



# AWARD SPONSORS



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## ABU PRIZES CATEGORIES

RADIO	TV
DRAMA	DRAMA
PODCAST	DOCUMENTARY
DOCUMENTARY	NEWS REPORTING
NEWS REPORTING	CHILDREN
COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT	ENTERTAINMENT
ON-AIR PERSONALITY	SPORTS
ABU PERSPECTIVE AWARD	ABU PERSPECTIVE AWARD
DIGITAL MEDIA	
DIGITAL CONTENT AWARD	

## **TV / SCREEN DRAMA CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (ZDF) – Germany**

*The Case of Marianne Voss*



Hairdresser Marianne Voss is discovered dead in the woods by her daughter. Shortly after, her husband, Karsten, becomes the prime suspect in her murder, though he adamantly denies any involvement.

Marianne and Karsten Voss were believed to have a harmonious marriage, and the murder accusation sends shockwaves through the small town. As the investigation unfolds, the evidence reveals unsettling details about the supposedly perfect couple.

### **Radiotelevisione Italiana S.P.A (RAI) - Italy**

*Marconi: The Man Who Connected the World*



The story begins in 1937 with an interview given by Guglielmo Marconi to Isabella, a young Italian American journalist who wants to capture on film some of the most significant moments in the life of the wireless communication inventor. The interview is the pretext for narrating the topical moments in Marconi's biography beginning with his youthful discoveries.

However, the series shifts into a spy thriller as Mussolini, forming an alliance with Hitler, seeks destructive technology to intimidate Europe. The Regime and its allies aim to assess Marconi's latest research and his stance on their political agenda.

**Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS) - (Republic of Korea)**

*Revenant*



Night falls on an old hanok, quietly nestled at the base of a secluded hill on the city's outskirts. In the dimly lit study at its heart, Professor Gu Gang-mo (late 50s) sits inside a protective circle, disheveled and with bloodshot eyes from days without sleep. The door shakes with a persistent "thump-thump," while his mother's worried voice calls out from the other side.

"It's me. Are you okay? Why don't you open the door?" she repeats, growing more insistent. At last, worn down by her pleas, Gang-mo slowly opens the door. But standing outside isn't his mother—it's the very demon he had been desperately trying to avoid.

**Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT-TABII) (Turkiye)**

*Rumi*



This is the story of Ömer and Sultan, two people switched at birth, whose love will emerge years later. Celal Agha, a ruthless landowner, seized his rivals' lands, killing Osman Agha, his last opponent.

That same night, Osman's wife, Raziye, gave birth to a son. Fearing for his life, she secretly gave him to Celal Agha's wife, Asiye, through Naile Kadın.

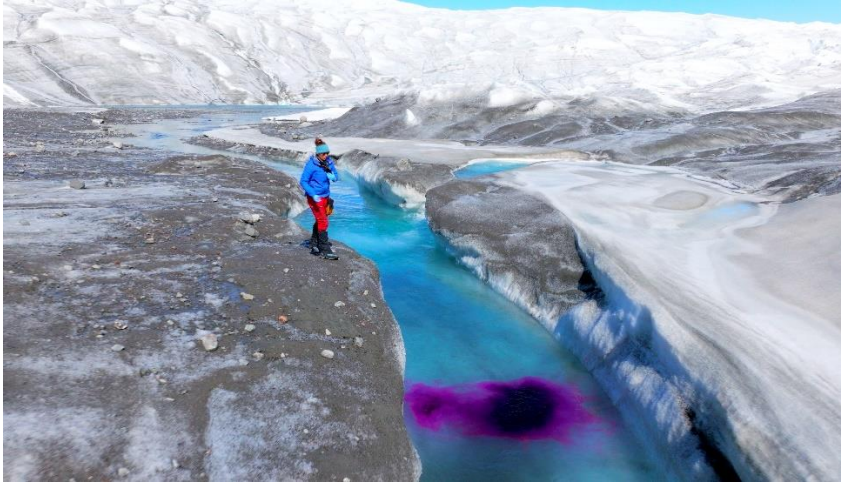
Ömer grew up as Celal Agha's son, unaware of his true origins, while Sultan, the hidden daughter, returns years later seeking revenge as Osman Agha's child. Fate brings Ömer and Sultan together, intertwining their destinies in an unexpected way.



## **TV / SCREEN DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (ZDF) – Germany**

*66.5 DEGREES NORTH - THE ARCTIC - Frozen Beauty*



Polar bear Misha walks hundreds of kilometers through snow and ice on Spitsbergen with her daughter Flocke. In total, only two million people live in the vast Arctic, about half as many as in Berlin.

However, more and more scientists are being drawn to the Arctic regions, especially to the glaciers of Greenland. Ittoqqortoormiit is located in the east of Greenland, at the mouth of Scoresbysund, the largest fjord system on earth.

### **JBA-TV Asahi Corporation (JBA-Asahi TV) – Japan**

*Fellow Countrymen, Adrift*



Before the war, many Japanese immigrated to the Philippines, working in hemp cultivation and marrying local Filipino women, creating a community that peaked at 30,000 people. When Japan went to war with the U.S., these families were forced to cooperate with the Japanese military.

After the war, children who lost their Japanese fathers faced hardships, labeled "stateless" due to the Philippines' nationality laws, which followed the father's citizenship, and lived in hiding amid growing anti-Japanese sentiment.

**Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) – Republic of Korea**  
*Our brave new world - Facing you*



Jung Eun-hye, a developmentally disabled woman, once fixated on her appearance, found freedom by painting over 4,000 portraits, breaking out of the isolation she had known for most of her life. In a Nigerian slum, Kareem, a talented hyperrealism artist, paints his own face and those of his neighbors, using art to endure the harsh realities around him.

Both Jung Eun-hye and Kareem paint from deeply personal places, echoing humanity's history of struggle through portraiture. Their stories, like those from the Renaissance to today, invite us to reflect on the challenges of our time and the hope for the future.

**Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT) - Turkiye**  
*The Lone Survivor*



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## **TV / SCREEN NEWS REPORTING CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **China Global Television Network (CGTN) - China**

#### *Israel-Palestine Conflict*



According to United Nations statistics, since the outbreak of the Israel-Palestine conflict, approximately 17,000 children in the Gaza Strip have been separated from their parents and ultimately orphaned due to Israeli airstrikes.

CGTN reporters, through close-ups, have documented the experiences of these Gaza orphans, revealing their suffering amid the war and their longing for stable homes. The report profoundly reflects the severe psychological trauma endured by Gaza's children during the conflict and their uncertainty about the future, highlighting the profound impact of the conflict on Palestinian children.

### **Shanghai Media Group (SMG) - China**

#### *How Hard is it to Get A Public Park Open 24/7 In Shanghai vs New York*



"What would it take for New Yorkers to agree for Central Park to be open 24 hours?" Reporter Sun Siqi challenged from the first second of the video.

Under what is traditionally understood to be common practice in a Western democracy, like the United States, people would fight over a thousand reasons so Central Park would NOT become a 24/7 property (and it is still not). The motion would be easily rejected at the city hall for reasons including taxpayers' money, potential danger caused by a rising number of homeless people, and potential increase in crimes. On the other side of the planet, the same motion was brought up over a public park in Shanghai. How would take work out?

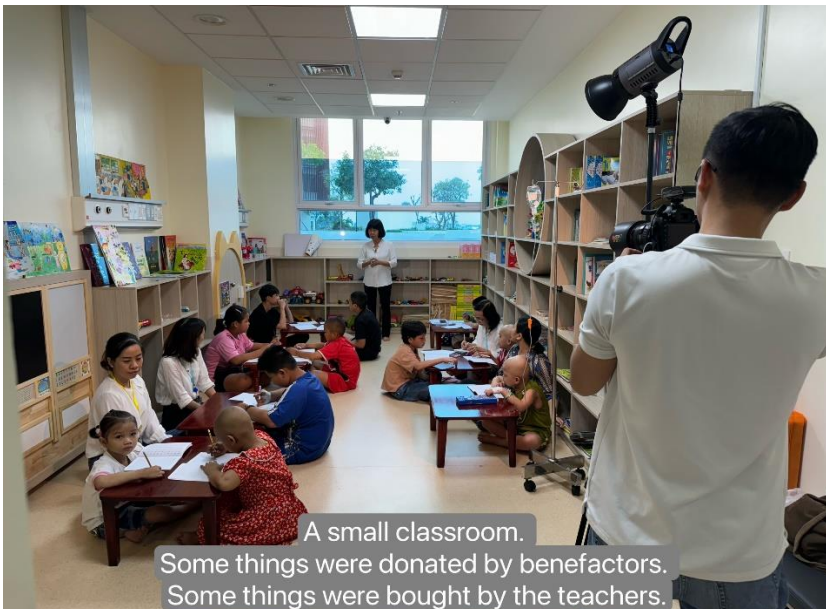
**Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT World) - Turkiye**  
*Rafah Report*



In Gaza, as hope faded, Rafah became the last refuge for Palestinians amid heavy attacks. Palestinian journalist Nizar Sadawi reported for TRT World for 185 days under constant bombardment.

He witnessed horrific scenes—children killed, people starving in tent camps, and his own home bombed. Narrowly escaping death multiple times, Nizar reported non-stop, sleeping beside his camera. Many friends and colleagues were killed, including his mother during evacuation. Despite the dangers, Nizar believes the work of Palestinian journalists was vital in showing the world the harsh reality in Gaza.

**Vietnam Television (VTV) – Vietnam**  
*Incomplete Notes*



A small classroom.  
Some things were donated by benefactors.  
Some things were bought by the teachers.

This is the tale of a group of cancer-stricken children in Ho Chi Minh City Oncology Hospital. A retired teacher started the program in the hopes that youngsters with cancer would be able to continue their education throughout treatment.

After 15 years of running the classroom, the teacher's most prized possessions are her incomplete notes. Children with cancer died before they could finish writing their journals.

## TV / SCREEN CHILDREN CATEGORY – FINALISTS

### **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) - Australia**

*Gardening Australia Junior (series 1, episode 8 - Super Worms)*



Gardening guru Costa Georgiadis guides the next generation of junior green thumbs through the wondrous world of gardening.

This series is designed to get children outside and curious about nature and the environment around them. Costa and the junior gardeners make a see-through worm farm to see what goes on beneath the soil with their wriggly friends.

### **Iran Broadcasting University (IRIBU) - Islamic Republic of Iran**

*Flight of Memories*



Each family member has a number of balloons representing the memories they've gained over time, with the grandfather having the most. Artin loves when his grandpa shares their special memories together.

After arriving at his grandfather's house, Artin eagerly listens to the stories, but soon notices Grandpa losing his memory balloons. Despite Artin's efforts, the loss speeds up, and eventually, Grandpa forgets everything, including their shared moments. Heartbroken, Artin's parents remind him that although Grandpa's balloons are gone, Artin now holds them and must become the storyteller, sharing those memories with Grandpa.



**TV Setouchi Broadcasting Co., Ltd. (JBA-TV Setouchi) - Japan**  
*Shimajiro no Wao!*



The episode highlights technological innovations through Shimajiro, the five-year-old main character. It introduces hydroponics, showing robot-managed, soil-free farms that grow vegetables in any climate. An animated segment has children designing robots to help an elderly woman, underscoring tech's role in improving lives.

A wind power section teaches about clean energy, featuring Shimajiro exploring wind turbines. Interstitial breaks offer educational content, such as math comparisons using excavators, aiming to engage both children and parents in shared learning.

**Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) - Japan**  
*I Love 'Mee': That Felt Kinda Weird...?*



"I Love 'Mee'" is an innovative television series that focuses on comprehensive sexuality education (CSE). The program aims to empower children to develop self-esteem, and also introduces cutting-edge educational insights to their parents, through the use of adorable characters and a fantastical story.

