



WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

NEWS

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2007 WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION VIDEO AWARD
WINNERS ANNOUNCED; BAKER AND KATTAR RECEIVED TOP HONORS

Nation's Leading Photojournalists Compete for Top Industry Awards

(WASHINGTON, D.C. – Feb. 12, 2007) – The White House News Photographers Association announced Monday that ITN photographer Dai Baker has been awarded 2007 Video Photographer of the Year in the ‘Eyes of History’ video competition. Pierre Kattar of washingtonpost.com has been named 2007 Video Editor of the Year.

This is the third year in a row that Baker, who has worked for ITN for 13 years, has won top honors in the annual contest. Baker’s photography in the 2007 competition included a first place win on a piece from the Detroit Auto Show and another first place on the Border Patrol.

The Video Editor of the Year is Pierre Kattar of washingtonpost.com. Kattar has won first prizes in the WHNPA competition in past years, but this is his first time as the winner of Video Editor of the Year. Kattar was a volunteer at the contest and the judges were able to personally deliver the news of his win. Kattar commented, “I truly feel fortunate to tell stories for a living and I’m honored to be recognized among such talented colleagues.”

The White House News Photographers Association is recognized as one of the most prestigious organizations of its kind. “Our members have the ability to evolve and use the tools enabled by the changing technology of the news profession” said WHNPA President Dennis Brack. “Baker and Kattar are accomplished journalists who embrace this technology and use it to share their results with people all over the globe.”

The 2007 competition was judged in the studios of the National Geographic Channel in Washington, D.C. The judges for the video photography were, Stuart Clark, CNN Atlanta; Neil Giurintano, WGNO-TV New Orleans; and Andrea Korff, KYW-TV Philadelphia. The judges for television editing were Simon Gribben, Emmy winning producer and editor; John Hyjek, NBC News Atlanta; and Tom Fitzgerald, WDSU-TV New Orleans.

The top winners of the still and television contests will be honored at the annual ‘Eyes of History’ gala on April 28, 2007, at the Ritz-Carlton in Washington. The black-tie event celebrates all the winning photojournalists and the President of the United States. Nearly 1,000 guests, including government dignitaries, industry leaders and celebrities will attend.

The still photography competition was held at the National Geographic Society on Jan. 28, 2007. Michael Robinson-Chavez, of the *Washington Post* was named Photographer of the Year and Chip Somodevilla was awarded “Political Photo of the Year.”

The White House News Photographers Association is an 86-year-old non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the efforts of Washington's professional photojournalists. The WHNPA aims to provide professional and educational outreach to its members and the community through scholarships, grants, an annual competition and a celebration of the industry at the annual 'Eyes of History' Gala.

The WHNPA and The Eyes of History are sponsored in part by Nikon, Tiffen/Domke, the Corcoran Gallery of Art + Design, and Digital Railroad.

For further information about The Eyes of History and to view the winning images and videos, visit the WHNPA website at www.whnpa.org. Contact business director Heidi Elswick at heidi@whnpa.org or Dennis Brack at dennis@whnpa.org.

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