

For Immediate Release

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CTN RECOGNIZES DEDICATION OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Aug. 18, 2010 — Community Television Network recently held a ceremony celebrating the importance of volunteerism to public access television here in Ann Arbor. CTN volunteers collectively produced 324 local programs this past year using CTN's free television production equipment. "We think it's important to recognize these Ann Arbor residents and representatives of non-profit organizations for their dedication and contributions to the spirit and philosophy of public access television," says CTN Manager Ralph Salmeron. "They truly put the 'community' into Ann Arbor's Community Television Network."

The following residents received special recognition for their contributions and accomplishments.

Producer of the Year — Tammie Williams (image right) This award goes to the person who produced the most new programs this past year. With 72 productions to her credit this past year, Williams uses CTN's hotline studio, camcorders, and editing equipment to produce two series, *Things of Interest* and *Pastor Calvin Jones*. This 10-year veteran of CTN also finds time to serve as a commissioner on the Ann Arbor Cable Commission. Williams is the founder of the non-profit EyeSight Productions.



Volunteer of the Year — Jim Priore If there is a production going on at CTN, you will probably find Priore volunteering on the crew. Since he took television production classes at CTN last year, he has volunteered on almost every *Access Ann Arbor* program (four per month), as well as assisted on many other programs produced by his fellow Ann Arbor residents. He also volunteers multiple shifts at the CTN Art Fair booth. Priore is an automotive technical writer. The Volunteer of the Year Award is given to the person who volunteered the most on projects other than their own.

New Producer of the Year — Nancy and Harvey Kaplan In their first year at CTN, this husband and wife duo produced 11 programs. Their series, *Other Perspectives*, strives to educate, inform, and provoke thought about city issues. Episodes include: "WISD Millage Pros & Cons," "Exploring the AATA," and "Ann Arbor Budget Counterpoint." Nancy Kaplan is a retired physical therapist, while Harvey Kaplan is a retired pharmacologist. The New Producer of the Year Award goes to the person or team who produced the most programs in their first year at CTN.

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Community Spirit Award — Patricia McLaughlin McLaughlin exemplifies the spirit of community access television through the programs she produces on behalf of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, as well as many other topics she tackles. Her shows have included *NAMI Family Day Presents Wally Prechter*, *Interplay*, *Faith & Food*, and *Fresh Start Club House*. McLaughlin also volunteers as a technical director on Tom Bayer's *Disability Concerns* every month, and has assisted at the CTN Art Fair booth. She is a semi-retired music educator.

Lifetime Achievement Award — Dave Chappell Recently retired from the U.S. Postal Service, Chappell has been producing programs at CTN since 1990. He is best known for his documentary on Ann Arbor's German community, *Cabbage Town: The History of the Old West Side*, as well as his series capturing the Ann Arbor Summer Festival's Top of the Park. Chappell also frequently volunteers as a director on other community productions, and produces programs for non-profit organizations, such as the Community Dental Center. He can be found behind the camera at CTN's Art Fair booth every summer.

Lifetime Achievement Award — Barbara Clarke A retired nurse, Clarke has been a longtime member of the City of Ann Arbor Cable Commission who has been producing community programs at CTN since 1989. She was the producer of the popular series *Sexy Minutes with Dr. Sylvia Hacker*, and she also produced a series of programs on mental illness. Clarke also volunteered as a technical director on Tom Bayer's program, *Disability Concerns*, as well as at the CTN Art Fair Booth. An active member of the League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area, Clarke assists on the League's Election Forums at CTN.

In addition to the volunteer recognition award honorees listed above, CTN recently garnered international attention winning two awards in the Alliance for Community Media's Hometown Video Festival.

Hometown International Festival News Winner — Dana Denha

Denha works for CTN as a producer, and produces and anchors *FYI: Ann Arbor's News Magazine*. "This program is a valuable resource to Ann Arbor residents for news and information," says Denha. "That's why this is a huge honor to receive international recognition for it."

Hometown International Festival Visual Arts Winner — Tim Nagae

Nagae, who works as a producer at CTN, actually won his Hometown Award for a community production he produced as a volunteer. *Charles McGee – Nature* features the legendary Detroit artist and his artwork. Nagae says, "As a local independent filmmaker myself, I believe public access TV is very important for encouraging local filmmakers to produce quality programs separate from mainstream media and the entertainment business."

CTN encourages all Ann Arbor residents and non-profits to join their neighbors on CTN. For more information and details on free television production classes, visit www.a2gov.org/ctn or call CTN at 734.794.6150. CTN can also be found on Twitter (www.Twitter.com/CTNAnnArbor) and Facebook (www.Facebook.com/CTNAnnArbor).

Operated by the City of Ann Arbor, CTN manages four cable access channels on the Comcast Cable system and serves as a free community media resource for City of Ann Arbor residents and not-for-profit organizations. Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, go to school, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/a2gov>) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor). The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

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