This episode specifically addresses the topics of grooming and child sexual abuse. With expert guidance, expressions are carefully crafted in order to avoid creating misconceptions or trauma. The focal aim is to provide children with essential wisdom to help them avoid victimization. The episode teaches children that subtle feelings of psychological or physiological discomfort can serve as a crucial "alarm" for protecting themselves.

## TV / SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT CATEGORY – FINALISTS

### Shandong Radio and Television Station (SDRT) - China *Metaverse of Chinese Opera*



The second season of "Metaverse of Chinese Opera" on Shandong TV, titled "Singing Chinese Stream from All Over the World," brings Chinese traditional opera to the global stage. Opera enthusiasts from various countries perform classic Chinese operas, showcasing the fusion of different cultures.

The "Five Continents Orchestra" presents international versions of Chinese operas, including "Emperor's Female Son-in-Law" in English, a Spanish rendition of "Can You Guess What Flower It Is," and a Russian take on "Journey to the West: Borrowing the Fan." Another group, "Four Beauties Noodle House," tackles classic opera pieces. The program highlights cultural exchange and the universal appeal of Chinese traditional culture.

### Sichuan Radio and TV (SRT) - China *Golden Panda Awards Ceremony*



The Golden Panda Gala, held on September 20, 2023, at Chengdu Tianfu International Convention Center, marked the debut of the Golden Panda Award. The event impressed guests and audiences with its grand award ceremony, cultural performances, and celebrity appearances.

Zhang Yimou, a renowned Chinese film director, praised the event, predicting it would become one of the most influential awards globally. The gala gained widespread attention through CCTV and SCTV broadcasts, with a media reach exceeding 5.1 billion. The event showcased a high-end cultural celebration, enhancing Sichuan Province's role in promoting Chinese civilization worldwide.



**Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT)-Turkiye**  
*Photos Looking for Their Owners*



İlhan Arga, a renowned TRT cameraman, is now the subject of the documentary “Photos Looking For Their Owners”, which follows his unique journey. For years, İlhan has collected family albums from flea markets, bibliopoles, and ragpickers, sharing them on social media in hopes of reconnecting them with their owners.

The documentary explores how these albums were lost and whether they can be returned. Before filming, İlhan tracked down dozens of albums, connecting with families like those of pilot Bilal Martı and parachutist Cahit Berk. The film follows these efforts, leaving viewers eager to see if the albums will finally return to their rightful homes.

**Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK)**  
*MIRADOR - Soundscape Through Japan*



As climate change and globalization accelerate, many landscapes, traditions, and their unique sounds are vanishing. In \*MIRADOR\*, world-class beatboxer SHOW-GO embarks on a journey to capture these endangered sounds before they disappear forever.

Armed with special microphones, he records the whispering wind, trees sinking into rising seas, an Ainu instrument maker crafting bamboo mouth harps, and fishermen using traditional tools to preserve future shellfish. In the finale, SHOW-GO creates a music piece from these sounds, ensuring they are remembered. \*MIRADOR\* encourages the younger generation to slow down and appreciate the world around them, beyond quick snapshots.



## TV / SCREEN SPORTS CATEGORY – FINALISTS

### Prasar Bharati (PB) - India

*My Time: Anima Brahma, Former National Champion and International Track and Field Athlete*



Anima Brahma began her sprinting career in school, making her mark at the 1974 Cross-Country Championship in Udaipur, India, at just 15 years old. She set numerous records in the 200m and 400m events at State Athletic Meets and National School Games.

Anima also represented India at the Asian Track and Field Meeting in Tokyo in 1979. Despite her talent and selection for the Moscow Spartakiad Games, she never participated in the Asian Games or the Olympics due to injuries and a lack of sports medicine. She retired early at 25 but remained active in athletics, representing Eastern Railways at the national level throughout her career.

### JBA-Fuji Television Network (JBA-FUJI TV) – Japan

*Baseball Boys of Ishikawa: Overcoming the New Year's Day Earthquake*



On New Year's Day, January 1, 2024, a powerful 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck the Noto Peninsula, severely damaging the Japan Aviation High School Ishikawa in Wajima City, home to a strong high school baseball team. About two weeks later, the team relocated to an affiliated school in Yamanashi to resume their activities. Amidst the devastation, the team members grappled with the question: "What does it mean to play baseball now?"

Seiya Fukumori, a player from Wajima City, faced the challenges of the disaster while setting his sights on the Koshien National High School Baseball Tournament. This program follows the lives of high school baseball players over three months as they strive to compete on the prestigious Koshien stage, carrying the hopes and feelings of their disaster-stricken community with them.

### Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK)-Japan

*At Home in Kobe: Soccer Star Andrés Iniesta*



Soccer player Andrés Iniesta has had a stellar career as part of FC Barcelona and later as captain of Japanese squad Vissel Kobe, where he guided the team to great success.

During his five years in Kobe, he developed a deep affection for the city and its tenacious inhabitants, a feeling that was returned by droves of supporters who see the team as a symbol of the city's rebirth after the major earthquake there in 1995.

### Korean Broadcasting System (KBS)- Republic of Korea

*Boundless Champions Season 3 (Togetherympic)*



Four successful celebrities in various fields such as acting, singing and modelling take on the challenge of participating in the first event of its kind created by KBS, Togetherympic!

The events held are “Track and Field – Mixed Team Universal Relay,” “Basketball – 3X3 Wheelchair Basketball,” and “Archery – Mixed Duo.” In addition to combining the sexes, which is the recent direction the sports world is taking, we have also combined the disabled and able-bodied.

## TV / SCREEN ABU PERSPECTIVE AWARDS CATEGORY – FINALISTS

### **Iran Broadcasting University (IRIBU) - Islamic Republic of Iran** *Wallpaper*



An old wallpaper clings to a wall, torn and bent with age, trying to hide its imperfections from the homeowner.

