



[CNN MULTICHOICE AFRICAN JOURNALIST 2014 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED](#)

Finalists in the prestigious CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2014 Competition were announced today by Ferial Haffajee, Chair of the independent judging panel. The competition is now in its 19th year.

This year the competition received entries from 38 countries across the continent, including French and Portuguese speaking Africa.

There are 28 finalists from 10 countries:

Daniel Biaou Adje, ORTB, Benin

Safia Berkouk, El Watan, Algeria

Vinayak Bhardwaj & Tabela Timse, M&G Centre for Investigative Journalism, Mail & Guardian, South Africa

Romão Brandão, Jornal OPAÍS, Angola

Sean Christie, Freelance for Landbouweekblad and The Mail & Guardian, South Africa

Obinna Emelike, Business Day, Nigeria

Ben Ezeamalu & Emmanuel Ogala, Premium Times, Nigeria

Bob Koigi, Farmbizafrica.com, Kenya

Joseph Mathenge, Freelance for The Saturday Nation, Kenya

Anne Mawathe & Rashid Ibrahim, Citizen TV, Kenya

Patrick Mayoyo, Daily Nation, Kenya

Christine Muthee & Oliver Oscar Ochanda, Media Development in Africa (MEDEVA), Kenya

Dickson Ng'hily, The Guardian, Tanzania

John Muchangi Njiru, The Star Newspaper, Kenya

Olatunji Ololade, The Nation Newspaper, Nigeria

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Bayo Olupohunda, Columnist, Punch Newspaper, Nigeria
Ossène Ouattara, Infoduzanzan.com, Côte d'Ivoire
Brito Simango, Televisão de Moçambique, Moçambique
Joy Summers & Susan Comrie, Mnet Carte Blanche, South Africa
Suy Kahofi, Freelance for West Africa Democracy Radio, Senegal
Paballo Thekiso, Saturday Star, South Africa
Bento Venancio, Jornal Domingo, Moçambique
Evelyn Watta, Sportsnewsarena.com, Kenya

Announcing the finalists, chairperson of the independent judging panel Ferial Haffajee said: "2013 was a huge news year, and the stories from our continent set a global agenda. The judges were pleased with the quality of entries, and were impressed by the depth of specialist beat reporting. In addition, they noted the growing sophistication of the use of images and pictures across all platforms."

The independent judging panel, chaired by **Ferial Haffajee, Editor-in-Chief, City Press, South Africa** includes: **Debo Adesina**, Editor-in-Chief, Guardian Newspapers, Nigeria; **Betty Dindi**, Managing Editor of QTV, Nation Media Group, Kenya; **Jean-Paul Gérourard**, Editor-in-Chief, France Télévisions ; **Anton Harber**, Caxton Professor of Journalism at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa; **Joel Kibazo**, Director of Communications, Africa Development Bank; **Arlindo Lopes**, Regional Regulatory GM, MultiChoice Angola; **Amadou Mahtar Ba**, Co-Founder and Executive Chairman, AllAfrica Global Media; **Kim Norgaard**, CNN Africa Bureau Chief; **Aires Walter dos Santos**, Account Executive, iSenta Comunicação & Imagem SA, Angola.

The competition is once again supported by the following sponsors, who continue to lend their valuable support to the awards: The Coca-Cola Company; Ecobank; GE Africa; IPP Media, Tanzania; Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) and A24 Media.

The finalists will enjoy an all-expenses paid four day programme of workshops, media forums and networking in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania culminating in a Gala Award Ceremony on Saturday 18 October 2014.

The host for the evening is CNN International anchor and correspondent Isha Sesay, host of 'CNN NewsCenter'.

Tony Maddox, Executive Vice-President and Managing Director of CNN International said: “I have witnessed the quality and excellence of work in this competition strengthen year on year, and am proud that it continues to maintain its place as the most prestigious Pan African journalist awards. Just as CNN encourages, promotes and recognises excellence in journalism at all levels, we are particularly pleased to be able to support journalists who represent our future.”

Nico Meyer, CEO MultiChoice Africa said: “MultiChoice Africa congratulates all finalists and thanks our esteemed panel of judges for taking time to select the very best of African journalism. As a company born and bred in Africa we have an unmatched passion for the continent and believe in making long term and sustainable invests in order to enable development and to create a meaningful legacy in the countries in which we operate. These awards demonstrate CNN’s and MultiChoice’s commitment to the development of media in Africa, Meyer said – and this is a very special year as we celebrate our 10th year of our partnership.”

Intiaz Patel, Group CEO of MultiChoice South Africa said: "As a long-time partner to CNN in these awards, we know the prestige that comes with being a finalist. I would therefore like to extend our best wishes to the finalists – thank you for telling the stories of Africa. We look forward to celebrating your journalistic excellence at the awards in October.”

Note to Editors: Competition Criteria

The CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2014 competition is open to African professional journalists, whether directly employed or freelancers, working in the continent of Africa who have produced a story which has been made available as a printed publication or broadcast through an electronic medium (television; radio or digital platform) whose primary audience are based in Africa.

Entries were published or broadcast in 2013 for the following awards:

The Coca-Cola Company Economics & Business Award; Culture Award; Mohamed Amin Photographic Award; Environment Award; Press Freedom Award; MSD Health & Medical Award; Sport Reporting Award; News Impact Award; GE Energy & Infrastructure Award; Francophone General News Awards; Portuguese Language General News Awards.

Website: www.cnn.com/africanawards

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/CNNMultichoiceAfricanJournalistOfTheYearAwards>

Twitter: @africanjourno

Issued: 8 August 2014

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