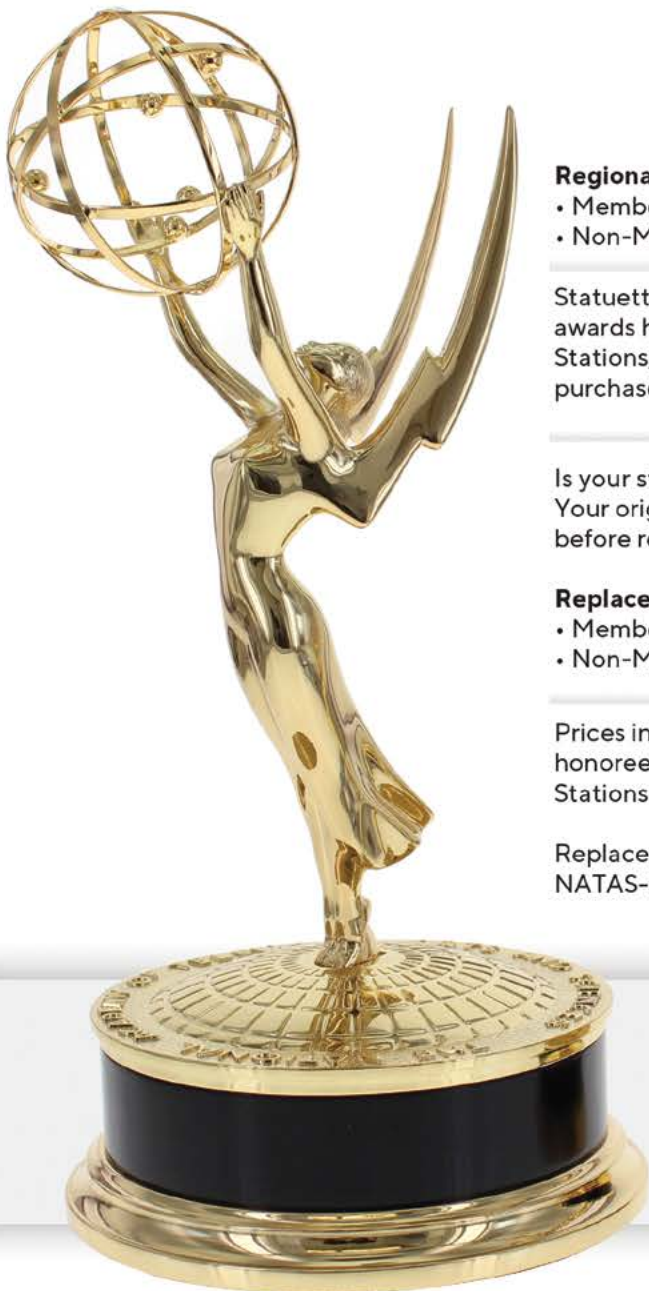
- Member: \$275
- Non-Member: \$400

Prices include taxes and shipping fees. Band may be personalized with an honoree name and role on entry as long as they are on the entry submission. Stations may purchase a commemorative statuette.

Replacement Awards must be first returned to:
NATAS-Upper Midwest Chapter 7319 Hunters Run - Eden Prairie, MN 55346.

Questions?

contact Executive Director JJ (John) Murray at
jj@midwestemmys.org



2025 Nominees

Due to space limitations, only the primary entrant is listed in the print program.
The full and complete list of entrants and roles can be found at midwestemmys.org.

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL/NOSTALGIA - NEWS

A LEGACY LIVES ON | NDC4
DENNIS RAFFTERY, EDITOR

EVIE'S DIARIES | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

HYMN MARATHON | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

MINNESOTA'S DECOMMISSIONED WATER TOWERS | KARE
AUDREY RUSSO, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

RONDO'S REFLECTIONS | KSTP
BRANDI POWELL, REPORTER

SAVING A STORY | KARE
BRANDI POWELL, REPORTER

THE HOMEGROWN HISTORY OF GIANT PUMPKIN COMPETITIONS | IOWA PBS
JOSH BUETTNER, PRODUCER

WELLSTONE'S GREEN BUS COMES BACK | KARE
JOHN CROMAN, REPORTER

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL/NOSTALGIA - SHORT FORM

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AT ORCHESTRA HALL | MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA
ASHLEIGH ROWE, PRODUCER

CYRUS M. RUNNING MURAL | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
MARY BALSTAD, PRODUCER

FOUR STRANGERS | TWIN CITIES PBS
SERGIO M. RAPU, PRODUCER

HOLY MAPLE SYRUP | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
KELLY JO MCDONNELL, WRITER

LITTLE ITALY FAMILY IS EVERYTHING | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
BARBARA GRAVEL, PRODUCER

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL/NOSTALGIA – LONG FORM

A LIFE LIVED BY FAITH | PIONEER PBS

DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

MUSIC MAKING HISTORY: HOW A SONG SAVED A THEATER | MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NED HURLEY, EDITOR

REMEMBER THE MAGIC: A LOOK BACK AT DAYTON'S HOLIDAY SHOWS | TWIN CITIES PBS

SUSAN MARKS, PRODUCER

TAKING FLIGHT: TOM CLIFFORD & JOHN ODEGARD |

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK

DAVID KUZNICKI, PRODUCER

NEWSCAST – DAYTIME (MARKETS 76+)

KTTC MORNING NEWS - FIRST ALERT DAY: MARCH BLIZZARD | KTTC

STEVAN STOJANOVIC, PRODUCER

MARCH BLIZZARD: NEWS 4 AT NOON | KTIV

KATIE COPPLE, PRODUCER

MIDDAY IN KELOLAND | KELO

ANNA PETERS, PRODUCER

SCHOOL BUS FIRE | WDAY

ADAM LADWIG, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

NEWSCAST – DAYTIME (MARKETS 1 - 75)

GREENFIELD STRONG: ONE YEAR LATER | WOI

JOSEPH HOLLOWAY, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

KARE 11 SUNRISE | KARE

CORINNE STAY, PRODUCER

KCCI 8 NEWS THIS MORNING: END OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION | KCCI

ALEX KIRKPATRICK, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

WCCO MORNINGS 6AM NEWSCAST | WCCO

HEATHER BROWN, ANCHOR

GRAPHIC ARTS

ARTHUR KUH COMPOSITE | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

ATHENE PROTECTOR & ACCUMULATOR MOTION GRAPHICS | TRILIX

JOSH DE LANOIT, MOTION GRAPHICS

MC22 SPORTS OPENS COMPOSITE | MEDIACOM MC22

BRENT WILLETT, MOTION GRAPHICS

RYAN GAUSE COMPOSITE | MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB

DIRECTOR – NEWSCAST OR LIVE/RECORDED LIVE PROGRAM

ADDIE CHERNOW COMPOSITE | WCCO

ELECTION NIGHT 2024 | KWWL
JEFF SANDLIN, DIRECTOR

ISAAC RICE COMPOSITE | CCX MEDIA/NORTHWEST COMMUNITY TELEVISION

JAMIE ROGERS COMPOSITE | KARE
JEFF SANDLIN, DIRECTOR

SEVERE WEATHER COVERAGE | KSTP
NICKI CUNNINGHAM, DIRECTOR

TREVOR HUBER COMPOSITE | KTIV

DIRECTOR – SHORT OR LONG FORM

CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF | UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK
DAVID KUZNICKI, DIRECTOR

CORY HEPOLA: MY TOWN | THE BROOKSHIRE COMPANY
CORY HEPOLA, DIRECTOR

DICKIE: SHAKES YOU | TRILIX
COLE BATES NORUM, DIRECTOR

STAGE: MUSIC DOCU-SERIES COMPOSITE | TWIN CITIES PBS
KATE MCDONALD, DIRECTOR

**TAKING FLIGHT: TOM CLIFFORD & JOHN ODEGARD | UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
AEROSPACE NETWORK**
DAVID KUZNICKI, DIRECTOR