Every time someone enters the room, it struggles to straighten itself, fearing discovery. One day, while the homeowner is present, a sudden sneeze causes the wallpaper to lose its balance and tear. The homeowner notices the damage, removes the wallpaper, and gives it to his grandchildren for a craft project.

### **JBA-Kansai Television (JBA-KANSAI TV) - Japan** *The Indigo: Color Created by BUAISOU*

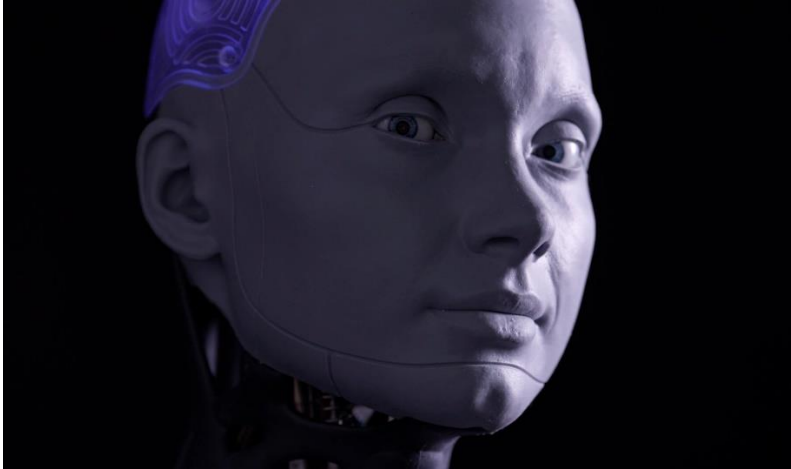


BUAISOU, an indigo-dyeing group in Tokushima, Japan, has garnered global acclaim since its establishment in 2015, collaborating with renowned brands like NIKE, JIMMY CHOO, and Studio Ghibli.

What distinguishes BUAISOU from traditional indigo dyeing practices is their holistic approach to the dye production process, where they cultivate the soil, grow the indigo plants, produce sukumo (dye), and carry out the dyeing themselves. This commitment to creating a unique indigo color is central to their recognition.



**Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) – Japan**  
*FRONTIERS: How Smart is AI?*



AI and its unstoppable evolution: Projects designed to create the ultimate artificial intelligence (AI) — with powers surpassing even ChatGPT — are being pursued around the world. And they’re coming astonishingly close to matching the intelligence of humans.

This documentary features dialogue with a robot equipped with generative AI. It follows an effort to use AI to make up a new story for the “Black Jack” manga series created by the legendary Tezuka Osamu. And it features an AI robot with tireless physical ability that enables it to get back up no matter how many times it’s kicked over. And beyond all the mindboggling technology is a glimpse into the astonishing nature of human intelligence.

**Educational Broadcasting System (EBS) – Republic of Korea**  
*The Human Weather*



“The Human Weather” examines how changes in the Earth system are unfolding from an Anthropocene perspective. Weather, a vital atmospheric force, has influenced human survival and civilization, prompting efforts to understand patterns amid challenges like heavy rainfall, storms, and heat waves.

The film introduces key meteorological concepts—precipitation, temperature, and wind—through a groundbreaking forecasting system. It highlights extreme weather events reported by journalists from Brazil, Italy, Thailand, Spain, and Mongolia, raising urgent questions about the planet's future. Hosted by actress Min-ha Kim from Apple TV+'s \*Pachinko\*, the documentary connects climate crisis reporters globally, reflecting on tragic scenes like river dolphins dying in drought-stricken areas and the impacts of typhoons and pollution.

## **RADIO DRAMA CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI) – China**

#### *Chinese Folk Tales: Mulan*



"Chinese Folk Tales: Mulan" is a captivating short audio drama that delves into the timeless story of Mulan, a legendary heroine from ancient Chinese folklore. The narrative centers on Mulan's courageous journey as she disguises herself as a man to take her father's place in the army to defend her country, demonstrating unwavering determination. Through rich storytelling and immersive soundscapes, the drama highlights Mulan's transformation into a skilled warrior while gaining respect from her fellow soldiers.

### **Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) – Hong Kong**

#### *Bad Time Story*



The story is about a social media page that has gone viral. The posts that stir the interests of netizens is, sadly or ironically, about bad things parents do, such as breaking promises, sarcasm against their children, bad temper, unreasonable rebukes and so on. The parents of Bi have come across the posts and recognize in no time that several incidents described in the posts are exactly the same as what have happened in Bi's Family!

It turns out that the son and daughter of Mr and Mrs Bi have contributed posts to the page. They have become so popular that a publisher even wants to invite them to write a book! Will the son and daughter agree? How will Mr and Mrs Bi reflect on their behaviour that have annoyed their children? How should parent-child tensions be eased? What makes a happy and supportive family?

**Voice of Indonesia (VOI) – Indonesia**  
*Investigation Dawar Island*



Dawar Island tells the story of a journalist named Raya who investigates environmental pollution cases committed by large companies on Dawar Island. Director Jaya who owns the company tried to kill Raya so that the pollution that occurred did not leak to the media.

**Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI) – Italy**  
*"Inner voices"*



Lucia, a teacher of the workshop in the Nisida prison, goes to the penitentiary to start working with the boys. Her hesitations, but also the welcome, curiosity, and distrust of those minors.

The episode opens with a fragment of the speech that the great Neapolitan playwright Eduardo De Filippo gave to the Italian Parliament in 1982 to draw attention to the conditions of young inmates in Neapolitan prisons. He was the one who founded the workshop discussed in the series.



## **RADIO PODCAST CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) – Australia**

*First Nations peoples and cultures | Bonus episode*



This podcast guides new migrants and prospective Australian citizens in embracing the rich heritage of Australia's First Nations peoples, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of their cultures and histories. Listeners will learn about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the original custodians of this land, and explore their ancient traditions with insights from Rhoda Roberts AO, a Widjabul Wiyebal woman from the Bundjalung nation who coined "Welcome to Country."

