2017 Wilbur Awards

Recognizing Excellence in Communicating Religious Issues, Values and Themes in the Public Media

An Interfaith Association of Professional Communicators Founded in 1929

RELIGIONCOMMUNICATORS.ORG
Greetings to the 2017 Wilbur Award winners! Since 1949, the Religion Communicators Council (RCC) has honored examples of outstanding work by secular communicators with Wilbur Awards. Tonight we honor you and your excellence in sharing stories of faith and religious values in mainstream media. Your submissions highlight exemplary work that promotes religious literacy in our communities and society.

I trust that this distinctive stained-glass Wilbur Award will encourage you to continue delivering well-crafted stories of faith and values to your audiences. My personal congratulations as RCC recognizes your fine work.

Casey Tom,
RCC National President

Meet Our Host
Fr. James Gardiner, SA, is a Bronx-born Franciscan Friars of the Atonement (Graymoor). He is currently director of special projects at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in Washington, DC, and a member of RCC’s DC chapter.

Jim Gardiner graduated from St. Pius X Seminary and the Catholic University of America, and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1969. He has ministered in New York City, College Park (MD), Akron (OH) and twice in Garrison (NY) — first as communications director for the Friars and later as director of the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center. He joined RCC formerly Religious Public Relations Council (RPRC) in 1974 and was New York Chapter president at the time of RCC’s (RPRC) 50th anniversary convention.
BOOKS: Non-fiction
Black Women’s Christian Activism: Seeking Social Justice in a Northern Suburb
NYU Press
Betty Livingston Adams, author

BOOKS: Non-fiction
The Hundred-Year Walk: An Armenian Odyssey
Mariner Books
Dawn Anahid MacKeen

BOOKS: Youth/Children
10 Years of KidSpirit
KidSpirit
Elizabeth Dabney Hochman

BOOKS: Youth/Children Audio Book
Painting in the Dark: Esref Armagan, Blind Artist
SueMedia Productions
Rachelle Burk, author; Sue Zizza, director/producer; Claudia Gadotti, illustrator, Bronson Pinchot and Katherine Keligren, narrators

FEATURE FILMS: Drama
Hidden Figures
20th Century Fox
Theodore Melfi, director; Donna Gigliotti, Peter Chernin, Jenno Topping, Pharrell Williams, producers; Allison Schroeder, screenplay writer

FEATURE FILMS: Documentary (30 min.+
Big Sonia
Inflatable Film
Leah Warshawski and Todd Soliday, directors; Leah Warshawski, producer

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS: Social Media Campaigns
American Muslims: Facts vs. Fiction
Unity Productions Foundation
Alex Kronemer, Michael Wolfe, executive producers

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS: Multimedia
Silent Sanctuaries
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Laura Schneiderman, interactive developer; Peter Smith, religion editor

TELEVISION & CABLE: Drama
Roots
History Channel
Mark Rosenthal, Lawrence Konner, Alison McDonald, Charles Murray, writers

TELEVISION & CABLE: News–network or national syndication (up to 8 min.)
The Harmony Project
CBS Sunday Morning
Jane Pauley correspondent; Rand Morrison, executive producer; Dustin Stephens, producer; Lauren Barnello and Carol A. Ross editors

TELEVISION & CABLE: News–network or national syndication (8 min.+)
The Resurrection of St. Benedict’s
CBS 60 Minutes
Scott Pelley, correspondent; Jeff Fager, executive producer; Guy Campanile and Andrew Bast, producers; Peter M. Berman, editor

TELEVISION & CABLE: Public Broadcasting (up to 8 mins)
Cochin Synagogue
Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly
Fred de Sam Lazaro, correspondent

TELEVISION & CABLE: Public Broadcasting (more than 8 mins.)
Christians Combating Anti-Muslim Sentiment
Kim Lawton, correspondent; Noelle Cwiklinski Serper, producer
TELEVISION & CABLE: News–local
Century Songs: St. Hildegard von Bingen Schola
WAND-TV17
Joe Astrouski reporter and photographer

TELEVISION & CABLE: Documentary (up to 30 min.)
Religion and Democracy
CBS Television: Culture and Religion
Elizabeth Kineke, producer; Natalie Baxter and Elyse Kaftan
John P. Blessington senior executive producer

TELEVISION & CABLE: Documentary (30 min.+)
The Story of God with Morgan Freeman
National Geographic
Morgan Freeman, James Younger, Lori McCreary, Michael J. Miller, Simon Andreae

TELEVISION & CABLE: Comedy
black-ish
ABC Television
Kenya Barris, creator/executive producer; Laura Gutin Pearson, episode writer/producer

RADIO OR PODCASTS: Single program
The acid attack survivor who became a comic book superhero
CBC Tapestry, Mary Hynes, host; Erin Noel, and Marc Apolonio, producers

RADIO OR PODCASTS: Series of programs
The Power of Nonviolence
Human Media, David Freudberg, writer and producer

RADIO OR PODCASTS: Documentary up to 30
An attack backfires: how a mosque bombing brought Peterborough together
CBC Tapestry
Mary Hynes, host; Erin Noel and Jeff Goodes producers

Shirley Struchen, Wilbur Coordinator with Dr. Andrew (Andy) B. Rawls, Producer of Wilbur program for over 25 years.

RELIGION COMMUNICATORS COUNCIL
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www.religioncommunicators.org