EDITOR – NEWS/SPORTS

CAITLIN CLARK IOWA CAREER MIXTAPE | HAWKVISION PRODUCTIONS
DALTON CONRAD, EDITOR

CASEY HOOKER COMPOSITE | KMSP

DAYTURN DADDY COMPOSITE | KARE
TOMMY PLATEK, EDITOR

JASON STEUSSY COMPOSITE | KARE

SURVIVING FLIGHT 4819 | KARE
DEVIN KRINKE, EDITOR

EDITOR – SHORT OR LONG FORM

BROADCAST WARS | TWIN CITIES PBS
NATHAN REOPELLE, EDITOR

CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF |
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK
DAVID KUZNICKI, EDITOR

DRAWN TO THE STARS | UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK
DAVID KUZNICKI, EDITOR

LUMINARY 2025 EDITOR REEL | LUMINARY CREATIVE
JACOB MOYER, EDITOR

MICAH DAVIS EDITOR COMPOSITE | STORY TIME WITH STEVE & MICAH
MICAH DAVIS, EDITOR

PHOTOGRAPHER – NEWS/SPORTS

DAYTURN DADDY COMPOSITE | KARE
TOMMY PLATEK, PHOTOGRAPHER

DEVIN KRINKE COMPOSITE | KARE
DEVIN KRINKE, PHOTOGRAPHER

IOWA ATHLETICS ALL-SPORT HIGHLIGHT | HAWKVISION PRODUCTIONS
DALTON CONRAD, VIDEOGRAPHER

LUNEMANN 2025 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPOSITE | WCCO
NICK LUNEMANN, PHOTOGRAPHER

PHOTOGRAPHER – SHORT OR LONG FORM

HOPPERS! | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
AARON ACHTENBERG, VIDEOGRAPHER

KENNY KNUTSON COMPOSITE | IOWA PBS
KENNY KNUTSON, VIDEOGRAPHER

LUMINARY 2025 CINEMATOGRAPHER REEL | LUMINARY CREATIVE
JACOB MOYER, CINEMATOGRAPHER

MICAH KVIDT: MY TOWN | THE BROOKSHIRE COMPANY
MICAH KVIDT, CINEMATOGRAPHER

RETURN OF THE TRUMPETERS | STEVE DEVON FILMS
STEVE DEVON, VIDEOGRAPHER

VIDEO ESSAYIST

BALLIN' IN DAKOTA COUNTY | TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION
TREVOR BLOM, VIDEO ESSAYIST

BIKING EAU CLAIRE BRIDGES | SOUL SHINE CREATIVE STUDIO
MICAH DAVIS, VIDEO ESSAYIST

FISHING FOR A BUICK | KARE
DAVID PETERLINZ, VIDEO ESSAYIST

HIGH WATER SORROW | KARE
DEVIN KRINKE, VIDEO ESSAYIST

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST - SINGLE SHIFT

CHAZ MOOTZ SHOOTS | CCX MEDIA/NORTHWEST COMMUNITY TELEVISION
CHAZ MOOTZ, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

SEVERSON SOLO STORIES | KARE
GORDON SEVERSON, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

THE CHEERS OF WEST ST. PAUL | NDC4
DENNIS RAFFTERY, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

HIGH WATER SORROW | KARE
DEVIN KRINKE, VIDEO ESSAYIST

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SOLO STORYTELLER - SHORT OR LONG FORM

DAN CARPENTER COMPOSITE | EDINA TV
DAN CARPENTER, PRODUCER

JOE MAUER COOPERSTOWN COMPOSITE | BALLY SPORTS NORTH
JAMES BOTHUN, SOLO STORYTELLER

JUSTIN CUBBAGE COMPOSITE | EAPC
JUSTIN CUBBAGE, SOLO STORYTELLER

**KINGS IN THE NORTH: LAKE STURGEON RECOVERY IN THE RED RIVER | MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**
NICK FRANTZEN, SOLO STORYTELLER

MAGAZINE PROGRAM

IOWA LIFE EPISODE #203 | IOWA PBS
THERESA KNIGHT, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

MINNESOTA BOUND: SNOW MUCH FUN | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
AARON ACHTENBERG, EDITOR

RACING FOR HONOR | PBS NORTH
CARLY JONES, PRODUCER

TASTE BUDS: SWEET & SAVORY PUMPKIN BITES | KMSP
MICHELLE TRUAX, DIRECTOR

LIFESTYLE - NEWS

CELEBRATING 90 IN STYLE | KBJR
ROBB COLES, REPORTER

DON'T JUDGE A J-NAME BY ITS FIRST LETTER | KARE
AUDREY RUSSO, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

FINDING CHRISTMAS | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

LOOSE ENDS PROJECT | KARE
HEIDI WIGDAHL, PRODUCER

LIFESTYLE - SHORT FORM

BIRD DOGS FIRST HUNT | **RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS**
SCOTT FRANSEN, WRITER

DRIVEN TO EXCELLENCE | **PIONEER PBS**
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

JONATHAN LAING'S OUTDOOR ADVENTURES | **RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS**
PETE HERMANN-FRANZEN, EDITOR

LUKE & JENNY | **STORYTIME WITH STEVE & MICAH**
MICAH DAVIS, VIDEOGRAPHER

WACONIA ICE BOATS | **RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS**
TROY KNECHTEL, PHOTOGRAPHER

LIFESTYLE - LONG FORM

MOUNTING A MEMORY | **PIONEER PBS**
BRET AMUNDSON, PRODUCER

MY TOWN | **THE BROOKSHIRE COMPANY**
CORY HEPOLA, PRODUCER

ROAD TRIP IOWA - DRIFTLESS AREA SCENIC BYWAY | **IOWA PBS**
KELSEY KREMER, PRODUCER

TASTE BUDS SEASON 2 PREMIERE: STATE FAIR WITH NUR-D | **KMSP**
MICHELLE TRUAX, PRODUCER

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

IOWA ONE CALL: EVEN RONNIE KNOWS CAMPAIGN | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

ONE CHOICE CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING | **EMILY'S HOPE**
ANGELA KENNECKE, PRODUCER

OUR ROOTS: WHERE GOOD THINGS GROW | **RON NICHOLS COMMUNICATIONS**
RON NICHOLS, PRODUCER

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA: NURSING HEALTHY MINDS PSA CAMPAIGN | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

COMMERCIAL

"SCIENCE ON" FOR THE SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA | WALK THE MOON MEDIA
SARA LEEPER, PRODUCER

GOLDEN RULE: TIMES CHANGE | LUMINARY CREATIVE
JACOB MOYER, PRODUCER

PANCHEROS: BOB THE TOOL CAMPAIGN | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

STEP YOUR GAME UP: UNRL 2025 SUPER BOWL COMMERCIAL | UNRL
TROY BECKMAN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

VIKINGS INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION COMMERCIAL | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
WILL SHEEDY, CINEMATOGRAPHER

BRANDED CONTENT - SHORT OR LONG FORM

BEST BUY, BEST SHOT | JAYBYRD FILMS
JAY CHRISTENSEN, DRONE PHOTOGRAPHER

MAKE A WISH IOWA: MORGAN'S STORY | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

NORTHSIDE BARBERSHOP | KNOCK INC.
JULES AMEEL, PRODUCER

THE PANCHEROS BURRITO LIFT: A HAWKEYE GAME DAY TRADITION | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

WE ARE THE STATE OF HOCKEY | MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB
RYAN GAUSE, PRODUCER

ZA'NARI'S WISH - UNITEDHEALTH GROUP | TILT STUDIOS
ANDREW MCNALLY, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEWS PROMOTION - TOPICAL