The podcast also highlights how engaging with First Nations cultures enhances the sense of belonging in Australia, featuring the perspectives and personal experiences of Wiradjuri warriors, Luke Carrol and Angeline Penrith.

### **China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI) – China**

*Growing up at the Yellow River Headwater*



Through a first-person narrative, sound, and music, the podcast takes listeners to visit the only school in a vast township at 4,500 meters above sea level on the Qinghai-Xizang (Tibet) Plateau. Away from their homes and family members, more than 200 kids and their teachers take care of and support each other. It's a whole different life from the tech-linked world.

The kids all long to wander into the world beyond the snow-capped mountains. A lack of oxygen and power supply and freezing temperatures almost all year round are not reasons enough to keep the kids and teachers from striving for their dreams with love, resilience, and devotion. The story also gives a glimpse into the teachers' inner struggle as they are caught between a determination to help the students achieve their goals and a fear that the kids might lose what they now hold dear and strong after they step into modern society.

**Voice of Indonesia (VOI) – Indonesia**  
*The Everlasting Oral Tradition OF Kejung*



Kejung art is an ancient art form on the brink of extinction, yet it holds tremendous potential as a sound bank for collaboration with modern music. Its powerful sound and unique presentation add a distinctive nuance to productions.

The Linkrafin community has successfully integrated Kejung elements into modern songs, demonstrating its potential to thrive and gain recognition worldwide. This showcases Kejung's bright future and its potential to become widely acclaimed on the global stage.

**Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI) – Italy**  
*Crazy Town*



This documentary tells the story of a former asylum and its place: a small town nestled in the hills of southern Italy, called Girifalco. Founded in 1881, the psychiatric hospital and townspeople long progressed in symbiosis.

With the initiation of "open doors" practices as soon as the early 1900s, patients deemed less serious went freely on village streets. Madness and normality melded in a peculiar blend that over the centuries, brought national and international notoriety to Girifalco, as the town of the insane. More rudely, "Crazy Town". Local people, far from experiencing the label as a stigma, took pride in their identity. But what happens to that town when the asylum closes and the "crazies" leave?

## **RADIO DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) - Australia**

*Pacific Scientific – The town in the shadow of PNG's most dangerous volcano*



Pacific Scientific takes you deep into Pacific region to meet the scientists and communities living and breathing science and research. Audiences are literally taken across the Pacific in the series, which travels to Tonga, Solomon Islands, Fiji, PNG and beyond. Each episode takes the listener to another location to meet another incredible scientist and their work.

Leading science journalists from Australia and the Pacific take you on the journey each episode. In the episode we are entering into the awards, you're taken to a town in the shadow of PNG's most dangerous volcano. In 1994 Mt Tavurvur erupted destroying the large and prosperous town of Rabaul. Almost 30 years later, Pacific Scientific reporter James Purtill takes audiences for a trek up the steep slopes of the still-active volcano and for a tour of the nearby observatory, where a team of dedicated volcanologists study the mountain, preparing for its next eruption.

### **China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI) – China**

*Ten Thousand Miles for Home: Protecting the Siberian Crane's Migration Path*



This audio program takes listeners on an immersive journey alongside "Uncle Bird" Pan Shengyu, a dedicated protector of migratory birds.

Over two days, we experience firsthand the challenges and triumphs of his work. Day one begins at dawn, joining Pan and fellow conservationists for a synchronized survey of bird populations in the wetlands. Later, we accompany him on outreach visits to local fishermen and communities, for conservation education. Day two takes us from the bustling morning market, where Pan remains vigilant against illegal bird trading, to a tense rescue mission with his team as they respond to an injured bird.

Through interviews and recordings, the program gradually reveals the results of Pan's decade-long efforts to protect the Siberian Crane and the gradual improvement of the local ecosystem through storytelling and detailed observation. This program creates a multifaceted and compelling portrait of Pan, inspiring listeners to actively participate in the protection of migratory birds and cherish the



**China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI)  
– China**

*Girl Rising : Doudou's First School Days*



There's a famous Chinese saying: "Where there's a will, there's a way." This perfectly describes the story of 7-year-old Doudou, born with cerebral palsy, who has become a symbol of courage and determination. The program follows her over the course of a semester, documenting her journey from the start, through mid-term challenges, to a triumphant conclusion.

Doudou's life has been filled with intense rehabilitation, supported by her mother, who cares for her full-time while also live-stream selling to help with finances. Her father works multiple jobs far from home, yet the family has never given up on her. Their dedication, along with Doudou's perseverance, enabled her to realize her dream of attending school. With the encouragement of her classmates and teachers, her first semester marks a new beginning, filled with hope and possibility.

**The Voice of Vietnam (VOV)- Vietnam**  
**A No-Escape Apartment Building**



The fire at a mini apartment block on Khuong Ha Street in Hanoi on September 13, 2023, left the nation in shock, marking the deadliest disaster of its kind since the 2002 blaze at the International Trade Centre in Ho Chi Minh City. The incident revealed serious flaws in construction permitting, supervision, and management, leading to the prosecution of investors, local officials, police, and inspectors involved. Tragically, this fire is not an isolated case. Hanoi alone has over 2,000 mini apartment blocks, many built illegally or without proper safety standards, with the national total estimated at around 5,000. Most of these buildings lack adequate fire escapes or safety measures, creating a looming threat of further tragedies.

To mark 90 days since the fire, a radio documentary titled "A No-Escape Apartment Building" has been

## **RADIO NEWS REPORTING– FINALISTS**

**China Media Group-China National Radio (CMG-CNR) - China**  
*Lightening the Hidden Corner*



The report focuses on the efforts made by different sectors of Chinese society to reveal hidden student bullying after the alleged murder of a teenager by classmates prompted the nation to reconsider how to prevent such tragedies, which are believed to result from unnoticed school bullying. Schools have improved hardware facilities, including audio AI devices, to detect student assaults. Meanwhile, education has intensified to empower students in identifying and reporting bullying cases. Moreover, after the tragic death of the student, China's educational authorities initiated a nationwide "rooting out" screening of student bullying for timely intervention. This case has also rung alarm bells for parents, urging them to enhance communication with their children and collaboration with schools.

