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**PHILLYCAM ANNOUNCES CAMMY AWARD RECIPIENTS
AWARDEES WERE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR TELEVISION AND RADIO CONTENT
THAT IS REFLECTIVE OF THE DIVERSITY OF PHILADELPHIA**



Ricky Paul (center) recipient of the Excellence in Curation for Radio being interviewed by Jeffrey Jones surrounded by fellow Dumpsta Players.
Photo by Vanessa Maria Graber.

Philadelphia (October 21, 2019) — Last night, PhillyCAM – the community media center that trains Philadelphians in broadcast production and airs original content on Philadelphia’s public access television and WPPM 106.5 FM – announced the recipients of its third annual CAMMY Awards, held on national Community Media Day, Sunday, October 20, 2019 at the Lightbox Film Center.

The [Cammy Awards](#) celebrate producers whose television and radio content brings together the people of Philadelphia to make and share media that promotes creative expression, democratic values, and civic participation. The Cammys recognize the creativity and commitment of its volunteer producers whose programming exemplifies values of inclusion, collaboration, discovery, learning, local focus, and quality. The evening hosted by Community Affairs Reporter for KYW NewsRadio 1060 AM Cherri Gregg, featured many moving acceptance speeches and performances by local R&B artist Jacqueline Constance and the over-the-top Dumpsta Players.

This year’s Cammy Awards were the lead off event for a year long celebration of PhillyCAM’s 10th anniversary. Watch a [video](#) about the fight for PhillyCAM a decade ago.

[Read more](#) about the judging process, event, and PhillyCAM’s 10th anniversary.

2019 Cammy Award Recipients

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Excellence in Curation Award for Radio: Sylver Alert

Produced by Ricky Paul (resident of Old City)

The Excellence in Curation Award for Radio is given to a radio show or audio project that demonstrates high-quality music curation. It was present to Ricky Paul aka DJ K-Tell for his program **Sylver Alert** that airs Tuesday from 4:00 - 6:00 pm on WPPM. He spins classic 60s through the 90s vinyl cuts with a shout out to

Philly's LGTBQ communities and straight allies. The program features uplifting and personal tales often with an edge of humor with valuable lessons in love, life, and gratitude from a variety of special guests.

Excellence in Production Award for TV: Marky

Produced by Ricky Clover (resident of Wynnefield)

Ricky Clover received the Excellence in Production for TV For his computer animated short, **Marky**, set in the fictional city of Hometown, USA in 1992. Tells the story of Marques Lawrence Sharper (Marky for short), a 12-year-old zoned to a middle school where his friends will not be there. The worst thing he was struck in the head in a construction accident, leaving him with a bad haircut that always grows back.

Expression Award for Radio: Jazz From an Eclectic Mind

Produced by H. Alonzo Jennings (resident of Willingboro, NJ)

Jennings is an artist/photographer/poet who through radio program **Jazz From an Eclectic Mind** that airs Mondays from 6:00 - 7:00 PM on WPPM. He shares his love and knowledge of Jazz to provide a visual / poetic record of the sublime moments of transcendence. He uses radio to capture moments and take his listeners to another place and time.

Innovation Award for TV: Optical Toys Season 3 Episode 30 - Art of the Strange

Produced by Lowell Boston (resident of Collingswood, NJ)

Optical Toys is a TV program that compiles regionally produced live actions and short films that reflect the peculiar, the bizarre, and the funny, and how we deal with the extraordinary side of life. Boston describes himself as a scooter rider, animator and filmmaker looking to pool his interest into one medium. He is preoccupied with motion, whether on screen, on a bike, or in my head. Television production and filmmaking is an outlet.

Innovation Award for Radio: Madre Tierra Radio

Produced by Arianne Bracho (resident of Northeast Philadelphia)

The Innovation Award recognizes a radio program for experimentation with sounds and new technology, programming content not commonly heard in mainstream media, or a creative use of audio to tell a story. The Award went to Arianne Bracho, originally from Venezuela, for her program **Madre Terra Radio (Mother Earth Radio)** that airs Fridays from 5:00 - 6:00 PM. It's a Spanish language program made by women, for women and men who believe that equality and equity are the basis of a more just society.



Arianne Bracho (right) being interviewed on the red carpet by Letitia Nixon.
Photo by Vanessa Maria Graber.

