

RED RIBBON AWARDS ON HIV & AIDS 2006 Call for Entries and Criteria for Application

Journalists Against AIDS (JAAIDS) Nigeria, on behalf of Partners of the Red Ribbon Awards 2006, hereby invite entries for the 2006 Red Ribbon Awards on HIV & AIDS in Nigeria. The Red Ribbon Awards is an annual event instituted since 2001 to honour outstanding media response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic in Nigeria. The Awards are supported by partners including the National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA) and the United Nations system in Nigeria. The awards ceremony will hold on Saturday, December 2 2006 in Abuja, FCT. For more information about the awards, please visit:

www.nigeria-aids.org

Award categories

For the 2006 edition, Awards will be given out in Media and Community categories.

A. Media category:

- 1. Best Feature Report (Print)**
- 2. Best Television Feature**
- 3. Best Radio Feature**

Awards in this category will go to an individual (one each in radio, television, newspaper and magazine) whose journalistic effort on HIV and AIDS truly qualifies as outstanding. Entries must be investigative articles or research-based news stories, laced with short interviews/inserts and properly backgrounded. The stories must present fresh information on HIV and AIDS, reflect a diversity of focus (including a focus on people living with HIV), originality, grasp of issues and communicate accurate, non-stigmatising or sensational HIV and AIDS messages. Entries are limited to two (2) stories or report per journalist..

4. Best HIV/AIDS Cartooning

Entries for Best HIV/AIDS cartooning must be original works that demonstrate creativity and excellent grasp of HIV and AIDS themes. Entries should be witty and educative, but must not promote negative stereotypes, stigmatizing or inaccurate messages. Only two entries per cartoonist will be accepted.

5. Outstanding Informed Commentary (Print)

This award recognises informed commentaries or opinion articles written on any HIV and AIDS related issue. Entries must be written by freelance or guest columnists, print media staff writers or editorial board members. Articles must be topical, incisive and rich in depth and content. Topics discussed should be locally-relevance and reflect an informed perspective.

6. Best Local Language Reporting (Broadcast)

This award encourages HIV/AIDS reports broadcast in any of Nigeria's three major languages (Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa). Entries must reflect appropriate use of language, community relevance and communicate non-stigmatising messages. Up to two entries in any of the local languages may be submitted.

7. Best Newspaper Editorial

Entries for the Best Newspaper Editorial will be selected among those that demonstrate informed knowledge, original perspectives and promote innovative responses to the HIV and AIDS epidemic in Nigeria. The winning editorial should stand as an example of rigorous thinking and balanced perspective and serve as a model of the kind of leadership and direction that the media can provide in confronting public health challenges in the nation.

B. Community category

1. Breakers of Silence Award (Organization)

2. Breaker of Silence Award (Individual)

3. Special Recognition Award

Breakers of Silence Award:

Judges would be looking for organizations and individuals (especially people living with HIV) whose actions, interventions or pronouncements have significantly contributed to breaking the silence surrounding HIV and AIDS in their communities or in the nation. They may be male or female, NGO, association or community groups who have demonstrated courage, conviction and innovation in increasing the depth and quality of public discourse, policy intervention or programmatic action on the epidemic.

Special Recognition Award will be given only to a deserving individual or institution whose actions have made a remarkable impact on the tide of the epidemic in Nigeria. Selection of the qualifying awardee will be subjected to rigorous assessment to measure impact, relevance, integrity and quality.

Award Prizes

Prizes for recipients of Red Ribbon Awards include:

- Cash prizes of 100,000 naira.
- Specially designed Red Ribbon plaques and certificates for every winner
- In addition, winners may be exposed to local travel opportunities to enhance their journalism skills. This may be in form of sponsorship to local HIV and AIDS-related conferences, travel grants to pursue investigative stories, etc
- Certificates of recognition as well as consolation prize will be given to runners-up

Competition Criteria

- Entries must have been published or broadcast between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006.
- Journalists can submit up to two (2) of their best stories, articles, reports or cartoons in each category to enter for any of the media categories
- Each article must be submitted as an original copy. Clean photocopy in A3 size (for newspaper article) or A4 size (for magazine) allowed only in exceptional circumstances, with each entry clearly showing date and medium of publication. Low quality photocopies will automatically be rejected. For cartoons, original

illustrations will not be accepted; only published cartoons with name of medium, date and page clearly visible will be accepted.

- Broadcast entries must be submitted in VCD/CD format with date of broadcast, medium and duration clearly written on the label sleeve. VHS tapes, minidisc or audio cassettes will not be accepted. Entries with poor audio quality will automatically be disqualified.
- Entrants can submit entries for a maximum of two (2) award categories, provided that separate entries are submitted for each category.
- All entries must be accompanied by an entry form (which can be down, loaded from our website www.nigeria-aids.org), a short bio and a covering letter on official letterhead signed by the entrant's supervisor.
Entries must be received **on or before October 13, 2006**.
- Entries must be stories written about the Nigerian situation. Please note that foreign stories with little or no local relevance would not be accepted.
- The Red Ribbon Awards is open to Nigerian journalists and organizations including freelancers working in Nigeria for media organizations that are Nigerian owned or principally based in the country or published in Nigeria for Nigerians
- An independent panel of judges will review all entries and determine winners. Their decision shall be final.

Entries can be submitted to any of the following addresses:

Lagos:

Journalists Against AIDS (JAAIDS) Nigeria
44B, Ijaye Road, Ogba, Lagos

Or

Abuja and FCT Area:

Internews Network.Nigeria
139 Monrovia Street, off Aminu Kano Street, Wuse 2, Abuja

For further information, please contact:

The Secretariat, Red Ribbon Awards 2006

44B Ijaiye Road, Ogba, Lagos, Nigeria

Tel: 01-7731457, 8128565

Abuja:09-6721744

Email: jaaidnsng@nigeria-aids.org