The report also mentions the need for more attention on vulnerable groups like the millions of rural left-behind children, who are prone to bullying, with experts calling on the government and communities to provide more care and support to these children so that bullying among them can be exposed earlier.

**Voice of Indonesia (VOI) – Indonesia**  
*Save the bird of paradise*



The community of Yakyu Hamlet, Rawa Biru Village, Merauke Regency is very concerned about the rampant illegal hunting that threatens the survival of the bird of paradise, an icon of Papua. Traditional leaders and the community of Yakyu Hamlet have taken the initiative to implement customary law to protect the bird of paradise from illegal hunting. The traditional leaders and the community of Yakyu Hamlet are committed to stopping the illegal hunting of the bird of paradise and are determined to turn its habitat into an ecotourism site.



### The Voice of Vietnam (VOV) – Vietnam

*Never leave kids alone*



Thuy Chi, a female student in the eighth grade at Xuan Non-Junior Secondary School in Hanoi, was admitted to the hospital in April 2023 due to a number of physical and mental health issues. She intended to end her own life. This comes after a protracted period of bullying and violence in schools, seclusion and exclusion from classmates. Prior to that, Thuy Chi attempted to signal the teacher for assistance. However, the form teacher chose to overlook this as a small disagreement and let the pupils work out a solution on their own, rather than taking preventative measures.

However, Thuy Chi is not the only pupil who suffers from bullying and violence at school. Around 1,600 student fight incidences occur in Vietnam each school year. There is a fight for every 5,200 pupils on average, and a student fight occurs in one out of every nine schools. Who will stop bullying or violence against children at school when parents are preoccupied with work and educators are focused on academic success? Don't leave kids alone in the fight against school violence!

### The Voice of Vietnam (VOV World) – Vietnam

*The way home – Na's story*



Asiatic black bears typically live for about 30 years. Na, who was recently rescued by animal welfare organization, Four Paws Vietnam, lived in captivity at a bear bile farm in Ho Chi Minh City for more than 20 years, accumulating more diseases than professional veterinarians had ever seen in a single animal. Some bears recover after being rescued and treated, albeit with permanent scars and after effects. Some do not. And even though they are brought to the Bear Sanctuary in Ninh Binh, one of the best animal welfare and protection facilities in Vietnam, their days are numbered. Because these bears can't reproduce outside their natural habitat, there's virtually no chance of reversing the imminent disappearance of their species.

But there is some hope in education and awareness. Every successful bear rescue rekindles a bit of hope for the species. The bears' stories, made possible by the efforts of tour guides, caretakers, and the staff of Four Paws Vietnam and shared with sanctuary visitors, are starting to make people care about the bears. Since this story was first broadcast, more bears have found a home at the Ninh Binh Bear Sanctuary and the Sanctuary has received more visitors, who take away a greater love for the bears and a greater respect for nature.



## **RADIO COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **Bangladesh Betar (BB) – Bangladesh**

*To Save Love One*



Dengue is a viral fever, transmitted by the Aedes mosquito. Many people including children are dying in Bangladesh every year due to this fever. The mosquito breeds in stagnant water. Particularly clear water is a perfect place for these mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Eggs are often laid outside the house in can shells, discarded car tires, or small ice cream cups. Also, mosquitoes can spread in water accumulated in the tub, unnecessary holes in the house yard or trees, sink, accumulated water in AC and in the refrigerator. To protect ourselves from the attack of these mosquitoes or to reduce the risk of death, we should not allow water to accumulate anywhere in the house and surroundings. Must use mosquito net while sleeping during the day or night. If we are a little aware, we can save ourselves from the outbreak of dengue.

### **China Media Group- China Radio International (CMG-CRI) – China**

*Mother Earth Has a Fever*



When we have a persistent fever, we see a doctor. But what can we do when Mother Earth is burning up? This analogy highlights the urgency of addressing global warming. We can start with small actions in our daily lives: using reusable water bottles and shopping bags, walking or using bike-sharing, repairing items, and utilizing online documents. These steps reduce waste, conserve resources, and promote a low-carbon lifestyle. With the increasing frequency of extreme weather and disasters, Earth's fever poses severe consequences for humanity. Immediate action is essential to protect our planet.

**Voice of Indonesia (VOI) – Indonesia**  
*Horror of Delayed Payment*



In this chilling narrative, a ghostly narrator beckons listener to witness something truly terrifying lurking around them. Guided by eerie instructions, the listeners are led to confront what they perceive as a horror spectacle, only to unveil that the true source of fear is their accumulating debts from the Buy Now Pay Later (pay-later) service on their shopping apps. The narrator prompts reflection on whether these debts are growing daily, emphasizing the escalating consequences of irresponsible usage.

Through haunting storytelling, the CSA vividly portrays the potential pitfalls of over-reliance on pay-later services, illustrating scenarios where unpaid debts lead to financial distress and hardship. Ultimately, the narrator serves as a cautionary voice, urging listeners to exercise prudence and foresight when utilizing pay-later services. By evoking fear and introspection, the CSA aims to impart a crucial message: while pay-later can offer convenience, it must be used judiciously and responsibly to avoid falling into a haunting cycle of debt.

**Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB)**  
*Alzheimer's disease*



It starts with a dialogue between a woman and a man that the man has Alzheimer's disease and the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease will be pointed out to the audience.

## **RADIO ON-AIR PERSONALITY CATEGORY – FINALISTS**

### **China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI) – China**

*Dragon Boat Festival extravaganza - Journey through Qu Yuan's timeless impact*



The program begins by leveraging artificial intelligence technologies to explore the traditional customs of the Dragon Boat Festival. The vibrant scenes of dragon boat races, with their rhythmic drumbeats and powerful paddling, immerse listeners in the festive atmosphere. The program then seamlessly traverses between the studio and the on-site celebration, as well as between current days and the vital moments in history.