Presence Award for TV: Tribbles After Dark, "Vince"

Produced by Len Webb & The Black Tribbles (resident of Mt. Airy)

Hosts of the popular **Black Tribbles** podcast and WPPM radio program, The Black Tribbles were recognized for their transition to television for their new program **Tribbles After Dark**. Too cool to be geeks, too cute to be nerds, the Tribbles discuss their love of Sci-fi, comic books, movies, video games, and cartoons from a Black perspective.

DEMOCRATIC VALUES

Collaboration Award: 5 Shorts Project Season 5 (television)

Produced by Shameka Sawyer (resident of West Oak Lane - Northwest)

A compilation of 10 short films created by participants of the **5 Shorts Project**, a project that helps aspiring filmmakers create short films that depict diverse stories from our communities.

Inclusion Award: STAGES Pilot (television)

Produced by Charlese Hawkins (resident of South Philly)

New York University graduate Charlese Hawkins received the Inclusion Award for her film project **STAGES** about three women connected by an HIV diagnosis, forge a friendship during a pivotal moment in their life in order to combat the stigmas surrounding HIV and embark on new journeys together.

Message Award: LIKeIT IS 2019 (television)

Produced by Rhonda E. Gibson-Phifer (resident of Lawnside, NJ)

LIKeIT IS is a community talk show offering those feeling unheard a voice responding to current events.

Rhonda was born and raised in New Jersey. She was a live news producer with a stellar reputation until she was stricken with Multiple Sclerosis which ended her career, but not her dream to produce quality television.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Community Responder Award: Kensington in Crisis (television)

Produced by Jill Frechie (resident of Gladwyn)

The U.S. is in the midst of an opioid overdose epidemic. Once upon a time, the nation's homeless and drug user was connected to poverty or 'poor character.' Today, all of society shares in its deadly path. Kensington, a Philadelphia neighborhood lingers in its wake. The police, city officials, and residents struggle to find answers among the perils of the epidemic. Philadelphia witnessed over 1,000 fatal overdoses in 2018. We currently have over 700 homeless living in the Kensington area. Recovery can take years, stigma can add shame and despair. Children living in the area are exposed to the reality of drug use daily. Our documentary hopes to shed light on the issues, problems and solutions in Kensington as all of America looks to our city to quickly find answers.

Connector Award: Looking Forward to Reentry Radio (radio)

Produced by Jeffrey Abramowitz

Looking Forward Reentry Radio Show is an informative and interactive forum for educating the public on current issues involving men and women returning from incarceration. This show features agencies working with returning citizens, administrators in the prison system, legislators and returning citizens who have successfully navigated their return to the Philadelphia area. Show producer Jeffrey Abramowitz, J.D is the Executive Director of Reentry Services for JEVS Human Services and Program Director of Looking Forward Philadelphia.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Vijay Mohan Spirit Award: Toni J. Jones (resident of West Oak Lane)

The Vijay Mohan Spirit Award was presented by his Temple film professor and friend Rea Tajiri. Mohan was tragically killed when he was struck by a car while riding his bicycle in May 2015. The Spirit Award recognizes a PhillyCAM member who touches the lives of individuals and communities in Philadelphia and who models Vijay's spirit of kindness and generosity. This year's recipient was **Toni J Jones**, PhillyCAM member since 2013. She is the producer of the weekly radio show *The 7 Figure Hustle* which she also produces as a TV program. She also helps produce *The Trudy Haynes Show*. Toni has made a mission out of recruiting people to become members of PhillyCAM.



Toni J Jones (left) with mentor and collaborator Trudy Haynes, a past Cammy winner. Photo by Vanessa Maria Graber.

About PhillyCAM

PhillyCAM is the non-profit designated by the City of Philadelphia to operate its public access television network (Comcast 66/966HD/967 and Verizon 29/30). PhillyCAM content also airs on WPPM-FM's 90-watt signal that reaches about 800,000 people throughout the Philadelphia region. It's a community media center that brings together the people of Philadelphia to make and share media that promotes creative expression, democratic values and civic participation. PhillyCAM teaches people to create high-quality, non-commercial media. PhillyCAM distributes nearly 100 hours of local radio and television programming each week on radio and television. The non-profit currently has more than 800 members made up of an engaged constituency of people of color, working people, women, sexual minorities, people with disabilities, activists, educators, artists, seniors, returning citizens, and young people. The majority of members are people of color representing neighborhoods from across the city. Visit <https://phillycam.org>.

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