SOPA 2019 Awards

Wednesday, 29 May 2019

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Google News Initiative



About the SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence

he SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence were established in 1999 as a tribute to editorial excellence in both traditional and new media, and were designed to encourage editorial vitality throughout the region. The awards cover a broad range of categories reflecting Asia's diverse geopolitical environment and vibrant editorial scene.

Central to the SOPA Awards' ongoing success is the high calibre of international judges who preside over the award entries. The SOPA Awards have consistently secured judges from many of the region's leading newspapers as well as consumer and trade magazines and academics from prestigious universities – a reflection of the stature of the awards. Judges ensure that entries are analyzed and selected according to a demanding set of criteria.

The SOPA Awards are coordinated by a committee of publishing professionals from the business and editorial sectors. These dedicated individuals volunteer their time throughout the year to ensure the awards' rules, judges, entries, sponsorships and promotions all come together smoothly.

The SOPA Awards set a valuable benchmark for the industry, and have become news items in their own right, generating media coverage and attention not only across the Asia Pacific region, but also in the global arena.

Corporate Support

ponsorship is key to ensuring the Award's growth, and over the past years, SOPA has been fortunate in receiving strong, continuous support from its partners. As the Awards have grown, so too has the interest from corporations, and this year, we look again to the generosity of sponsors to help us deliver the best Awards we can.

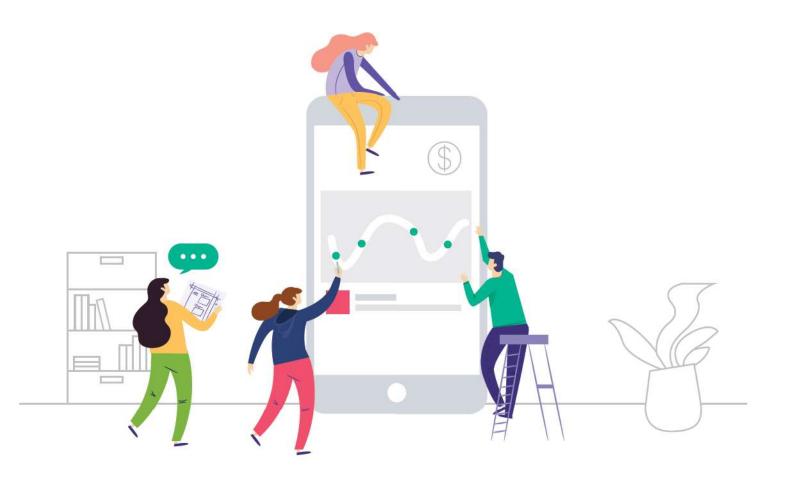
The SOPA 2019 Awards for Editorial Excellence are supported by Google News Initiative, Facebook Journalism Project, ZA International, PRNewswire Asia, FleishmanHillard and High Technology Printing.

About SOPA

he Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA) was founded in 1982 to champion freedom of the press, promote excellence in journalism and endorse best practices for all local and regional publishing platforms in the Asia Pacific region. SOPA is a not-for-profit organization based in Hong Kong and representing international, regional and local media companies across Asia. The Society of Publishers in Asia is also host to the prestigious annual SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence, which serve as the world-class benchmark for quality journalism in the region.



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Awards Categories

- 1. Excellence in Reporting on Women's Issues (卓越女性議題報導獎)
- 2. Excellence in Journalistic Innovation (卓越新聞報導創新獎)
- 3. Excellence in Video Reporting (卓越視頻報導獎)
- 4. Excellence in Human Rights Reporting (卓越人權報導獎)
- 5. Excellence in Feature Writing (卓越專題特寫獎)
- 6. Excellence in Magazine Design (卓越雜誌設計獎)
- 7. Excellence in Arts and Culture Reporting (卓越藝術及文化報導獎)
- 8. Excellence in Explanatory Reporting (卓越解釋性報導獎)
- 9. Excellence in Business Reporting (卓越經濟報導獎)
- 10. Excellence in Information Graphics (卓越數據圖像獎)
- 11. Excellence in Reporting Breaking News (卓越突發新聞獎)
- 12. Excellence in Opinion Writing (卓越評論獎)
- 13. Excellence in Reporting on the Environment (卓越環境報導獎)
- 14. Excellence in Photography (卓越攝影獎)
- 15. The Scoop Award (獨家新聞獎)
- 16. Excellence in Investigative Reporting (卓越調查報導獎)
- 17. SOPA Award for Public Service Journalism (亞洲出版業協會公共服務新聞大獎)

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Message from SOPA Chair

e are delighted to welcome you to the 21st Annual SOPA Awards to celebrate the highest standards of excellence in journalism across Asia. The Awards are not only a time for celebration, they are also an important opportunity to bring together the publishing industry under one roof, to forge new connections and strengthen our community.

