

**NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release**

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**WKAR Wins Public TV Station of the Year, Numerous Awards from Mich. Assoc. of Broadcasters**

(East Lansing, MI) – WKAR was honored this week with numerous awards from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB), including the coveted Public TV Station of the Year award, at the annual MAB Broadcast Excellence Awards ceremony on Wednesday, March 13, in Lansing, Mich.

"WKAR's win is a win for us all. Because, frankly, we're in a partnership with our members, our donors, our community, to make radio and TV listening and viewing in mid-Michigan the best it can be," said WKAR General Manager Gary Reid.

WKAR took home the Public TV Station of the Year award, two Best in Category awards, earned seven additional Broadcast Excellence awards, and WKAR Technical Services Manager Gary Blievernicht was honored with the Carl E. Lee Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award.

This marks the third year in a row that WKAR has received the Public TV Station of the Year award.

"To be the public television station of the year is both an honor and a responsibility because public broadcasting is focused on making the lives of the citizens of mid-Michigan better," said Reid. "The breadth of the awards for WKAR Radio indicates our commitment to not only classical music and the fine arts, but also news and information that's important to our community."

On the radio side, WKAR-FM won three Broadcast Excellence Awards: Current State - Neighbors in Action, Best In Category for Community Involvement; Current State -Violin CT Scan, Merit Award for Feature/Use of Medium; and Current State - Lansing Symphony Montage, Merit Award for Musical Programming.

WKAR-TV won Public Television Station of the Year, plus six Broadcast Excellence Awards: Off the Record, Best In Category for News or Public Affairs Special; WKAR In the Community Promo, Merit Award for Marketing Materials and Promo; the Two-Minute Membership Promo, Merit Award for Membership Appeal; Backstage Pass - Howling Diablos, Merit Award for Culture and Performing Arts; Current Sports with Al Martin and guest TJ Duckett, Merit Award for Sports-Outdoor or Recreation; and Evening with the Governor, Merit Award for News Special or Documentary.

Additionally, WKAR Technical Services Manager and Chief Engineer Gary Blievernicht was honored by MAB with the Carl E. Lee Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award.

With these awards, the station that mid-Michigan counts on to Expand Your World is recognized for original production, community outreach and engagement, education services and the many facets that make the WKAR Network a vibrant and essential part of the community it serves.

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WKAR is part of Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts and Sciences and includes WKAR TV, WKAR Radio, WKAR.org, WKAR Radio Reading Service and WKAR Ready To Learn Service. WKAR is funded in large part by community viewer and listener contributions with additional support from Michigan State University and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

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