



NEWS RELEASE

NCAB Announces its 2018 Station Award Winners
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RALEIGH, NC, (June 29, 2018) – The North Carolina Association of Broadcasters (NCAB) recently announced winners of this year's station awards.

2018 Joint Television and Radio Award

Superstar Sales Person of the Year

Catherine Bond of Curtis Media in Raleigh, NC was named **Superstar Sales Person of the Year**.

Catherine is the first recipient of this category. She has more than 20 years experience in radio sales and has been with Curtis Media for four years. Catherine continuously develops meaningful, business relationships with customers, many of whom she has worked with for more than a decade. She is consistently creating solutions and opportunities for her clients to grow their business.

2018 Television Awards

Outstanding Newscast

WITN-TV, Greenville, NC, received **2018 Outstanding Newscast Award** for team coverage of the killing of a correctional officer by an inmate at Bertie Correctional Institution in Windsor, NC. Sgt. Meggan Lee Callahan lost her life after being attacked by inmate Craig Clifford Wissink. Wissink attacked Callahan and assaulted her with a fire extinguisher as she responded to a trash can fire in his dormitory. Callahan joined the North Carolina Department of Public Safety in January 2012 and was promoted to sergeant in February 2016. She was 29 years old.

WITN-TV is an NBC affiliate and is part of Gray Digital Media. Melissa Cashwell, news director at WITN-TV, accepted the award.

Outstanding Sports Story or Series

WFMY-TV, Greensboro, NC was awarded **2018 Outstanding Sports Story** for its story on local 11-year old boy, Asher McGarrah. Asher has been battling chronic myeloid leukemia for most of his life and was not able to play sports. In August, Asher was given the opportunity of a lifetime through Team Impact, a sports organization for kids battling life threatening or chronic illnesses. He got to sign up as a player with the Wake Forest University Soccer Team and he gets to spend practices and games with the nation's top men's college soccer team.

WFMY-TV is a CBS affiliate and is owned by Tegna. Patrick Wright, WFMY-TV's sports anchor, accepted the award.

Outstanding Hard News or Breaking Story

WFMY-TV, Greensboro, NC, received the **2018 Outstanding Hard News or Breaking Story Award** for its in-depth, real time coverage of the death of Evangelist Billy Graham. WFMY-TV covered the enormous impact that Billy Graham's death had on the state, the nation, and the world.

WFMY-TV is a CBS affiliate and is owned by Tegna. WFMY-TV's Julie Luck, Chad Silber and Ben Briscoe accepted the award.

Outstanding Community Involvement

WXII-TV, Winston-Salem, NC, was awarded **2018 Station Award for Community Involvement** for its special partnership with the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC. For more than 15 years the two groups have worked together to solve hunger. From television specials to community food drives, to special on-air profiles of local groups and volunteers doing extraordinary things to bring awareness and feed the hungry, this partnership has become a year-long conversation and belief that hunger should not exist today.

WXII-TV is a NBC affiliate and is owned by Hearst Television. Michelle Butt, President and General Manager of WXII-TV, accepted the award.

Best News Anchor

David Crabtree, anchor of WRAL-TV, Raleigh, was named **Best News Anchor**. A 13-time Emmy Award winner, he has been a member of the WRAL-TV team since 1991. David has had the honor of interviewing presidents and has reported from the Vatican, political conventions, and from the funerals of Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II, and Nelson Mandela.

WRAL-TV is an NBC Affiliate and is owned by Capitol Broadcasting Company.

2018 Radio Awards

Radio Station of the Year

- 1) WRAL-FM, Raleigh, NC was the recipient of **2018 Radio Station of the Year Award, Large Market Category**. WRAL-FM serves the Raleigh-Durham community, clients and listeners and constantly helps the community. In 2017, the station held its 23rd Annual Radiothon for Duke Children's Hospital. The station raised \$656,089 during its two-day live broadcast from the hospital lobby – bringing the grand total to over \$18 million raised since Radiothon's inception.

WRAL-FM is owned by Capitol Broadcasting Company. Accepting the award is WRAL-FM's program director, Michele Williams and General Manager Katie Phillips.

- 2) WZFX-FM, Fayetteville NC, was awarded the **2018 Radio Station of the Year, Medium Market Category**. WZFX-FM is known in the community for their volunteer efforts, fundraisers and giving back. WZFX-FM partnered with nonprofit organizations, Cumberland County and Robeson County school systems, local health care systems, and colleges and universities to bring awareness to current community issues. WZFX-FM supported the Salvation Army, Wounded Warriors, American Red Cross, Fayetteville Urban Ministry, Restore Warehouse, Cumberland

County Crime Stoppers and many more organizations through drives, events and marches.

WZFX-FM is a Beasley Media Group station. WZFX-FM Program Director, Tap Money, accepted the award.

- 3) Star 102.5FM, Southern Pines, NC, was presented **2018 Radio Station of the Year, Non-Metro Category**. Star 102.5 FM, a local, live, community-driven radio station, streaming beyond the dial, has supported local organizations and businesses for over 45 years. Whether it is the station's focus on a vital shop local campaign, covering national championships or regional disasters, star 102.5 FM's strength continues to be the power of words and sound.

Star 102.5 FM is a Muirfield Broadcasting Company radio station. Rich Rushforth, operations manager of Star 102.5 FM, accepted the award

Radio Personality or Team of the Year

- 1) Ya Girl Nikki on WPEG-FM, Greensboro, NC was awarded the **2018 Personality Team of the Year, Large Market Category**. Nikki Nikole is known for her high energy and work in the community. Nikki has been featured in various publications including *The Source*, *Hip Hop Weekly*, and *Frequency Magazine*.

WPEG-FM is a Beasley Media Group station. Nikki accepted her award.

- 2) The Morning Rush with Marc, Mark & Laura of WNCT Radio was presented with **2018 Radio Personality of the Year Award, Medium Market Category**. The motto of the morning show is to "wake up happier." With a mix of humor and important news segments, this group keeps its community informed and laughing.

Inner Banks Media owns WNCT Radio. The entire team was on hand to accept the award.

- 3) Ron Stutts of WCHL-FM, Chapel Hill, NC was named **2018 Personality of the Year, Small Market Category**. This summer, Stutts celebrates 37 years of waking up Chapel Hill-Carrboro. Aside from hosting the morning show, he is often heard covering breaking news, weather, and sports events throughout the day.

WCHL-FM is owned by Vilcom Interactive Media, LLC. Ron accepted his award.

Radio Community Involvement of the Year

WHKY Radio, Hickory, NC, received the **2018 Radio Community Involvement of the Year Award** for its incredible service to its listeners through features dedicated to recreation (Parks and Play), business (Chamber Chate) and the pursuit of life long learning through the local library and area schools. This is the initial year for this statewide award.

WHKY Radio is owned by Long Communications, LLC. Jeff Long, General Manager of WHKY, accepted the award.

About NCAB

The North Carolina Association of Broadcasters is a statewide organization of public and commercial radio and television broadcast stations. The purpose of the Association is to promote closer cooperation and understanding among members; to make possible unified effort when unity is beneficial; to protect its members in every lawful and proper manner from injustices and unjust exactions; to encourage and promote customs and practices which will be for the best interests of the public and the broadcasting industry; and to help educate the public and business generally concerning the uses and values of broadcasting advertising. Additional information is available on the NCAB website (www.ncbroadcast.com).

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