Over the last year, we have witnessed significant threats to press freedom, here in Asia and on a global scale, that show no signs of dissipating. From the rise of populism and growing mistrust in news media, to heightened censorship closer to home, there are real and immediate challenges facing the publishing industry.

The silver lining here – in lieu of a silver bullet – is the renewed motivation in our community to protect press freedom and freedom of expression throughout Asia. We are entering a new phase, one in which we will need to collaborate to protect these freedoms and our collective interests.

In light of the current climate, it is incredibly gratifying, perhaps more so than usual, to see such powerful journalism being produced across Asia. Each year, the bar is raised higher and we bear witness to outstanding, impactful journalism that demonstrates the industry's resilience.

On behalf of the SOPA Board, I would like to extend our thanks to all of you, our community, for enabling us to be here to celebrate excellence in journalism. We are also grateful for the continued support of our sponsors, Google News Initiative, Facebook Journalism Project, and ZA International, as well as our partners, Fleishman Hillard, PR Newswire Asia and High Technology Printing.

We give special thanks to our experienced administrators at the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong, as well as our team of distinguished international judges, without whom the Awards would not be possible.

Thank you for joining us this evening to recognise and celebrate excellence in journalism and congratulations to the winners for their well-deserved triumphs. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2020.

Rhonda Taylor SOPA Chair

Board Members



Rhonda Taylor CHAIR

Head of Communications & Partnerships, Asia Pacific Financial Times



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Chief Strategy Officer Ming Pao Newspapers Limited



Lillian Kung
HONORARY SECRETARY

Bloomberg Media



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Director, Media Sales (North Asia) and Asia Initiatives The Economist Group





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Dow Jones



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Message from Editorial Chair and Head of Judges

here's a lot to celebrate this year at the SOPA 2019 Awards. The more than 800 entries received from 136 different publications demonstrate the strength and breadth of journalism in the region, despite the unprecedented threats – both physical and financial – to the organizations and individuals involved. In particular, we have much to celebrate in the Chinese-language categories where the number of entries surpassed 360, or almost half the total.

Across all categories, this year's entries helped readers make sense of a stunning election upset in Malaysia, the hollowing out of Taiwan's semiconductor industry, the lonely and too-often tragic existence of Japan's elderly, and the oppressive surveillance state taking shape in China's Xinjiang region. Somehow, journalism in Asia has kept up with the unrelenting pace of events unfolding in the region.

So it's fitting that we celebrate the individuals who work so hard, often for so little, to do the essential job of keeping people informed. This, of course, includes the outstanding team of industry judges who volunteer their time to make the difficult decisions that allow us tonight to highlight the best of the best.

But we have special cause to celebrate tonight the freedom of Reuters journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, finalists for tonight's top award, who were released in May after spending more than 500 days in a Myanmar prison for doing their jobs. Their freedom means a long-overdue reunion with their families but also that two brave and tenacious journalists will be back at work. And that spirit is most worthy of celebration tonight.

Wa Lone captured it best in his very first words after being released from prison: "I'm really happy and excited to see my family and my colleagues. I can't wait to go to my newsroom."

CLIFF BUDDLE CHAIR

Editor, Special Projects South China Morning Post DR. JEFFREY TIMMERMANS HEAD OF JUDGES

Associate Professor of Practice
Director, Bachelor of Journalism programme
Journalism & Media Studies Centre,
The University of Hong Kong

Master of Ceremonies



Karen Koh

Karen Koh is a broadcast media professional and familiar face and voice to many viewers and listeners in Asia. Her background is in television news and current affairs, and she has anchored and reported for BBC World, CNBC Asia, CNN International, STAR TV, Thomson Reuters and WSJ Digital. She's also a regular co-host on RTHK Radio 3's flagship current affairs show "Backchat" and produces and hosts a series on gender issues called "The Agender Cafe".

In the course of her 20+ years of international experience she has interviewed a range of people from heads of state to corporate and non-profit leaders.