AFTER GEORGE FLOYD: 5 YEARS. 5 STORIES. | KMSP
SAMMY VERNET, EDITOR

APPLE RIVER STABBING: CONVICTING NICOLAE MIU | KMSP
DAVID PINT, PRODUCER

GREENFIELD STRONG: ONE YEAR AFTER THE DEVASTATION | KCCI
JORDY TRIANA, PRODUCER

NORMANDY: 80 YEARS LATER | WCCO
ERICA JANSEN, PRODUCER

SANTA TRACKER | KTIV
KEELEY ENGELSON, PRODUCER

VIKING SHIP | WCCO
KEVIN KAMIN, DIRECTOR

NEWS PROMOTION – IMAGE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SHARING VOICES SHAPING TOMORROW | KCCI

JORDY TRIANA, PRODUCER

CADDIE METEOROLOGIST | KSTP

KEVIN SALO, PRODUCER

DAKOTA NEWS NOW IMAGE 2025 | KSFY/KDLT

JOSHUA GATES, PRODUCER

ROAD WARRIOR IMAGE CAMPAIGN | KGAN/KFXA

DARRIN FULLERTON, PRODUCER

STORM TEAM 8: STRENGTH OF A PROMISE | KCCI

LEIA BACUYAG, PRODUCER

PROGRAM/IMAGE PROMO – SINGLE SPOT

40 YEARS OF PUBLIC ACCESS TV | SPEAK MPLS

REBECCA SMITH, PRODUCER

HOME OF THE BRAVE | KCCI

ERIN LIU, PRODUCER

TASTE BUDS WITH STEPHANIE 2024 IMAGE | KMSP

MICHELLE TRUAX, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NAME DEBACLE | KSTC

TAYLOR STEIN, PRODUCER

SPORTS PROMOTION

20 YEARS OF TOURNAMENTS ON 45TV | KSTC

TAYLOR STEIN, PRODUCER

2025 VIKINGS SCHEDULE RELEASE | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

ALEX MILLER, VIDEOGRAPHER

STATE OF HOCKEY - MINNESOTA WILD | JAYBYRD FILMS

JAY CHRISTENSEN, DRONE PHOTOGRAPHER

THE ROUNDTABLE | SPECTRUM NEWS

SAMUEL MARK, PRODUCER

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT - NEWS

BANDING TOGETHER | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

FULL CIRCLE VIA UNICYCLE | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

TALENT IS IN THE BAG | KMSP
MAURY GLOVER, REPORTER

THE GIFT | KARE
HEIDI WIGDAHL, PRODUCER

THE MAKING OF MUSIC | KMSP
SCOTT WISE, PHOTOJOURNALIST

VOICES OF MSP | KARE
MITCHELL YEHL, PHOTOGRAPHER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT - SHORT FORM

ANYTHING BUT BRUSHES | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

CENTRAL IOWA WIND ENSEMBLE | ESTUARY MOTION STUDIOS
ISRAEL LOPEZ, PRODUCER

COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTING | IOWA PBS
EMILY KESTEL, PRODUCER

JOHN OLESEN: GLASSBLOWING | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
ANDY GARSKE, PRODUCER

MAKING SPACE FOR THE ART | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

MEET PRINCIPAL CLARINET GABRIEL CAMPOS ZAMORA | MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA
ASHLEIGH ROWE, PRODUCER

NO BOUNDARIES | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

THE HEART OF ART | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT - LONG FORM

AFROCONTIGBO: A LEGACY OF DANCE | **PIONEER PBS**
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

DETROIT LAKES TROLLS | **LAKELAND PBS**
RANDY CADWELL, PRODUCER

FROM THE FIRE YOUR SMITH IS FORGED: A JOURNEY BACK TO MUSIC | **TWIN CITIES PBS**
KATE MCDONALD, PRODUCER

IN THE ROUND PODCAST - YEAR ONE | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

MEET MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA PRINCIPAL BASSOON FEI XIE | **MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA**
ASHLEIGH ROWE, PRODUCER

ENTERTAINMENT - SHORT FORM

DICKIE: LITTLE CONVERSATIONS | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, PRODUCER

DICKIE: SHAKES YOU | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, PRODUCER

JACOB PAVEK | **PIONEER PBS**
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

SOCIAL CINEMA LIVE AT TRILIX STUDIO | **TRILIX**
BRETT ADAMS, PRODUCER

THE FUR COAT CHRONICLES | **SHELETTAMAKESMELAUGH.COM**
SHELETTA BRUNDIDGE, PRODUCER

ENTERTAINMENT - LONG FORM

COMMUNICATING BEAUTY | **PIONEER PBS**
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

DES MOINES METRO OPERA PRESENTS AMERICAN APOLLO | **IOWA PBS**
JUDY BLANK, PRODUCER

RIDES W/JAY THOMAS: RENDIR HOMENAJE | **KVLY**
IKE WALKER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS - SIOUX CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | **SCSO.LIVE**
ADAM GONSHOROWSKI, PRODUCER

BREAKING - SPOT NEWS

NOTE: Regional recipients in this category are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a crystal pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional News Story – Breaking News.

BROOKLYN PARK PLANE CRASH | KARE

MORGAN WOLFE, ANCHOR

FEEDING OUR FUTURE: VERDICTS IN REAL TIME | KSTP

ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

KEYC'S RAPIDAN DAM FAILURE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE | KEYC

MITCHELL KEEGAN, PRODUCER

NORTHLAND WILDFIRES FIRST 24 HOURS | KBJR

DAN WOLFE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

INVESTIGATIVE - SINGLE REPORT

NOTE: Regional recipients in this category are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a crystal pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional News Story Investigative Report.

A PERFECT HEART | KARE

KELLY DIETZ, PRODUCER

FAILURE TO YIELD | KMSP

NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

GEORGE FLOYD ALL OVER AGAIN: SECURITY GUARDS GO ROGUE | KSTP

ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

INVESTIGATIVE - MULTIPLE REPORTS

NOTE: Regional recipients in this category are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a crystal pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional News Story Investigative Report.

COSTLY CRISIS | KMSP

NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

PHANTOM FIXERS | KARE

A.J. LAGOE, PRODUCER

RECOVERY INC. - THE EVERGREEN FILES | KARE

A.J. LAGOE, PRODUCER JACK STANEK, PHOTOGRAPHER

SINKING SEAQUEST | KSTP

ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

HEALTH/MEDICAL - NEWS

DULUTH'S HEALTH GAP | KBJR
JORDAN MATHEWSON, PHOTOGRAPHER

FORGETTING TO REMEMBER: IOWA FAMILY SHARES ALZHEIMER'S STORY | WHO
CALYN THOMPSON, REPORTER

GOING BACK & GIVING BACK | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

KIDS WITH COURAGE: MIGHTY MICAH | KTTC
CAITLIN ALEXANDER, REPORTER

MAE'S MISSION | TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION
ASHLEY BOWES, PRODUCER

SUCH A BRIGHT LIGHT | KARE
RENA SARIGIANOPOULOS, REPORTER

HEALTH/MEDICAL - SHORT OR LONG FORM

A HEART OF GOLD | TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION
TREVOR BLOM, PHOTOGRAPHER

A MOTHER'S SECOND CHANCE - EMILY'S STORY | BLUE KEY MEDIA
DAN WEST, PRODUCER

CLOUDS CHOIR 2024: MEET ALEJANDRO | ATOMIC K RECORDS & PRODUCTIONS
KARL DEMER, PRODUCER

FROM THE MEDICAL FIELD TO HAY FIELDS | SANFORD HEALTH NEWS
JASON ANSCHUTZ, PRODUCER

HOW TO CARE | CENTER FOR THE ART OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MEDICAL SCHOOL
BRENNAN VANCE, DIRECTOR

