Press Release

Winners Announced for JAPAN PRIZE 2016

TOKYO, November 2, 2016—The winners of the JAPAN PRIZE 2016, an international contest for educational media, were announced today.

The Grand Prix JAPAN PRIZE went to THE AMINA PROFILE (Canada). The Awards Ceremony was held at NHK Broadcasting Center, Tokyo.

Audiovisual Division
The Audiovisual Division, targeting educationally valuable productions with audio and visual content, is comprised of five categories. The winners in each category are listed below.

[The Grand Prix Japan Prize]

*The Best Work in the Lifelong Learning Category: The Governor of Tokyo Prize

Title: THE AMINA PROFILE
Country/Region: Canada
Organization: esperamos National Film Board of Canada (NFB)
Duration: 84’59”
Media: Film
Content: Amina is a lesbian dissident who lives in Damascus, Syria. She writes a blog titled A Gay Girl in Damascus, which attracts a worldwide following because of her dissident activities and erotic tone. Canadian Sandra falls in love with her online.

Then Amina suddenly disappears. Where did she go? Was she kidnapped by the secret police? Is she still alive? Speculations fly as the story grabs the attention of big media and intelligence agencies alike as they investigate the facts.

This program provides a vivid depiction of the risks behind today’s online world and the way modern society can trifle with online systems.
[The Best Work in Each Category]

< Pre-school Category: The Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications Prize >

Title: **Tell me, Bonggu! - My Front Tooth Fell Out**
Country/Region: Republic of Korea
Organization: Educational Broadcasting System (EBS)
Media: TV

< Primary Category: The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Prize >

Title: **The Boy on the Bicycle**
Country/Region: United Kingdom
Organization: Drummer TV
Media: TV

< Youth Category: The Minister of Foreign Affairs Prize >

Title: **THE OTHER KIDS**
Country/Region: Spain, Qatar
Organization: SALON INDIEN FILMS
LA MIRADA OBLICUA
AL JAZEERA DOCUMENTARY CHANNEL
Media: Film

< Creative Frontier Category: The Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Prize >

Title: **The Professionals: My Philosophy**
Country/Region: Japan
Organization: Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK)
DigiBook Inc.
Media: Application Software
[Special Prizes]

< The Japan Foundation President’s Prize >

Title: Baby on the way - Gaanaa, Superman
Country/Region: Mongolia, Republic of Korea
Organization: Mongolian National Broadcaster (MNB)
Educational Broadcasting System (EBS)
Media: TV

< The UNICEF Prize >

Title: Sleeping Lions
Country/Region: United Kingdom
Organization: Libra Television
David & Goliath
Media: TV

TV Proposal Division

The TV Proposal Division aims to encourage program producers with limited means of production and opportunity with a cash prize of U.S. $10,000. The best proposal was awarded The Hoso Bunka Foundation Prize which went to:

Title: The Girls are not Brides
Country/Region: Bangladesh
Entering Organization: Dhrupad Communication - Media for Education and Development

[The National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan Prize]

A trophy, certificate, and U.S. $3,000 prize money, are awarded to an excellent proposal for a TV program which will contribute to education in an entrant’s country/region and to the promotion of ESD (Education for Sustainable Development).

Title: Ski in the land of Buddha
Country/Region: Afghanistan
Entering Organization: Mehrgan Film Festival Secretariat
About the JAPAN PRIZE
The JAPAN PRIZE celebrated the 50th anniversary last year, since its establishment in 1965 with the purpose of improving educational programs worldwide while contributing to international understanding and cooperation. From 2008, the target for entries expanded from educational programs only to educational content using sound and images. The JAPAN PRIZE continues to develop as a unique international event solely focusing on both education and media.

This year’s contest saw 316 entries and proposals from 58 countries and regions. The entries were reviewed by 12 producers and researchers representing 12 countries and regions.

During the term of the contest, entries which had passed the preliminary evaluation were screened. Joshua Hollander, Director of Special Projects at Pixar Animation Studios gave keynote, and there were panel discussions by professionals working in state-of-the-art media. Charlotte F. Cole, EdD of Blue Butterfly Collaborative, a nonprofit organization that specialize educational content development facilitated a workshop to provide practical production know-how for those active in educational media.

The JAPAN PRIZE Website:
http://www.nhk.or.jp/jp-prize/english/

JAPAN PRIZE Related Programs (Broadcast Dates):

The Japan Prize Week (title subject to change)
November 20 (Sun) 3:00 p.m. – 3:59 p.m.
Domestic broadcast on ETV

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