Through a blend of on-site interviews, vivid and engaging narratives of historic stories, mini radio dramas, and AI-simulated dialogues between the host and a Qu Yuan chat-bot, the program portrays Qu Yuan's tumultuous yet unwavering life story. Niu Honglin, the host, brings her unique creative vision and storytelling style, combining new technology with traditional culture in a way that feels both refreshing and smooth to ensure an engaging listening experience.

Skillfully intertwining language and cultural within storytelling, the program allows the audience to effortlessly learn Chinese within the context of the story. Niu Honglin's ability to engage listeners even as she transports them between ancient and modern times showcases her dynamic and captivating delivery. Her work is not only informative but also highly entertaining, making complex cultural concepts accessible and enjoyable for a global audience.



**China Media Group-China National Radio (CMG-CNR) – China**  
*"Unforgettable" Café*



WANG Yi conducts an in-depth, extensive, and serious conversation and meticulous observation at this café. With a mix of laughter and tears, she describes the experience of three elderly people with cognitive impairments making and selling coffee, as well as their rich and profound lives. Is there ever a standard answer to the question of caring for elderly people with cognitive impairments? In her interview with the head of the nursing home, WANG Yi, with advancing logic and questioning, came up with one possible answer – if this “game” of making and selling coffee can make the elderly happy and dignified in this stage of their lives, then this “game” is worth it.

There are many ways to capture the living conditions of elderly people with Alzheimer's Disease. WANG Yi chose the most challenging one, which is to directly communicate with them. In her conversations, she demonstrates respect, compassion, and empathy. With delicate and emotional narration, WANG Yi manages to portray the complex situation of these elderly patients' lives, the devotion, love, and friendship that they experience, and the difficult choice of “home care” or “institutional care” which their family have to confront while stuck between traditional family concepts and everyday challenges.

**Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI) – Indonesia**  
*Sundanese Music Go International*



Mr. Agus is a Sundanese artist who has effectively spread Sundanese music worldwide. He has performed on five continents, blending Sundanese music with modern styles. His goal is to make Sundanese music accessible not only to Indonesian youth but also to people worldwide. On the other hand, there is Deni Pirman, a 12-year-old who has been playing the kendang (a traditional Sundanese drum) since he was seven. Deni dreams of exploring the world with his drum. His presence brings renewed optimism for the future of Sundanese music, as more young talents like him emerge to preserve this cultural heritage. The enchanting sounds of the kacapi (zither) and drum add to the allure of this broadcast, especially towards the end when Mr. Agus collaborates with British musician Collin Bass on the song “Bandung”. Enjoy listening!

**Voice of Indonesia (VOI) – Indonesia**  
*MELODIES FOR INDONESIAN CHILDREN*



‘Melodies for Indonesian Children’ discusses the struggle to overcome the crisis of children’s songs in Indonesia. It delves into the real movement and consistency carried out by a musician in Malang, East Java, Indonesia, named Sugiarto, or better known as Cak Gik Arbanat, to encourage children to sing quality songs that are age appropriate. He initiated “Simfoni Cinta Tanah Air” or “Symphony of Love for the Homeland” as a form of “resistance” against the crisis of children’s songs. For 19 years, he has campaigned to teach children’s songs, regional songs, and national songs by visiting schools and villages, inviting children to sing according to their age while instilling messages about love for the homeland, affection for parents, and friendship. Cak Gik does social work for free.

Cak Gik has already composed 35 children’s song, 10 of which he has recorded and uploaded to the Arbanat Music House YouTube channel and social media platforms. He does this with his three children and the Arbanat String Ensemble team. Even his youngest daughter, Melodi, became child singer, playing music, and also contributing to creating children’s songs. Cak Gik will continue to do this so that Indonesian children do not lack quality songs or miss out on beautiful moments in their childhood.

## **ABU PERSPECTIVE AWARDS – FINALISTS**

### **China Media Group-China National Radio (CMG-CNR) – China**

*When Poetry Blossoms in the Hearts of Rural Kids*



A young rural female teacher, who returned to her hometown after graduating from college, discovered by chance that the children were natural poets, so she started consciously guiding the children to write poetry.

In the innocent verses of the children, she uncovered the vivid, authentic, flawed and at times harsh realities they confronted at such a tender age. At this rural Hope Primary School, where over 50% of the students were left-behind children, many were enduring separation from their parents, many were even facing life changes that were difficult for their young minds to understand and accept, such as parental divorce, the loss of loved ones... The young teacher led the children out of the classroom and into the fields, releasing their nature in the great outdoors, using poetic language to record their observations and feelings about nature. She encouraged them to write in poetry about their longing for their families, their regrets in life... Using poetry as an outlet for emotional release, she nurtured their kind, innocent, sensitive, and fragile hearts, giving them the courage to face life's setbacks and the pains of growing up. For these children, learning to view the world and life with a poetic perspective may be more meaningful for their future than becoming "little poets" who present at China's top literary award ceremony or perform on the widely watched Spring Festival Gala stage. Through poetry, they sought to reconcile with themselves and with life.

Thought-provokingly, the young female teacher grew up in a broken family. It was the love of her relatives that made up for certain regrets in her life. In the process of bonding with the children through poetry, she and the children healed each other. As she said in the program, "As long as you have the ability to appreciate beauty, you will always have the eyes to discover poetry"; "Even if you don't write poetry in the future, you can live your life like a poem."



**China Media Group-China National Radio (CMG-CRI) – China**  
*BCI: Linking to the future*



This program provides an overview of the applications of brain-computer interfaces in medical field and the issues the technology may bring. In the report, BCI recipients, including a patient with severe depression and a stroke patient, describe how the technology has helped alleviate their symptoms and improve their life quality. Members from China's leading BCI research teams elaborate on how the technology works, their practice in BCI development, and the power and potential of this state-of-the-art technology.

The report also includes insights from sociologists and a science fiction writer, offering a glimpse of what the possibilities that tomorrow holds under the influence of BCI and creating a vivid image that inspires future thinking among the audience.

