The Religion Communicators Council

The Religion Communicators Council (RCC), founded in 1929, is a professional association whose mission is to provide opportunities for networking and professional development for people working in communications for a wide variety of faith-based organizations. RCC recognizes and cultivates excellence in communications of religious faith and values, as well as advances the public’s religious literacy.

Members represent a variety of communications disciplines, including: editors, writers and designers, photographers, videographers, broadcast, social media, web developers, marketers, fundraisers, project managers and, of course, students.

DeRose-Hinkhouse Memorial Awards

The annual DeRose-Hinkhouse Memorial Awards are given to active members of RCC who demonstrate excellence in religious communication and public relations.

The awards are named in honor of the late Victor DeRose and the late Paul M. Hinkhouse, leading lithographers in New York City, and longtime friends of the RCC. Both men shared a strong interest in, and concern for excellence in communications.

This year RCC received 231 entries. Each entry was judged on overall quality, including concept, writing, design, creativity, style, use of color, appropriateness of material for intended audience, creative use of resources, and effectiveness in achieving its purpose. This year’s panel of judges included faculty members from Chicago’s Roosevelt University, Evanston’s Northwestern University, and New York’s St. John’s University, as well as individual communications professionals from both secular and religious organizations.

2017 DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards

March 30, 2017

Chicago, Illinois
2017 Panel of Judges

André Josiah Daniel Callot
Manager, Multimedia Production, Alzheimer’s Association, Illinois
Podcast Producer, Noisy Ghost and I Don’t Hate This

Shawn Chen
Digital Platforms Editor, Associated Press

Marda Dunsky
Lecturer, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University
8 years newspaper Editor, Reporter, 25 years Journalism Professor

Lee Earle
Associate Professor, Roosevelt University
Former Advertising Creative Director, Leo Burnett, Tracy Locke, NBC

Peter Fallon, PhD (Media Ecology)
Professor of Media Studies, Roosevelt University
25 years in television, NBC News, 23 years teaching media studies

Peter Feuerherd
Adjunct Professor of Journalism, St. John’s University

Linda Jones
Associate Professor of Journalism, Roosevelt University
13 years in newspaper Journalism, 24 years in higher education

Nina Litoff
Communications Coordinator, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation
Podcast Host, I Don’t Hate This

Charlie Madigan
Associate Professor of Communications, Roosevelt University
42 years in Journalism

Basilio Monteiro, PhD
Associate Dean for Graduate Programs/Research, St. John’s University
Professor of Mass communications, History of Journalism

Michael Rizzo
Director, Journalism Program, St. John’s University
Reporter, The Tablet

Ceci Rodgers
Lecturer, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University
30 years in print and broadcast journalism

Eleanor Russell
PhD candidate in Theatre and Drama, Northwestern University
Podcast Host, Noisy Ghost

Mary Ellen Schiller, EdD (IT/Communication Studies)
Associate Professor, Roosevelt University
25 years of teaching, industry experience, 8 years service on religious school boards and marketing committees

Erik Wenzel
Adjunct Professor of Art, Roosevelt University
Podcast Host, I Don’t Hate This

Jiwon Yoon, PhD (Media Studies)
Associate Professor of Media Studies, Roosevelt University
Videographer, Writer, Broadcaster

2017 DEROSE-HINKHOUSE AWARDS

CLASS A—PERIODICALS

Magazine, National
Merit: Art Stricklin, Marketplace Chaplains USA, Marketplace Magazine
Merit: Sharon Dunne Gillies, Presbyterian Women, Horizons Magazine

Magazine, Local or Regional
Merit: Kelly Fanning, Christ the King Church, CK Magazine 2016
Newspaper, Local or Regional
Merit: Jennifer Davis Rash, The Alabama Baptist, *The Alabama Baptist*
Excellence: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, *South Carolina United Methodist Advocate*

Newsletter, National
Merit: Kim Halusan, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, The United Methodist Church, *Where Miracles Happen*
Excellence: W. Evan Golder, Kendal at Home, *Le Chat*

BEST OF CLASS
Christie R. House, General Board of Global Ministries, *New World Outlook Magazine*

CLASS B—PERIODICALS, SINGLE ISSUE

Magazine, National
Merit: Christie R. House, General Board of Global Ministries, *New World Outlook, May-June 2016, Care for Creation and Climate Justice*
Excellence: Susan Washburn, Patrick Heery, Jeffrey Lawrence, Mark Thomson, Karen Bosc, Presbyterian Church USA, *Presbyterians Today (January/February 2016)*

Magazine, Local or Regional
Merit: Kelly Fanning, Christ the King Church, *CK Magazine Advent-Christmas 2016*

Newspaper, Local or Regional
Merit: Jennifer Davis Rash, The Alabama Baptist, *The Alabama Baptist*
Excellence: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, *South Carolina United Methodist Advocate June/General Conference Edition*

Miscellaneous
Merit: Anuttama Dasa, ISKCON Communications, *The Hare Krishnas: Celebrating 50 Years*
Excellence: Katherine Branch, Green Gate Marketing, *Pathways Magazine*

