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THE VOTES ARE IN! MSG VARSITY AND NY NATAS ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF THIRD ANNUAL MSG VARSITY V-AWARDS

--Program Celebrates Excellence in Student-Produced Media, Awards Winning Schools with \$60,000 in Total Grants--

BETHPAGE, N.Y. (May 31, 2012) — Reviewing more than 2,100 submissions that showcase the region's very best in high school media production, MSG Varsity and The New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NY NATAS) proudly announced the winners of the 2012 MSG Varsity V-Awards. Now in its third year, the V-Awards celebrate excellence in student-produced television content and inspire creativity among the next generation of broadcast professionals.

The V-Award winners were announced exclusively on MSG Varsity's V-Awards special May 31 at noon and again at 7:30 pm on MSG Varsity, Optimum Channel 14.

A \$5,000 grant has been awarded to the winning school in each of 10 categories representing various aspects of media production, while \$1,000 grants were awarded for one honorable mention recipient in each category. The entries were judged by a panel of television production and broadcasting industry professionals from MSG Varsity and NY NATAS.

After receiving initial entries in each of the 10 categories, MSG Varsity narrowed submissions down to regional finalists for each of 3 regions—New Jersey, Long Island/New York City and Westchester/Hudson Valley/Connecticut. From the regional finalist pool of high school students, MSG Varsity narrowed the field to the top qualifiers in 10 categories and then selected winners.

"This year's V-Award winners display true excellence in diverse aspects of media creation," said Theresa Chillianis, General Manager, MSG Varsity. "We're honored to recognize the very best from across the region."

"The MSG Varsity V-Awards display the top talent in student-produced television across the region," said Jacqueline Gonzalez, Executive Director of the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. "This year's winners have truly raised the bar on the awards for future years."

2012 MSG VARSITY V-Awards Tri-State Winners:

On-Air Talent, Sports

Jackson Liberty High School-WINNER On-Air Talent - Sports: *The Rundown March* Bob Davies

New Canaan High School-HONORABLE MENTION

On-Air Talent - Sports: *Taylor Wilson Rams Sports Report* Taylor Wilson

On-Air Talent, Non-Sports

Mount Olive High School-WINNER

On-Air Talent - Non-Sports: *The Personalities of Kevin Scimecca* Kevin Scimecca

Glen Cove High School-HONORABLE MENTION

On-Air Talent - Non-Sports: GCTV Friday Morning News - Francesca Sharper Francesca Sharper

Feature, Sports

Oceanside High School-WINNER

Feature - Sports: Oceanside Student Spotlight: Anthony Peruffo Zach Feldman Peter Abrams Niko Turrisi

Immaculate Heart Academy-HONORABLE MENTION

Feature - Sports: *Softball 2012 Preview* Taylor Smith Daniela Lisa Emilie Grimaldi

Feature, Non-Sports

Jefferson Township High School-WINNER

Feature - Non-Sports: *Mock Accident Feature* Ben Castrogiovanni Adam Reines Declan Jones Ed O'Brien

MacArthur High School-HONORABLE MENTION

Feature - Non-Sports: *What is a Peer Leader?* Kevin Roach Sam Soguero

Editing

Old Bridge High School-WINNER

Editing: *Ping Pong: Off the Table* Brandon Smith

Lakeland Regional High School-HONORABLE MENTION

Editing: *Halloween Horror* Erez Bader

Videography

Jackson Liberty High School-WINNER

Videography: *I Hate My Boyfriend* Victoria Nelli

Ridge High School-HONOROABLE MENTION

Videography: 2097: Blackout (2099 Prologue) Chris DeLorenzo

Full-Game Coverage by a Single Camera

Yorktown High School-WINNER

Full-Game Coverage by a Single Camera: *Yorktown vs. Mt. Vernon* Paul Schwedelson

Wayne Hills High School-HONORABLE MENTION Full-Game Coverage by a Single Camera: *Wayne Hills vs. Hackensack Football* Christian Rowe

Play-by-Play/Color Commentator

Oceanside High School-WINNER

Play-by-Play/Color Commentator: *Bellmore-Merrick vs. Oceanside* Evan Pivnick

Passaic Valley High School-HONORABLE MENTION

Play-by-Play/Color Commentator: *Passaic Valley vs. DePaul Football* Max Fumare

Original Production - Under 5 Minutes

John Jay-East Fishkill Senior High School-WINNER

Original Production - Under 5 Minutes: *Night Escapades: A Sockumentary* Casey Silvestri

Dover High School-HONORABLE MENTION

The Epiphany Jeff Tamboia Eli Vincent

Original Production - Over 5 Minutes

Ridge High School-WINNER

Original Production - Over 5 Minutes: *Recollection* Mark DePasquale Chris DeLorenzo Chris Szeluga Tim Marston Stephen Verdi John Haddad Alexander Molander Bobby Schmidt Nolan Haddad

The Ross School-HONORABLE MENTION

Original Production - Over 5 Minutes: Unfamiliar Zoe Wang

Iren Chen John Cheng Chole Wan Han Jiang Candice Liu

The student-produced pieces are available for viewing on <u>www.msgvarsity.com</u> and on MSG Varsity On-Demand, Optimum Channel 614.

About MSG Varsity

MSG Varsity is a multi-platform suite of services comprised of: a 24/7 Emmy Award winning highdefinition television network, a comprehensive online destination, and a groundbreaking interactive service, all dedicated to high school sports, academics and activities happening throughout the tristate area. Content for these services includes MSG Varsity's professionally produced programming as well as content created by the high schools themselves. Working in partnership with MSG Varsity, students and faculty are given extraordinary access to curriculum and training in multimedia creation and distribution, empowering them to become active participants in telling their school's stories. MSG Varsity is a Cablevision exclusive service not available to satellite or phone company TV subscribers and reaches three million households throughout the New York market. For more information, please visit <u>www.msgvarsity.com</u>.

About The New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television of Arts and Sciences (NY NATAS)

NY NATAS, founded in 1955, is the preeminent membership organization serving all media professionals in the television industry by offering career enhancing events and networking opportunities. NY NATAS conducts activities that cultivate and promote understanding of, appreciation for, and public interest in the arts, crafts and sciences of television. NY NATAS fosters creativity and inspires artistic and technical excellence through the renowned Emmy® Award, the most prestigious honor and most coveted peer-recognition symbol of distinction in television. NY NATAS continues to evolve playing a vital role in recognizing outstanding content in our changing industry. As distribution platforms have expanded to include broadband and portable devices NY NATAS now honors television the art form regardless of the delivery platform. For more information, please visit <u>www.nyemmys.org</u>.

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