EDUCATION/SCHOOLS - NEWS

ART BELONGS HERE | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

HIGHER ED, UNDER FIRE | KSTP
ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

HUGS FROM MISS PRIGGE | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

IT TAKES A VILLAGE | KMSP
CHENUE HER, REPORTER

TEACHER OF THE YEAR INVESTIGATION | KMSP
NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

CHILDREN/YOUTH/TEEN - NEWS

COBY'S MOW-A-WISH | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

FISHING BY TORCHLIGHT | KARE
RAYA QUTTAINEH, REPORTER

HANG IN THERE JACE | WCCO
NICK LUNEMANN, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

LOVE LIKE LUCA | KARE
MORGAN WOLFE, REPORTER

SOL'S JOURNEY HOME | KARE
GORDON SEVERSON, REPORTER

TEENAGERS SURVIVING DULUTH STREETS | KBJR
LAURA LEE, REPORTER

THE KIDS CAN FINALLY VOTE | KCCI
ERIC HANSON, REPORTER

EDUCATION/SCHOOLS/YOUTH - SHORT OR LONG FORM

10,000 YOUTH ICE ANGLERS PROJECT | PIONEER PBS
BRET AMUNDSON, PRODUCER

FARIBAUT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS | BLUE KEY MEDIA
DAN WEST, PRODUCER

JULIA BATTERN NATURE TEACHER | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
KELLY JO MCDONNELL, PRODUCER

TWO SCHOOLS' PATHS DEMONSTRATE JOY, PAIN OF CHARTER MODEL | STARTRIBUNE
AMANDA ANDERSON, VIDEO ESSAYIST

WEATHER - NEWS

FARMER SAVES MEN FROM FREEZING TO DEATH | WDAY
MATT HENSON, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

REMEMBERING THE 1950 DULUTH/SUPERIOR HURRICANE | KBJR
DAVE ANDERSON, MMJ

WATCHING OVER WATERVILLE | KARE
IAN RUSSELL, REPORTER

WILDFIRES RAVAGE THE BADLANDS | WDAY
MATT HENSON, PHOTOJOURNALIST

WEATHER - SHORT OR LONG FORM

SPRING INTO ACTION: ABC 6 SEVERE WEATHER SPECIAL | KAAL
BOB KORKOWSKI, MOTION GRAPHICS

ENVIRONMENT/SCIENCE - NEWS

AQUATIC ROBOT | KARE
GREG VANDEGRIFT, REPORTER

CONTAMINATED: COAL ASH | KSTP
RYAN RAICHE, REPORTER

GREBES BALLET | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

THE 3M TAPES | KMSP
NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

WALLEYE WORRY | KARE
JENNIFER HOFF, REPORTER

WATERFRONT FIGHT NEAR THE WILDERNESS | KBJR
DAN WOLFE, REPORTER

ENVIRONMENT/SCIENCE - SHORT OR LONG FORM

A SUPERIOR THREAT | PIONEER PBS
BRET AMUNDSON, HOST

ALL ABOUT THE PHEASANT | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
RON SCHARA, WRITER

BORN TO ROAR: THE BIRTH OF TIGER CUBS | BLUE KEY MEDIA
DAN WEST, PRODUCER

ED THE DIVER | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
TROY KNECHTEL, PHOTOGRAPHER

IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST ROCK HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT? | SCIENCE IN THE CITY
EMILY DRISCOLL, PRODUCER

RUSS PILEGAARD | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS
RON SCHARA, WRITER

RYAN RUMPCA: CAPTURING THE NORTHERN SPIRIT | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

THE CITY FOR THE TREES | STORYTIME WITH STEVE & MICAH
MICAH DAVIS, VIDEOGRAPHER

DIVERSITY/EQUITY/INCLUSION - NEWS

EXPERIENCING RACISM INSPIRES 12-YEAR-OLD TO WRITE A BOOK | **WOI**
ALEXANDER FULTON, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

HANDCUFFED POLICE REVIEW BOARDS | **KCRG**
COLE KRUTZFIELD, PHOTOGRAPHER

REVITALIZING DES MOINES' 6TH AVENUE CORRIDOR | **KCCI**
OLIVIA TYLER, REPORTER

VIRAL VIDEO PROMPTS TALK BETWEEN BLACK MOM AND WHITE FRIEND | **KTTC**
JESSIE ALISON, HOST

DIVERSITY/EQUITY/INCLUSION - SHORT OR LONG FORM

AFTER GEORGE FLOYD | **KMSP**
JOE AUGUSTINE, PRODUCER

BLACK ENTREPRENEURS DAY AT THE CAPITOL | **SHELETTAMAKESMELAUGH.COM**
SHELETTA BRUNDIDGE, TALENT

THE WRITE STUFF: PEARL YOUNG'S LANGUAGE OF FLIGHT | **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
AEROSPACE NETWORK**
DAVID KUZNICKI, PRODUCER

TWIN CITIES HABITAT: BUILD FORWARD TOGETHER | **CAPTIVATE MEDIA + CONSULTING**
STEVEN SHEGA, PRODUCER

VOICES | **WCCO**
REG CHAPMAN, HOST

SOCIETAL CONCERNS - NEWS

A PREDICTABLE TRAGEDY | **KSTP**
ERIC RASMUSSEN, REPORTER

DEADLY EXPOSURE: FENTANYL KILLING MN KIDS | **KARE**
LAUREN LEAMANCZYK, REPORTER

LOSING HEAD START: A COMMUNITY'S CONCERNS | **WDIO**
SABRINA ULLMAN, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

NORTHLAND DRUG EPIDEMIC | **KBJR**
LAURA LEE, REPORTER

SOCIETAL CONCERNS - SHORT OR LONG FORM

BEYOND THE BADGE: CIRCLE OF DISCIPLINE | EDINA TV
DAN CARPENTER, PRODUCER

GILDA'S CLUB - THE KARL DEMER STORY | ATOMIC K RECORDS & PRODUCTIONS
KARL DEMER, PRODUCER

IOWA LIFE - URBAN BICYCLE FOOD MINISTRY | IOWA PBS
RACHEL MUMMEY, PRODUCER

LIFTING VOICES | KARE
ALEXIS ROGERS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

PASSING THE TORCH OF PROTECTION | MARKETING WURKS
JUSTIN CUBBAGE, PRODUCER

PLANTING A MINI-FOREST IN RONDO | MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NICK FRANTZEN, PRODUCER

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*Cheers to the producers who've kept
free speech alive in Minneapolis
and to the storytellers shaping the future.*



SPEAKMPLS



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Brian Nemitz
Ubah Ali
James Ankeny
Kris Berg
Heather Brown
Nick Boeke
Reg Chapman
Addie Chernow
Ren Clayton
Chris Cruz
Max Curtis
Andrew Delancey
Gabby Erenstein
Sean Freese
Sam Gullickson
Betty Nicole Giles

Zachary Hammer
Erin Hassanzadeh
Dave Hillestad
A.J. Hilton
Derek James
Erica Jansen
Kristopher Jobe
Ray Jones
Kevin Kamin
Lewis Karpel
Jonah Kaplan
Kolton Knapp
John Lauritsen
Pauleen Le
Susan-Elizabeth Littlefield
Nick Lunemann

Jennifer Mayerle
Marielle Mohs
Aki Nace
Andrew Osterbauer
Tracy Perlman
Jake Randall
Shayla Reaves
Tom Ryther
Amelia Santaniello
David Schuman
Chris Shaffer
Mike Stern
Joel Thurston
Frank Vascellaro
Maria Vos
Grant Verdon
Andrew Walker

WCCO IS PROUD TO BE HOME
TO THESE OUTSTANDING JOURNALISTS.

