



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Heather Birks | 202.602.0584

BEA Announces the 2023 Festival of Media Arts and “Best of” Festival Award Winners

Washington, D.C. – Twenty faculty and student works have been chosen to receive the BEA “Best of” Awards – the top awards given during BEA’s Festival of Media Arts, a competitive festival for BEA faculty and student members.

Best of Festival winners will be honored at the 21st Annual BEA Best of Festival Awards Ceremony in Las Vegas on Monday, April 17, 2023 as part of BEA’s annual convention. During the ceremony, recipients will be recognized with a specialized screening of their winning project and a cash award of \$1,000 from the Diana King Memorial endowment. The 2023 Best of Festival winners were selected from a pool of over 1,650 entries, representing over 300 colleges and universities in the following competitions: audio, documentary, film & video, interactive multimedia, news, scriptwriting, sports and two-year colleges.

2023 Best of Festival Winners

Audio Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *Worldwide: The Unchosen Church*; Tricia Jenkins & Charity Robinson, Texas Christian University (Audio Documentary Category)

Audio Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Modern Memetics*; Jamie Harvey, University of Nebraska-Omaha (Specialty Program Category)

Documentary Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *Benny: Our Musical Lineage*; Dave Garcia, Baylor University (Short-Form Documentary Category)

Documentary Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Cooking a Burger Fully*; Zeya Highley, Colorado State University (Micro-Documentary Category)

Film & Video Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *The Deaners of Fairmount*; Stephen Bailey, Taylor University (Mixed/Pedagogical Category)

Film & Video Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Right Now, It's Like This Music Video*; Charles Breckenridge, Elon University (Music Video Category)

Best of Festival: *2022 Stadium Screen Commencement Video*; Sydney Nichols, Jenna Rowell, Brantly Hightower, Ayaan Zaida & Allison England, University of Oklahoma (Promotional Category Category)

Interactive Multimedia Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *This Art is ALIVE!*; Ringo Jones, University of Arkansas & Lane Kendal University of Kansas (Interactive Reality Category)

Interactive Multimedia Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Entitled to Equality*; The Entitled to Equality Staff, Syracuse University (Website Category)

News Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *Lady Breslin*; Mike Castellucci, Michigan State University (Television Feature News Reporting Category)

News Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Flying Golf Carts*; Ophelie Jacobson, University of Florida (TV News Long Feature Category)

Best of Festival: *Switch Lab*; Autriya Maneshni, Arizona State University (Radio Hard News Reporting Category)

Best of Festival: *Cronkite News November 28, 2022*; Haley Ziomek, Andrew Onodera, Holly Santman & Conor Bonfiglio, Arizona State University (Television Newscast (4/5 days per week))

Scriptwriting Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *Blowback*; Cory Byers, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (Narrative Feature)

Scriptwriting Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *Nevermore*; Sydni Stoffregen, Illinois State University (Narrative Feature Category)**Faculty**

Sports Competition - Faculty

Best of Festival: *Bethel University Softball Intro 2023*; Chris Shofner, Bethel University (Short Form Sports Video Category)

Sports Competition - Student

Best of Festival: *More Than a Mascot*; Derryl Barnes, Daniel Toll & Morgan Champey, University of Miami (Video Sports Story/Feature - long)

Student Two-Year Colleges Competition

Best of Festival: *Around You*; Jackson Martin, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha Nebraska (Narrative Category)

Graduate Student Competition

Best of Festival: *In Need of a Reason*; Jake Gerl, James Madison University (Scriptwriting Competition)

Best of Festival: *That's Dinnertainment!*; Marina Hart Donahue, Loyola University Chicago (Film & Video Competition)

For a complete list of winners for all of the Festival of Media Arts competitions, please visit www.beafestival.org

About the Broadcast Education Association (BEA): BEA is the premiere international academic media organization, driving insights, excellence in media production, and career advancement for educators, students, and professionals. There are currently more than 2,500 individual and institutional members worldwide. Visit www.beaweb.org for more information.

About the BEA Convention: BEA's annual convention is held in conjunction with NAB Show in Las Vegas every spring. Co-located at the Las Vegas Convention Center, BEA's annual convention attracts 1,200 educators and students with 200 sessions, events, research panels, technology workshops and an exhibit hall, making BEA NAB Show's largest conference partner. [Click here](#) for more information.

About the Festival of Media Arts: The BEA Festival of Media Arts is an international refereed exhibition of faculty creative activities and a national showcase for student work. The Festival provides a venue for exhibition of winning submissions, including recognition of project authors, through showcase and awards sessions held during BEA's annual convention in Las Vegas. The Festival seeks to enhance and extend creative activities, teaching, and professional standards in broadcasting and other forms of electronically mediated communication. The "Best of" Festival awards are made possible by the Diana King Memorial Endowment in 2020. The endowment was a gift from The Charles & Lucille King Family Foundation, the original sponsor of the Festival. Visit www.beafestival.org for more information.