

PENN STATE PUBLIC BROADCASTING RECEIVES FIVE COMMUNICATOR VIDEO AWARDS

UNIVERSITY PARK (Jan. 16, 2006 --) Penn State Public Broadcasting (PSPB) productions have been recognized with five awards in the recently announced Communicator Awards for video, including three first place awards. The first place Crystal Award of Excellence went to "The Grange Fair: An American Tradition," distributed on PBS-Plus last August, in the category of broadcast TV/informational program; to "Small Ball: A Little League Story," distributed nationally by PBS in 2004, in the category of broadcast TV/documentary; and to the "Celebration spot," produced by PSPB's Creative Services group for Penn State, in the category of broadcast spots for a college or university.

The Award of Distinction went to "Outreach Stories," produced by Creative Services for Penn State Outreach, in the educational institution category. "Children and Autism: Time is Brain" won honorable mention in the medical/educational documentary category.

"The Grange Fair: An American Tradition" was produced and directed by Joe Myers. Co-executive producers are Tom Keiter and Tracy Vosburgh. Jeff Preston was director of photography. Greg Feinberg was co-writer/editor and original music was by Ted McCloskey. The 90-minute documentary has won a Mid-Atlantic NATAS chapter Emmy award, a U.S. International Film Festival silver award and a Telly bronze award.

The "Celebration spot," created for the Penn State 150th anniversary, was produced and directed by Joe Myers with Tom Keiter as executive producer. Don Hampton did additional photography and Kerry Trout did audio mix. Susanna Ritti made the voice-over. The spot has already won first place in the Pennsylvania Broadcasters Awards last spring. The "Outreach Stories" testimonial video was produced for Penn state Outreach. Tom Keiter was producer-director, with Joe Myers as co-director/editor and Kerry Trout doing audio mix.

The documentary "Children and Autism: Time is Brain" was co-produced by Patty Satalia and Marie Hornbein with Bill Wallace as videographer/editor. It has won a Golden Quill award.

"Small Ball: A Little League Story" was executive-produced by PSPB Station Manager Tracy Vosburgh and produced and written by Louis Alvarez and Andrew Kolker of the Center for New American Media in New York. Coordinating producer was Sandra Zweig. Editor was Peter Odabashian with photography by John Chater. The 90-minute documentary was broadcast in primetime as part of the PBS national program schedule in April 2004.

Last month PSPB was honored with two radio Communicator Awards. Producer Cynthia Berger received the Award of Distinction in the category of radio news/feature for her segment "My Island Vacation," and an honorable mention in the category of radio news/humor for her work in "Slumber in the Slammer."

The Communicator Awards is an international awards competition that recognizes outstanding work in the communications field. The radio and video competitions are announced separately. Winners are listed at www.communicator-awards.com online.

PSPB serves 29 counties with WPSU-TV, 13 counties with WPSU-FM radio and produces over 300 hours of local television programming a year.

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Contact: Carol Wonsavage
carolw@outreach.psu.edu
(814) 863-5483