2025 BOARD OF GOVERNORS EMMY® AWARD

Minnesota is celebrating an incredible milestone thanks to Home for the Holidays, an eight-year partnership between WCCO, the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, and the Minnesota Twins. As of December 2024, every Minnesota county but one has systems in place to house a Veteran within 90 days of learning they are without shelter. This represents a functional end to Veteran homelessness in Minnesota.

The power of WCCO has made MACV a household name, inspiring immeasurable generosity. In 2024, Home for the Holidays raised a record-breaking \$906,082 for the MACV mission to end Veteran homelessness in Minnesota. Since 2017, Home for the Holidays has raised more than \$4.9 million. WCCO creative producers revitalized this season's multi-platform promotional campaign with the authentic voice of WCCO reporter and Gulf War Veteran Reg Chapman. Through a heartfelt interview with Reg, people rediscovered the life-saving difference their generosity would make. Home for the Holidays has grown into a Minnesota tradition. Once again, WCCO hosted weekly Days of Giving, where we featured a Veteran profile by Reg Chapman, and encouraged viewers to donate. We also brought back the beloved Community Tree, where viewers mailed in holiday ornaments to decorate a tree for a Veteran family in need.

Thanks to the Minnesota Twins again hosting the Winter Salute, everyone had a chance to witness MACV in action. WCCO Mornings broadcast live from Target Field, where Veterans could access housing, employment, health care, legal services, and more. A record number of vendors participated in the 2024 Winter Salute, with more than 70 organizations offering services to Veterans. Employees from dozens of organizations, including proud sponsor Wells Fargo, made Veterans feel honored, cared for, and celebrated. Some of these volunteers handed out 300 care packages provided by our corporate partners. At the annual Winter Salute holiday meal, Veterans and their families filled more seats than ever before.

We are honored the Board of Governors has recognized Home for the Holidays with this prestigious award for a second time. The increased visibility from this award will help MACV continue saving Veterans' lives for years to come.



2025 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: BEN HOUTKOOPER MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD

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ROCKY DAILEY/SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

DAVID KUZNICKI/UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE

SPECIAL THANKS

Ballot Verification/Accounting: John M. James, CPA

Executive Producer/Writer: John (JJ) Murray

Director: Addison Chernow | WCCO

Show Graphics/Gala Wireless Handheld Camera: Tyler Eichorst | Acowsay Film Company

Awards Show Production: Joe Conlon, Ashley Bowes, Trevor Blom | Town Square TV

Live Stream/Video Playback: Mark Vancleave | Minnesota Associated Press

Nominations & Show Voice-Over: Katie Cople | KTIV

Print Program: Shane Craig | shanemadethis.com

Recipient Social Media: Frankie McLister, Abby Madsen, Sadie Jones,

Teleprompter: Kristina Hennessy | Twin City Teleprompter

Foundation Silent Auction: Panhia Yang | KMSP

Registration/Tickets: Kevin Millard | WXOW

Emmy® Gala Photography: Ingster Experiential

Gold & Silver Circle Honors Host: Carla Beaurline | Stream Systems/Around Town TV

Regional Emmy® Show Hosts: Joe Schmit | KSTP (Retired)

Regional Emmy® Gala Special Guests:

Adam Sharp | NATAS Pres./CEO Terry O'Reilly | NATAS Chairman

Venue & Event Sponsorship: Mystic Lake Event Center: Angela Wrede **Mystic Lake AV:** David Drake

UPPER MIDWEST EMMY® FOUNDATION

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences – Upper Midwest Foundation is proud to announce its 2025 Scholarship recipients.

Each year, NATAS-UMW Foundation awards several scholarships to students within our chapter region (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and western Wisconsin).

This year, thanks to help from generous sponsorship contributions from the Bob Fransen Family, the Ulysses Carlini family, the Beaurline Family as well as our chapter members and past Gold & Silver Circle recipients, we are able to award scholarships to area students! This year's scholarship recipients will receive \$1,500 for tuition & books costs for school in the fall of 2025.

Since 2002, the NATAS-UMW Foundation has awarded 108 scholarships worth \$235,000 to regional students who want to study media production or journalism in college.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

PRESIDENTS SCHOLARSHIP – Piper Murray, Eastview High School, MN

GOVERNORS SCHOLARSHIP – Sailor Schervish Theodore Roosevelt High School, IA

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

ULYSSES CARLINI MEDIA SCHOLARSHIP – Bayliss Flynn, University of Montana

BEAURLINE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP – Savannah Michele Reinke, St. Cloud State University

BOB FRANSEN LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP – Kaylynn Ruffin, University of Northern Iowa

See for yourself the difference we're making for local media students and educators at midwestemmys.org/category/scholarships/ or scan the QR code below to donate!



INFORMATIONAL/INSTRUCTIONAL

FIND IOWA: 99 COUNTIES - AMISH BASKET WEAVING | IOWA PBS

DEBRA HERBOLD, PRODUCER

KILTY AS CHARGED | PIONEER PBS

DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

MEPPS MADE FOR THE OUTDOORS! | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS

BILL SHERCK, PRODUCER

MUSIC IS FOR EVERYONE | PIONEER PBS

DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

TASTE BUDS: HOLIDAY SWEETS WITH ZOË BAKES | KMSP

MICHELLE TRUAX, PRODUCER

INTERVIEW/DISCUSSION

ALMANAC ELECTION OUTCOME | TWIN CITIES PBS

MARY LAHAMMER, HOST

2024 CLOUDS CHOIR AMBASSADOR - MORNING SHOW INTERVIEW | ATOMIC K RECORDS & PRODUCTIONS

KARL DEMER, DIRECTOR

GOVERNOR WALZ ON AT ISSUE | KSTP

RACHEL MILLS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

ON THE JOB | EDINA TV

SCOTT DENFELD, DIRECTOR

BUSINESS/CONSUMER - NEWS

BIRD FLU ON BLACK FRIDAY | KARE

HEIDI WIGDAHL, PRODUCER

MONEY, INFLUENCE & LOUISIANA: THE FIGHT OVER CEDAR CROSSING | KCRG

BETH MALICKI, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

NIMBY VS YIMBY | KBJR

DAN WOLFE, REPORTER

THE \$22,000 PHONE CALL | KARE

AUDREY RUSSO, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

WEAVER'S LEATHER | KARE

BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

WHO BENEFITS? | KMSP

NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

BUSINESS/CONSUMER - SHORT OR LONG FORM

BUILDING CONNECTIONS AT BRICKS AND MINIFIGS | **QUAD CITIES COMMUNITY TELEVISION**
CORY LAING, PRODUCER

REBUILDING THE AMERICAN CLOTHING INDUSTRY | **IOWA PBS**
COLLEEN KRANTZ, PRODUCER

SO YOU SUNK | **PIONEER PBS**
BRET AMUNDSON, PRODUCER

TASTE BUDS: ENDLESS PASTABILITIES | **KMSP**
MICHELLE TRUAX, PRODUCER

YOUR MONEY: INSIDE LOOK AT THE BOOMING SPORTS CARD INDUSTRY | **KARE**
GORDON SEVERSON, TALENT

DAILY NEWS REPORT

FLOWER CHILD | **KARE**
MORGAN WOLFE, REPORTER

HEART OF IT ALL | **KARE**
MITCHELL YEHL, PHOTOJOURNALIST

JUSTICE FOR RA'LASIA | **KARE**
JESSICA HART, REPORTER

KOREAN WAR SOLDIER COMES HOME | **KARE**
TOMMY PLATEK, PHOTOJOURNALIST

HARD NEWS REPORT

A LIFESAVING TOOL AND TEAM | **KARE**
LAUREN LEAMANCZYK, REPORTER

OFFICERS OVERWHELMED AS TEEN CAR THEFTS SURGE | **WCCO**
UBAH ALI, REPORTER

RESPONDING TO TRAGEDY | **WCCO**
JENNIFER MAYERLE, REPORTER

Let's put her FIVE Regional Emmy® nominations to the side...