BEST OF CLASS
Amethel Parel-Sewell, C. Aaron Kreader, Amy Renshaw, Susan Engle, Baha’i National Center, *Brilliant Star “Spirit of Adventure” Issue*

CLASS C—PUBLIC RELATIONS MATERIALS

Poster
Merit: Margaret Boone, Presbyterian Church USA, *2016 Peace & Global Witness Offering Poster*
Excellence: Margaret Boone, Presbyterian Church USA, *2016 Christmas Joy Offering Poster*

Flyer
Merit: Cherilyn Crowe & Jordan Edwards, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, *What is Religious Liberty?*

Brochure
Merit: Tricia Wainscott, Presbyterian Church USA, *Special Offering Brochure*

Booklet
Merit: Kim Halusan, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, The United Methodist Church, *Pastoral Care and Counseling*
Excellence: Brad Pokorny, Baha’i International Community, *The Baha’i Question Revisited: Persecution and Resilience in Iran*

Annual Report
Merit: Philip Poole, Samford University, *2014-15 Annual Report, Samford University*

Special Print Material
Merit: Monica M. McGinley, Medical Mission Sisters, *Medical Mission Sisters 2017 Calendar*
Excellence: Mark Thomson, Presbyterian Church USA, *Prayer Cards*
Special Issue Publication
Merit: Aaron Weaver, Carrie McGuffin, Candice Young, Travis Peterson, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, 2016 General Assembly Guidebook

Advertisement, Single Issue
Merit: Elizabeth Hunter & Elizabeth McBride, Women of the ELCA, Change is Good Advertisement

Miscellaneous

BEST OF CLASS
Thomas Murphy, James Humphrey, Richard Doering, Baha’i National Center, Annual Report

CLASS D—WRITING FOR PUBLICATION

Newspaper or Magazine News, Single Story
Merit: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, After the Hurricane
Excellence: Brian Kaylor, Word & Way, Missouri Offered Unique Model for Baptist Cooperation

Newspaper or Magazine News Series
Merit: Kathy Melvin, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Violence in South Sudan: Praying for those left behind
Excellence: Brian Kaylor, Word & Way, Aiding Refugees Benevolently and Prophetically

Newspaper Feature, Single Story
Merit: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, Well Woman
Excellence: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, Small But Mighty

Newspaper Feature, Series
Merit: Jennifer Davis Rash, The Alabama Baptist, Faith and Family
Excellence: Chris Herlinger, National Catholic Reporter/Global Sisters Report, Middle East Refugees

Magazine Article, Single
Merit: Paul Seebeck, Presbyterian Church USA, Parenting My Father
Excellence: Emily Enders Odom, Presbyterian Church USA, Partners in Christ’s Service

Magazine Article, Series
Merit: Kathy Melvin, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Violence in South Sudan: Praying for those left behind
Excellence: Sarah Carson, Women of the ELCA, It was kind of you to share my distress

Writing for Publication-Editorial
Excellence: Jessica Brodie, South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, It’s OK to Hit Pause Sometimes

Writing for Publication-Miscellaneous
Merit: Maria Hayes and Jocelyn Thomas, Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province, Photo of Franciscan Fire Chaplain Praying Rosary Goes Viral
Merit: Jennifer Davis Rash, The Alabama Baptist, Missions Behind Bars

BEST OF CLASS
Katherine Branch, Green Gate Marketing, Pathways Magazine

CLASS E—SPECIALIZED WRITING

Book, Adult
Merit: Susan Engle, Shoestring Productions, The Baha’i Faith: A Tiny Introduction

Writing for Web
Excellence: Kathy Melvin, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Doug Baker planted the seeds of reconciliation in Northern Ireland for more than 30 years
**Miscellaneous**  
Merit: Aaron Weaver, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, *Story of a Name*

**BEST OF CLASS**  
Todd Post, Derek Schwabe, Doug Puller, Bread for the World, *2017 Hunger Report: Fragile Environments, Resilient Communities*

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**CLASS F—GRAPHIC DESIGN, ART & PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Design, Overall Publication**  
Merit: Doug Puller, Todd Post, Michele Learner, Derek Schwabe, Asma Lateef, Bread for the World, *2017 Hunger Report: Fragile Environments, Resilient Communities*

Excellence: Anuttama Dasa, ISKON Communications, *The Hare Krishnas: Celebrating 50 Years*

**Design, Publication Cover**  
Merit: Richard Doering, Baha’i National Center, *2016 Annual Report*

**Illustration**  
Excellence: Carrie McGuffin, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, “*Student Dot*” Coloring Pages

**Illustration, Publication Cover**  

**Photography, B&W, Single Photo**  
Merit: Kathleen Barry & Janni Snider, United Methodist Communications, *United in Prayer*

**Photography, Color, Single Photo**  
Merit: Joseph Molieri, Bread for the World, *Motherly Love*

**Photography, Color, Series**  
Merit: Danny Ellison, American Baptist Home Mission Societies, *New Orleans: ’Til the Work is Done*