After presenting a bright future for BCI technology, the report addresses potential safety threats as well as social and ethical issues BCI may bring, prompting dialogue among audiences to reassess the barriers of technological advancement, ensuring that technology progresses while human society remains free from the threats we could envision.

**Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) – Hong Kong**  
*Learning with AI: Bots V Brains*



The emergence of generative AI has disrupted classrooms around the globe – reshaping how teachers teach and students learn. Are chatbots like ChatGPT just another pedagogical tool that students should learn to wield, like an extremely advanced calculator? Or is it so powerful that it crosses the rubicon and negates the need for human learning and critical thinking? This is the fundamental question that we strove to address in our news feature, which pits two primary school children armed with ChatGPT against experts and top-scorers in a mock university entrance exam. Will the bots reign supreme, or will the brains prove the value of human experience and creativity?

This experiment opens up a rich and nuanced debate on the pros and cons of the use of generative AI in education, and how both students and teachers may have to adjust to this new reality.

**All India Radio-AKASHVANI (AIR-AKASHVANI) - India**  
*Whisper of a Wetland: A Vision for Tomorrow*



The documentary delves into the heart of the East Kolkata Wetlands, one of the world's largest and most unique sewage-fed wetlands. Kolkata, lovingly known as the City of Joy, faces a looming threat as these wetlands, selflessly processing over 60% of the city's sewage, may vanish in the future! The hastening depletion is attributed to urbanization, encroachment, and chemical pollution, presenting a solemn challenge to Kolkata's environmental stability and sewage ecosystem.

These wetlands serve as natural flood defences, sanctuaries for biodiversity and nurturing grounds for local communities. It is an attempt to explore the wetlands' history and their essential function as natural buffers against climate change and urbanization. It emphasizes the wetlands' crucial role in purifying water, supporting fisheries and enhancing agricultural productivity, highlighting their indispensable contribution to the city's economy and food security. Culturally, the documentary respectfully portrays the rich practices and traditions of local communities, sharing personal stories that illuminate the profound connection between the environment and its people.

## DIGITAL CONTENT AWARDS CATEGORY

### **China Media Group-China Global Television Network (CMG-CGTN) - China**

#### *Beyond Algorithm*



13-year-old Rama was born in war-torn Aleppo, Syria. Her entire life has been in a city ravaged by conflict. One day, she asks ChatGPT, "What is a world without war like?" Accompanied by light music, beautiful scenes created by AI unfold before Rama and the audience. However, these scenes are soon replaced by the harsh realities of war. The film concludes with the answer: AI cannot end war, only humans can. Through strong visual contrasts and deep emotional exploration, the film calls for human reflection and action, which is to wisdom and empathy to end wars and seek peace.

### **China Media Group-China Radio International (CMG-CRI) - China**

#### *Chinese Folk Tales: Divine Farmer*



*Our story pays tribute to the mythical hero Shen Nong who is said to be the father of the great system of traditional Chinese herbal medicine. When you think about it, there must have been someone many, many years ago who was brave enough to try and work out what plants might heal at the risk of discovering those that harm.*

"Chinese Folk Tales: Divine Farmer" depicts an ancient traditional legend from China — Shen Nong tasting hundreds of herbs to save people. According to the legend, Shen Nong is considered the pioneer of ancient Chinese medicine. With persistence and perseverance, he traversed mountains and rivers, tasting and cataloging numerous herbs. Throughout this process, Shen Nong not only discovered many medicinal substances but also encountered various interesting stories. Under Shennong's guidance, people began to learn how to find remedies for illnesses from nature, and herbal medicine gradually became a crucial part of ancient Chinese medical practice. Shen Nong left behind invaluable medical knowledge, inspiring future generations to advance in medicine and contribute to human health and well-being.

"Chinese Folk Tales" is a multimedia series which targets the global story-lovers. The series presents more than one hundred traditional Chinese stories such as "The tale of China's Valentine's Day," "Brave heroine Mulan," "The extraordinary inventor Lu Ban, " all imbued with traditional philosophy and wisdom with universal human values. To help people have a better understanding of the stories, the team ventured into creating animated videos using cutting edge AI technologies. This innovation allows global audiences to experience these timeless stories in both audio and video formats.



**Thai Public Broadcasting Service (ThaiPBS) - Thailand**

*The Bag: The Heavy Burden On Children's Shoulders*



The critical aspect of addressing the issue of "The Bag" lies in its connection to the Thai education system and the substantial burden it imposes on Thai children, who study for more than seven hours a day. It is important to recognize that their school bags may harbor hidden dangers. For instance, a Mathayom 3 student may carry a school bag weighing 10-12 kilograms, potentially leading to spinal curvature. Many children bear similarly heavy school bags without yet exhibiting symptoms.

Thai PBS has compiled information on this issue in "The school bag is heavy: It may cause more harm than good." How can we, as adults, assist children in this regard? The goal of The Visual is to highlight social issues and suggest solutions, focusing on Thai education. Parents must understand these matters. How can we tell an important and easy-to-understand story? Are there techniques to engage people with the issues we present? We will provide examples of effective techniques used in this work.

**RTPRC-China Intercontinental Communication Center (RTPRC-CICC) – China**

*Road to Carbon Neutrality*



China has always been vigorously practicing ecological conservation and taking actions in global climate governance. In 2020, China made a commitment to the world, aiming to achieve carbon dioxide emissions peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

To explore the efforts and progress of China's green low-carbon development, international photographer Sean Gallagher and conservationist Terry Townshend embark on a journey across the country, meeting with people who keep searching for solutions to achieve carbon neutrality.

They investigate practices in renewable energy generation projects in Qinghai province, the carbon neutral Beijing Winter Olympic Games, the National Reserve Forest project in Sanming, Fujian province, ultra-low energy coal plants, carbon dioxide capture and utilization in cement plant to witness China's reforms and innovation on the road to carbon neutrality.