**Sheletta would still be this fly
if she worked at Popeyes!**



NATIONAL
ACADEMY
OF TELEVISION
ARTS & SCIENCES

UPPER MIDWEST
CHAPTER



CRIME/JUSTICE - NEWS

A SINGLE WORD | KSTP
KIRSTEN SWANSON, REPORTER

COLD CASE CONFESSION | KARE
TOMMY PLATEK, PHOTOJOURNALIST

LETTER AND THE LAW | KARE
IAN RUSSELL, REPORTER

MAKING OF A MONSTER | KMSP
NATHAN O'NEAL, REPORTER

NOWHERE TO GO | KMSP
PAUL BLUME, REPORTER

THE SHOT THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING | KAAL
MAYZIE OLSON, REPORTER

JOURNALISTIC ENTERPRISE

THE POWER OF THE FOLLOW-UP | KSTP
ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT - NEWS

NO HOME ON THE RANGE | KBJR
DAN WOLFE, REPORTER

OUT OF STATE OUTRAGE | KSTP
ERIC RASMUSSEN, PRODUCER

RED ENGINES, RED TAPE | KSTP
KIRSTEN SWANSON, REPORTER

TROUBLE ON ELECTION DAY | KSTP
RYAN RAICHE, REPORTER

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT - SHORT OR LONG FORM

ALMANAC AT THE CAPITOL | TWIN CITIES PBS
MARY LAHAMMER, HOST

BLACK ENTREPRENEURS DAY AT MN STATE CAPITOL | SHELETTAMAKESMELAUGH.COM
SHELETTA BRUNDIDGE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

JOURNEY FROM HMONG REFUGEES TO MINNESOTA VETERANS | MINNESOTA SENATE MEDIA SERVICES
ROBERT J. FASSINO, PRODUCER

SPORTS STORY - NEWS

A "PAUL" OF ALL TRADES | TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION
ASHLEY BOWES, PRODUCER

BACK ON THE BENCH | KARE
JULIA DANIELS, REPORTER

HE'S STILL HERE | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

SMOOTHING OUT THE ROUGH SPOTS | KARE
MITCHELL YEHL, PHOTOGRAPHER

THE BOYS OF SUMMER'S FINAL SUMMER | WDIO
ALICIA TIPCKE, REPORTER

SPORTS STORY - SHORT OR LONG FORM

IOWA LIFE - ROBBIE ERICKSON | IOWA PBS
THERESA KNIGHT, PRODUCER

LISA BLUDER RETIREMENT TRIBUTE | HAWKVISION PRODUCTIONS
DALTON CONRAD, EDITOR

MIKAYLA MCCARVEL'S STORY | FANDUEL SPORTS NETWORK
NICOLE KUNKEL, PRODUCER

OUR WISH IS TO BE LIKE CARTER | MINNESOTA UNITED FC
SARAH KORPI, PRODUCER

THE CULTURE & HISTORY OF IOWA FOOTBALL | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, PRODUCER

THE LEGEND OF 22 - CAITLIN CLARK | HAWKVISION PRODUCTIONS
MATTHEW LITTLE, EDITOR

THROUGH THESE DOORS: DAN JOHANSSON - NEVER ALONE | MIDCO SPORTS
TAYLOR BUDGE, REPORTER

WHO IS BOBBY BRYANT | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
ARTHUR KUH, PRODUCER



HEY! WHERE'S MY NAME?

In an effort to keep printing costs down, while still providing a commemorative program, the complete list of contributors to each nominated entry, and winners after they are announced, can be found at the Upper Midwest Emmy® Chapter's website.

SPORTS PROGRAM

BECOMING WILD | MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB
BRANDON MCCAULEY, PRODUCER

BEYOND OUR ICE | MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB
CHRIS BARRIERE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

THE VOYAGE | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
NATE VAUGHN, PRODUCER

TWINS PRE-GAME SHOW | MINNESOTA TWINS
RICK PALERMO, PRODUCER

VIKINGS LONDON PREGAME SHOW | KARE
REGINALD WILSON, ANCHOR

SPORTS – ONE-TIME SPECIAL

22 & BEYOND | KGAN/KFXA
MITCH FICK, ANCHOR

CALL TO COOPERSTOWN: JOE MAUER | FANDUEL SPORTS NETWORK
NICOLE KUNKEL, PRODUCER

FROM ST. PAUL TO THE HALL: THE JOE MAUER STORY | KSTP
ALEC AUSMUS, REPORTER

JOE MAUER: FROM ST. PAUL TO THE HALL | WCCO
TRACY PERLMAN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

THE JOE WEBB ENERGY | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
WILL SHEEDY, CINEMATOGRAPHER

LIVE SPORTING EVENT/GAME/SEASON

MINNESOTA TWINS-SEASON ENTRY | MINNESOTA TWINS
TREVOR FLECK, PRODUCER

MINNESOTA VIKINGS PRESEASON BROADCAST | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
SKIP KRUEGER, PRODUCER

NORTH DAKOTA HOCKEY 2024-25 SEASON | MIDCO SPORTS
TANNER ROBINSON, PRODUCER

ST. PAUL SAINTS BASEBALL 2024 | SAINTS BROADCAST NETWORK
STEVE LINZMEIER, SPORTS PLAY-BY-PLAY

SPORTS OPEN/TEASE

24-25 TIMBERWOLVES CITY EDITION INTRO VIDEO | MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES
SHERIDAN WEST, PRODUCER

DREAM STATE: SHAKOPEE - SHOW OPEN | MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB
MATT HUSSEY, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

IOWA HAWKEYE GYMNASTICS 2025 INTRO VIDEO | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SHOWTIME: FATE AND THE VIKING WARRIOR | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
ARTHUR KUH, PRODUCER

TWINS OPENING DAY TEASE | MINNESOTA TWINS
DOUG JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

MILITARY - NEWS

A MAN CAVE FOR THE MAN | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

A RETURN TO NORMANDY | WCCO
JOHN LAURITSEN, REPORTER

HARLAN: THE 101-YEAR OLD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE | KBJR
LAURA LEE, REPORTER

MINNESOTANS WHO SERVED IN THE 6888TH | KMSP
MAURY GLOVER, REPORTER

WELCOME HOME | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

MILITARY - SHORT OR LONG FORM

IT'S NEVER LEFT ME | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
MATT OLIE, PRODUCER

NEVER ALONE IN THE FIGHT: VETERANS BOND GOES BEYOND SERVICE | AVERA HEALTH
JAKE IVERSEN, TALENT

STRUGGLE & SUCCESS: WOMEN IN THE MILITARY | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
MATT OLIE, PRODUCER

VETERAN'S CANCER BATTLE | SANFORD HEALTH NEWS
MATT HOLSEN, PRODUCER

WOUNDED | PRAIRIE PUBLIC
MATT OLIE, PRODUCER

NEWS - LIGHT FEATURE

CARING FOR STRANGER'S GRAVESTONES | KARE
JESSICA HART, WRITER

LEAVING THE LIGHT ON | KARE
SAMIE SOLINA, REPORTER

SAVORING THE RIDE ON BUS #5 | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

SHIPWATCHING SENSATION | WDIO
BAIHLY WARFIELD, REPORTER

STOKED FOR SNOW | WDIO
LEA ZMURKO, REPORTER

NEWS - SERIOUS FEATURE

AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT | WCCO
SUSAN-ELIZABETH LITTLEFIELD, REPORTER

HALF A HEART STILL BEATS | KAAL
RACHEL MANTOS, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

SAVING THE FISH FRY IN FERGUS FALLS | WDAY
ABBY MAKAY, PHOTOJOURNALIST

SUNSET FOR A SOLDIER | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, REPORTER