Karen frequently MCs and moderates a variety of events, including the Asian Financial Forum, the Asian Logistics and Maritime Conference, and the DHL/SCMP Business Awards. She has also moderated private events for clients in the financial services, luxury and consulting sectors.

Karen conducts media and presentation skills training for corporate, public and education sector clients. She has designed and taught courses for the Hong Kong Police, the Independent Commission Against Corruption, and companies such as Goldman Sachs, Richemont Group, and Swire Properties. She has also trained text and print journalists from Thomson Reuters and WSJ in live TV and video package skills.

Karen also serves on the Board of Directors of EngenderHealth, a US-based NGO working in the field of global sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Karen has lived in Sydney, Singapore, London and Hong Kong and is married with three sons.



Moderator



Jodi Schneider Bloomberg

Jodi Schneider is Senior International Editor for Bloomberg News, based in Hong Kong since 2016. She is also co-leader for Bloomberg's Women's Voices project in Asia and co-leader of the Bloomberg Women's Community in Hong Kong. Joining Bloomberg in 2010, she spent five years in the Washington, D.C. bureau as an editor leading coverage of the U.S. Congress and tax policy, and one year in the Tokyo bureau as an editor for economic coverage. She is a frequent speaker and panelist on the topics of women in media, newsroom diversity and newsroom

management. She is a member of the Board of Governors of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong. Jodi has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and holds a master's degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

Panelists



Emily Steel Business Journalist, The New York Times

Emily Steel is an award-winning business journalist who has worked at The Times since 2014. Her reporting uncovered a series of settlements totaling \$45 million related to sexual harassment allegations against Bill O'Reilly, the former Fox News host. The reporting laid the foundation for an international reckoning over issues of sexual misconduct.

Along with a team of reporters who exposed sexual harassment and misconduct across industries, she was awarded a Pulitzer

Prize for public service in 2018 as well as several other journalism awards. She also was recognized with a Livingston Award for national reporting, a Freedom to Write Award from the Pen Center USA, and the inaugural Matrix Incite Award from New York Women in Communications.

Ms. Steel graduated from the University of North Carolina, where she was a top editor at The Daily Tar Heel. She recently moved to Hong Kong, where she is continuing to report on issues about gender, sexual misconduct and women in the workplace.

Panelists



Sandhya Menon Journalist

Sandhya Menon is a journalist with over 15 years of experience across national newspapers. Currently, she is an independent journalist, apart from being committed to the cause of living with mental illness, on which she regularly writes and speaks. For the past six months, she has been involved in the Indian MeToo movement which found a resurrection in October 2018 and has been using Twitter to tell stories of other women who have faced sexual harassment at work, and amplifying their voices. A

single mum to two children, she lives in Bangalore.



Fiona Nott CEO, The Women's Foundation

Fiona Nott joined The Women's Foundation as CEO in September 2017, combining her senior leadership experience with a passion for TWF's mission to serve marginalised women and girls in Hong Kong. A former lawyer and Hang Seng Index company secretary, Fiona has lived in Hong Kong for nearly two decades having cultivated a career as a senior legal professional and adviser to a number of leading corporations in Hong Kong and around Asia including PCCW, AIA, AIG, Aviva, Chow Tai Fook Jewellery as well

as SMEs, start ups and non-profit organisations.

She is the Co-Founder of Room to Read's Hong Kong Chapter and helped establish the Regional Programme office in New Delhi, India. She is Deputy Chair of the Australian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong & Macau and was Founder and Chair of its Women in Business Network. She is also a Non-Executive Director of Aesop Hong Kong and Taiwan. In 2015, Fiona won the People's Choice Award for the Advancement of Women in Business at the Austcham-Westpac Australia China Business Awards.

ALEGY OF EDITORIAL

The South China Morning Post develops engaging news content driven by world-class journalists, editors, visual artists, photographers and videographers. Powered by digital technologies to tell Asia's most important and compelling stories, we have amassed over 100 wins at SOPA over the years.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation go to SOPA and our hardworking team for continuing to support excellence in journalism.