Excellence: Mike Dubose, United Methodist News Service, *East Congo*

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**Logo/Branding Development**  
Merit: Candice Young & Travis Peterson, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, “*Student Dot*” Branding

**BEST OF CLASS**  
Katherine Branch, Green Gate Marketing, *Pathways Magazine*

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**CLASS G—A/V, BROADCAST, NON-BROADCAST, & CABLE**

**Radio Program or Series**  

**Broadcast/Cable TV, Series**  
Merit: Sr. Rose Pacatte, Pauline Center for Media Studies, *TCM Spotlight Series: Condemned*

**Broadcast/Cable TV, Series**  
Excellence: Meinrad Scherer-Emunds, Catholic Extension, *Episode 8, Works of Mercy*

**Television Commercial or Public Service Announcement or Series**  
Merit: Kurt Gwartney, Phillips Theological Seminary, *Love Thy ______ Neighbor*

**Video, Documentary/Educational**  
Merit: Anuttama Dasa, ISKON Communications, *The Joy of Devotion*

Merit: Jennifer Rodia & Jan Snider, United Methodist Communications, *Ministry With the Poor: The Plight of the Lumads*

Excellence: Carol Anne Dolan, Odyssey Networks, *There’s a Better Way*

**Video, Promotional/Informational**  
Merit: Paul Seebeck & Mike Fitzner, Presbyterian Church USA, *Christmas Joy!*

Merit: Paul Seebeck & Mike Fitzner, Presbyterian Church USA, *Poisoned Water*

**Video, Entertainment/Inspirational**  
Merit: Fran Coode Walsh, United Methodist Communications, *Charles Wesley’s Gift of Music*
Excellence: Fran Coode Walsh, United Methodist Communications,  
Living Sermon: Pastor Builds Tiny House

BEST OF CLASS
Anuttama Dasa, ISKCON Communications, The Joy of Devotion

CLASS H—PUBLIC RELATIONS/ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Advertising Campaign
Excellence: Kurt Gwartney, Phillips Theological Seminary,  
Love Thy _____Neighbor

Integrated Marketing Campaign
Excellence: Teresa Mader, Presbyterian Church USA,  
Presbyterian Giving Catalog

Fundraising Campaign
Merit: Stephanie Morris, Presbyterian Women, Thank Offering 2016

Best Display or Exhibit

Miscellaneous
Merit: Aaron Weaver, Jeff Huett, Carrie McGuffin, Candice Young, Travis Peterson, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Bearing Witness to Christ-CBF Offering for Global Missions Campaign

Excellence: Jan Snider, Gary Henderson, Diane Degnan, Laura Buchanan, Crystal Caviness, Steven Adair, Mike Dubose, Jennifer Rodia, Poonam Patodia, Fran Walsh, Darby Jones, Joe Iovino, Mary Andreoli United Methodist Communications, Imagine No Malaria Celebration

BEST OF CLASS
Jeff Huett, Aaron Weaver, Carrie McGuffin, Candice Young, Travis Peterson, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Christ's love compels us-CBF 25th Anniversary Campaign

CLASS I—DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Website

Merit: Robert D. Black, St. James Cathedral Chicago, St. James Cathedral Website

Merit: Katherine Branch, Green Gate Marketing, Connecting Website

Excellence: Simran Jeet Singh, Sikh Coalition, New Website Launched to Make Sikh American Story & Resources More Accessible

E Newsletter, Series
Merit: Doug Puller & Jennifer Gonzalez, Bread for the World, Bread E-Newsletter

Excellence: Andrew Schleicher, United Methodist Communications, MyCom E-Newsletter

E-Newsletter, Single Issue
Merit: Joyce Litoff, Baha'i National Center, US Baha'i News, Why Baha'is Don't Participate in Partisan Politics

E-Magazine, Single Issue
Merit: Brian Kaylor, Churchnet, May 2016-Cuba

Podcast Series
Merit: Elizabeth McBride, Women of the ELCA, Café Podcast

Podcast
Merit: Joe Iovino & Lane Denson, United Methodist Communications, Get Your Spirit in Shape: College, Church, and Faith with Sheila Bates

Miscellaneous
Excellence: Ellen Price, Baha’i National Center, Baha’i House of Worship Virtual Tour

BEST OF CLASS
Steven D. Martin, National Council of Churches, National Council of Churches Podcast

CLASS J—SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media Campaign
Merit: Carrie McGuffin, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, CBF Celebration Week
**Social Media Strategy**  
Merit: Steven Adair, Diane Degnan  
*United Methodist Communications, The United Methodist Church Facebook Page*

**Blog Series**  
Merit: Aaron Weaver, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, *Illuminations Series*

Excellence: Alyssa Lodewick, The BTS Center, *Bearings: Navigating Life-as-Ministry*

**Blog**  
Merit: Aaron Weaver, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, *CBFblog*


**BEST OF CLASS**  
Meinrad Scherer-Emunds & Matt Paolelli, Catholic Extension, *Camp Catholic*

**2017 SHOESTRING AWARD**

Diane Degnan, United Methodist Communications, *Praying our Way Forward*

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