THE E-MAN WAY | KARE
WILL HALL, REPORTER

WRITER - NEWS

BILL PATTEN'S BLUE SKIES | KMSP
TIMOTHY BLOTZ, WRITER

LAND OF 10,000 STORIES | KARE
BOYD HUPPERT, WRITER

MICHELLE BAIK COMPOSITE | KARE
MICHELLE BAIK, WRITER

WRITER - SHORT OR LONG FORM

21 ROOTS | **PIONEER PBS**
CINDY DORN, WRITER

CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF | **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK**
DAVID KUZNICKI, WRITER

TAKING FLIGHT: TOM CLIFFORD & JOHN ODEGARD | **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA AEROSPACE NETWORK**
DAVID KUZNICKI, WRITER

TALES OF THE OUTDOORS | **RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS**
KELLY JO MCDONNELL, WRITER

VIETNAM 50 YEARS LATER | **WCCO**
PAULEEN LE, WRITER

ANCHOR - NEWS

CHENUE HER | **KMSP**

JANA SHORTAL | **KARE**

MORGAN WOLFE | **KARE**

TIMOTHY BLOTZ | **KMSP**

ANCHOR - WEATHER

CHRIS REECE | **KSTP**

MATT SERWE | **KSTP**

OWEN BASSELMAN | **KTIV**

ZANE SATRE COMPOSITE | **KCCI**

ANCHOR - SPORTS

AHMAD HICKS | **KMSP**

DAVID BROWN | **MIDCO SPORTS**

KEITH MURPHY | **WHO**

OWEN SIEBRING | **KGAN/KFXA**

WILL HALL | **KARE**

Congratulations

to my children

Andrew, Brandon, Cameron & Daniel Brundidge

On their first Regional Emmy® nomination for creating

The Fur Coat Chronicles

Mommy loves you!



NATIONAL
ACADEMY
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ARTS & SCIENCES

UPPER MIDWEST
CHAPTER



REPORTER

A.J. LAGOE | KARE

HEIDI WIGDAHL | KARE

NATHAN O'NEAL | KMSP

ERIC RASMUSSEN | KSTP

PROGRAM HOST/MODERATOR

BILL SHERCK | RON SCHARA PRODUCTIONS

CORY HEPOLA | THE BROOKSHIRE COMPANY

STEPHANIE HANSEN | KMSP

TATUM EVERETT | VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

SPORTS PLAY-BY-PLAY/ANALYST

DAVID BROWN | MIDCO SPORTS

JAY ELSER | MIDCO SPORTS

JIM PETERSEN | FANDUEL SPORTS NETWORK

NEWS SPECIAL

FOX 9 GOOD DAY LIVE AT TARGET FIELD | KMSP
SAMANTHA ZAMORA, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

GEORGE FLOYD: 5 YEARS OF CHANGE AND CHALLENGE | KSTP
SARAH PETERSON, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

GREENFIELD STRONG: ONE YEAR LATER | KCCI
TISA TOLLENAAR, PRODUCER

GREENFIELD STRONG: ONE YEAR LATER | WOI
STEPHANIE ANGLESON, ANCHOR

HONORING A HERO: 1-YEAR LATER | KVLV
STACIE VAN DYKE, PRODUCER

MURDER MYSTERY: A CRY FOR JUSTICE | KXMB
STEVE ROLDAN, PRODUCER

THE MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD: 5 YEARS LATER | KARE
JENNIFER GRIFFIN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

TOWN TOO TOUGH TO DIE: PILGER TORNADO 10 YEARS LATER | KTIV
KATIE COPPLE, PRODUCER

CONTINUING COVERAGE

FRAVEL ON TRIAL | KAAL
MAYZIE OLSON, REPORTER

HOUSING HUSTLE | KARE
A.J. LAGOE, MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

PRISON DRUG SMUGGLING | WCCO
JONAH KAPLAN, REPORTER

TEEN IN RUNAWAY VEHICLE SAVED BY MINNESOTA TROOPERS | WDAY
ABBY MAKAY, PHOTOJOURNALIST

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM

ALMANAC 40TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL | TWIN CITIES PBS
KARI KENNEDY, PRODUCER

AT ISSUE 05-25-2025 | KSTP
RACHEL MILLS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

ELLIPSIS RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM | TRILIX
BRETT ADAMS, PRODUCER

INSIDE SENIOR LIVING | PBS NORTH
MELISSA FRITZ, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

ITASCA PROJECT 20 DOCUSERIES | RAE MACKENZIE GROUP
SHARON SMITH-AKINSANYA, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SPECIAL EVENT COVERAGE

KS95'S 12TH ANNUAL CLOUDS CHOIR FOR A CAUSE | ATOMIC K RECORDS & PRODUCTIONS
KARL DEMER, PRODUCER

NORDIC ECHOES | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

EVENING NEWSCAST - MARKETS (121+)

5-19-25 6PM EVENING BROADCAST | KAAL
PAIGE BREMER, PRODUCER

NEWS AT SIX: FIRST ALERT DAY | KTTC
CAITLIN ALEXANDER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SIOUXLAND HISTORIC FLOODS: NEWS 4 AT SIX | KTIV
BRANDON IRVINE, PRODUCER

WDIO NEWS AT SIX: NORTHLAND WILDFIRES | WDIO-TV
ALEXANDRA BUIE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

EVENING NEWSCAST - MARKETS (76-120)

KELOLAND NEWS AT 6 | KELO
KYLE IRELAND, PRODUCER

KVLY COVERS BREAKING NEWS | KVLY
RENEE NYGREN, PRODUCER

REMEMBERING JULY 14TH | WDAY
BEN RIEKE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

EVENING NEWSCAST - MARKETS (1-75)

FOX 9 NEWS AT 5: HONORING JAMAL MITCHELL | KMSP
AMBER MILNER, PRODUCER

KARE 11 NEWS AT 10 | KARE
JACK LEE, PRODUCER

WCCO SUNDAY 10PM - 5 YEARS SINCE GEORGE FLOYD | WCCO
ANDREW WALKER, PRODUCER

DOCUMENTARY - CULTURAL

Note: Regional recipients in the following Documentary categories are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a Crystal Pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional Documentary.

FINDING MANOOMIN: A SEARCH FOR THE SPIRIT OF WILD RICE | MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO
LEAH LEMM, DIRECTOR

JOURNEYS OF IDENTITY | TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION
ASHLEY BOWES, VIDEOGRAPHER

KNIT WITH LOVE | PIONEER PBS
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

THE POPE'S VISIT TO IOWA | IOWA PBS
JOHN TORPY, PRODUCER

WCCO AT 75: THE STORIES THAT SHAPED US | WCCO
TRACY PERLMAN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

DOCUMENTARY - HISTORICAL

BROADCAST WARS EP1 | **TWIN CITIES PBS**
KEVIN DRAGSETH, PRODUCER

COLD WAR SECRETS OF NORTHERN MINNESOTA | **PBS NORTH**
MIKE SCHOLTZ, DIRECTOR

ZELD IN MINNESOTA: UNTOLD WWII POW STORIES | **PIONEER PBS**
SUSAN MARKS, PRODUCER

NO STARS: HOW MINNESOTA LOST PRO HOCKEY | **KMSP**
SEAN SKINNER, DIRECTOR

RETURN OF THE TRUMPETERS | **STEVE DEVON FILMS**
STEVE DEVON, PRODUCER

STEEL, SALT, CRASH AND SALVAGE | **PIONEER PBS**
TYLER GASTECKI, PRODUCER

THE EMPIRE BUILDER: JAMES J. HILL & THE GREAT NORTHERN RWY | **SADIS FILMWORKS**
STEPHEN SADIS, PRODUCER

WHEN RUBBER HIT THE ROAD | **FIRESIDE PRODUCTIONS, LLC**
B.J. HOLLARS, PRODUCER

DOCUMENTARY - TOPICAL

A LIFE IN MOTION: THE ALEC MAJERUS STORY | **PIONEER PBS**
DANA CONROY, PRODUCER

ALL IN: THE SPPS LITERACY JOURNEY | **CAPTIVATE MEDIA + CONSULTING**
STEVEN SHEGA, DIRECTOR

DREAM STATE: SHAKOPEE | **MINNESOTA WILD HOCKEY CLUB**
MATT HUSSEY, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

HIDDEN MIDDLE: RUNESTONES & DEEPFAKES | **PROPELLANT FILMS**
MATT OSTERMAN, PRODUCER

ON THE EDGE: PEOPLE & POLAR BEARS OF A WARMING ARCTIC | **WCCO**
ERIN HASSANZADEH, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