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Marianne Bray	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Honorary Lecturer
	The University of Hong Kong	
Silvio Carrillo	KGO	Senior Video Producer
Quinton Chan	Weber Shandwick	Senior Vice President, Public Affairs
Ying Chan	The University of Hong Kong	Honorary Professor
Lulu Yilun Chen	Bloomberg	Senior Reporter
Allen Cheng	Euromoney Institutional Investor	Contributing Editor
Siu-Wai Cheung	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
Laurel Chor	Freelance	Writer, Photographer and Video Producer
Reg Chua	Reuters	Chief Operating Officer
Crystal Chui	Bloomberg	EMEA Breaking News Editor
Regina Chung	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Research Assistant
	The University of Hong Kong	
udith Clarke	Hong Kong Baptist University	Lecturer
Phillip Day	Self-Employed	Consultant, Writer, Editor
Graham Earnshaw	SinoMedia Ltd	CEO
Robin Ewing	Hong Kong Baptist University	Director of International Journalism, Senior Lecture
Гаk Ho Fong	D100	Radio Show Host
King-wa Fu	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Associate Professor
	The University of Hong Kong	
Alastair Gale	The Wall Street Journal / Dow Jones	Japan Editor
an Gill	Freelance	Freelance Journalist
Danny Gittings	HKU SPACE	Associate Professor
Paul Goddard	Freelance	Media Consultant
Erin Hale	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Teaching Assistant
	The University of Hong Kong	
Billy Ho	Chinese University of Hong Kong/	Part-time Lecturer (Photojournalism)
	Hong Kong Baptist University	
Oliver Holmes	The Guardian	Jerusalem Correspondent
Brant Houston	University of Illinois	Professor
Erika Kinetz	The Associated Press	Investigative Reporter
Glenda Korporaal	The Australian	China Correspondent
Anne Kruger	First Draft	Bureau Chief, Australia
Elaine Kurtenbach	The Associated Press	Asia Business Editor
Vivian Kwok	Bloomberg Businessweek (Chinese)	Editor-in-Chief
Tripti Lahiri	Quartz	Asia Editor
C K Lau	Hong Kong Baptist University	Associate Dean, School of Communication
Kelvin Lee	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
Matthew Leung	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Honorary Lecturer
	The University of Hong Kong	
Raymond Li	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
AJ Libunao	The University of Hong Kong	Assistant Lecturer
Chang Liu	Sixth Tone	Data Journalist



Full name	Company	Job Title
Ka Hing Lo	Freelance	Freelance Reporter
Darren Long	South China Morning Post	Head of Graphics & Magazine Design
Alberto Lucas López	National Geographic	Senior Graphics Editor
Bruce Lui	Hong Kong Baptist University	Senior Lecturer
Luwei Rose Luqiu	School of Communication,	Assistant Professor
	Hong Kong Baptist University	
MaryKay Magistad	University of California at	Director of Audio Journalism
	Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism	
Jenni Marsh	CNN	Senior Producer
Philip McClellan	Reuters	Top News Editor, Asia
Jane Meacham	Independent Consultant	Writer / Editor
William Mellor	Mellor Media	Freelance
Kees Metselaar	PhotoKees	Photographer / Lecturer
Colum Murphy	TechNode	Managing Editor
Adam Najberg	Alibaba Group	Head of Digital Communications
Dean Napolitano	Nikkei Asian Review	Deputy Editor
Yumiko Ono	The Wall Street Journal	Asia Digital Editor
Philip Pan	The New York Times	Asia Editor
Tony Patrick	Freelance	Editor
Byron Perry	Coconuts Media Limited	Founder and CEO
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Deb Price	South China Morning Post	Senior Editor, Business Department
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Keith Richburg	Journalism and Media Studies Centre,	Professor
	The University of Hong Kong	
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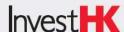




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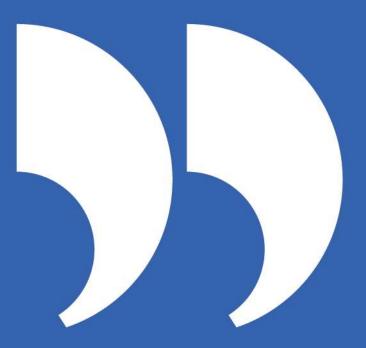
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High quality journalism can have a profound impact on the lives it touches. That's why we're proud to celebrate the 2019 SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence winners. It's also a central reason why we established the Facebook Journalism Project and its support of the news industry.

As part of those efforts, we've launched a new online home – facebookjournalismproject.com. A valuable resource for our news industry partners, the site spotlights their work and that of the news industry as a whole.

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