THE APPLE RIVER STABBING: CONVICTING NICOLAE MIU | **KMSP**
JOE AUGUSTINE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

COMMUNITY SERVICE

BUILDING BRIDGES: KARE 11 COMMUNITY

ALEXIS ROGERS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

INSIDE SENIOR LIVING | PBS NORTH

MELISSA FRITZ, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

KS95'S 12TH ANNUAL CLOUDS CHOIR FOR A CAUSE | ATOMIC K RECORDS & PRODUCTIONS

KARL DEMER, PRODUCER

SPREAD LOVE WITH LOCKS | SHELETTAMAKESMELAUGH.COM

SHELETTA BRUNDIDGE, TALENT

VIETNAM 50 YEARS LATER | WCCO

PAULEEN LE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SPORTS EXCELLENCE

VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK |

BRYAN HARPER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

NEWS EXCELLENCE

KARE 11 NEWS | KARE

STACEY NOGY, NEWS DIRECTOR

KCCI IS IOWA'S NEWS LEADER | KCCI

NATALIE CABIESES, NEWS DIRECTOR

NORTHERN NEWS NOW | KBJR

PAUL BROWN, NEWS DIRECTOR

WCCO 4 NEWS | WCCO

BRIAN NEMITZ, NEWS DIRECTOR

WDAY-TV

JEFF NELSON, NEWS DIRECTOR

101 | OVERALL EXCELLENCE

KARE 11 | KARE

DOUG WIEDER, GENERAL MANAGER

KCCI IS IOWA'S NEWS LEADER

BRIAN SATHER, GENERAL MANAGER

KTIV NEWS 4 | KTIV

BRIDGET BREEN, GENERAL MANAGER

THANK YOU!

We want to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the amazing Upper Midwest Volunteer Judges from the 2025 season. Your generous commitment of time and expertise helped evaluate Regional Emmy® entries from other markets. This year, we had the privilege of judging entries from the Boston/New England, Central Great Lakes, NCCB, New York, San Francisco/Northern California, Southeast, and Suncoast NATAS Chapters.

Reminder: Judging three (3) or more categories earns you a \$50 discount on all Regional Emmy® Award entry fees!

Atomic K Records & Productions: Karl Demer

CCX Media/Northwest Community Television: Isaac Rice

Carlini Entertainment: Jodi Ritacca

FanDuel Sports Network: Nicole Kunkel

FanDuel Sports Network - North: Ted Allaire | James Bothun

Iowa PBS: Debra Herbold | Brent Willett

KARE: Michelle Baik | Samantha Gebers | Will Hall | Boyd Huppert | Gary Knox | Devin Krinke | A.J. Lagoe | Tommy Platek | Alexis Rogers | Ian Russell | Audrey Russo | Rena Sarigianopoulos | Gordon Severson | Jason Steussy | Heidi

Wigdahl | Reginald Wilson | Morgan Wolfe | Mitchell Yehl

KBJR: Dave Anderson | Jordan Mathewson | Dan Wolfe

KCAU: Timothy Seaman

KCCI: Eric Hanson | Mark Peterson | Alyx Sacks | Brian Sather | Zane Satre | Tisa Tollenaar | Kathy Wiseman

KCRG: Kristin Rogers | Joe Winters

KELO: Paul Farmer | Lauren Soulek

KGAN/KFXA: Mitch Fick | Darrin Fullerton | Kristen Hamilton | Owen Siebring | Zachary Zahn

KMSP: Joe Augustine | Timothy Blotz | Chenue Her | Ahmad Hicks | Casey Hooker | Andrew Kallman | Brandon

Middlesworth | Nathan O'Neal | David Pint | Michelle Truax | Samy Vernet | Kimberly Zamora Pearson

KSFY/KDLT: Adam Huntimer | Mark Ovenden | Beth Warden

KSTC: Taylor Stein

KSTP: Ryan Raiche | Chris Reece | Kevin Salo | Matt Serwe | Kirsten Swanson

KTIV: Keith W. Bliven | Jessica Bowman | Diana Castillo | Katie Copple | Taylor Deckert | Ron Demers | MaryAnn

Farley | Greg Fisher | Trevor Huber | Brandon Irvine | Joseph McMahan | Acacia Phillips | David Washburn

KVLY: Alix Larsen | Renee Nygren | Alex Van Eeckhout | Stacie VanDyke

KWWL: Jeff Sandlin

Kwik Trip Inc.: Amy DuPont

Lutheran Church Of Hope: Christopher New

Mediacom, MC22: Chris Lenart

Midco Sports: Taylor Budge | Jay Elsen | Josh Munce | Tanner Robinson

Minnesota Department Of Natural Resources: Nick Frantzen

Minnesota Orchestra: Joel Mooney

NATAS-Upper Midwest: John (JJ) Murray

NDC4: Carmen Hauck | Dennis Rafferty

National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences: Amy Schmelzer

Pioneer PBS: Dana Conroy | Ben Dempcy | Kristofor Gieske

Prairie Public: Barbara Gravel

Ron Schara Productions: Aaron Achtenberg | Pete Hermann-Franzen | Kelly Jo McDonnell | Laura Schara | Bill Sherck

Ryan Morrison, LLC: Ryan Morrison

Sanford Health News: Jason Anschutz | Simon Floss | Matt Holsen | Emily Petersen | Justin Wulf

Town Square Television: Trevor Blom | Ashley Bowes

Twin Cities PBS: Daniel Pierce Bergin | Kevin Dragseth | Kristoffer Fernandes | Leya Hale | Kari Kennedy | Mary

Lahammer | Kaomi Lee | Kate McDonald | Amy Melin | Brittany Shrimpton

University of North Dakota Aerospace Network: David Kuznicki

WCCO: Addie Chernow | Kevin Kamin | Pauleen Le | Nick Lunemann | Jennifer Mayerle | Jose Pascual

WDAY: Matt Henson | Kevin Wallevand

WDIO: Sabrina Ullman | Baihly Warfield

WHO: Lisa Felton

WOI: Stephanie Angleson | Simon Daniels

WXOW: Dustin Luecke

Do Your Part, Become A Judge!

Tonight, we celebrate the best of our industry. Tomorrow, you can help make sure excellence continues—by becoming a judge for the Regional Emmy® Awards! The awards process only works because professionals like you step up. This year, colleagues across the country reviewed our entries. In return, the Upper Midwest Chapter helps judge theirs. But we always need more voices at the table—and that's where you come in.

Who can judge?

- Anyone with at least two years of hands-on experience in television, video production, or related media.
- Reporters, producers, photographers, editors, writers, designers, and management.
- Pros working in advertising, marketing, or corporate video.
- Educators with professional or teaching experience.
- Even retired or former media professionals with industry knowledge.

The rule is simple: judge in categories where you have expertise. It's as easy as watching, scoring, and offering your professional insight.

Why judge? Because it's more than giving back—it's a chance to get inspired. You'll see outstanding work from across the country, discover new approaches, and maybe even spark your own creative ideas.

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