



WFYI Earns 11 “Best of Indiana” Awards from Society of Professional Journalists in Recognition of its Outstanding Local Radio and Television Productions

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Contact: Lori Plummer (317) 614-0462 | lplummer@wfyi.org

WFYI Public Media has earned 11 “Best of Indiana” awards from the **Society of Professional Journalists** (SPJ) in recognition of its outstanding public radio and television productions. The honors were presented at SPJ’s annual awards banquet on Friday, May 2 at the Indianapolis Marriott North.

WFYI Public Television earned a total of eight “Best of Indiana” awards, including first place honors in three different competition categories.

WFYI’s *The Art of the Matter* television series placed **first** and **second**, respectively, in the category of “Best Feature Story,” for its feature segments, “Landes Costumes Closes,” produced by **Jim Simmons** and videographer **David Hodge**; and “Playing for Change Day,” created by producer/videographer **David Hodge**.

The **WFYI Public Television** program, *Fleeced: Speaking Out Against Senior Financial Abuse*, was awarded **third place** for “Best Business/Consumer Affairs Reporting.” The program was produced by **Kim Jacobs**.

Power to the People — a film that captures the story of a team of volunteers, including 28 rural electric linemen, who traveled to a remote mountain area of Guatemala to bring electricity to three villages located in beautiful, but treacherous terrain near the Mexican border — earned **first place** honors for “Best Documentary” AND “Best Feature Photography.” The program was co-produced by **Jim Simmons** and **Diane Willis**, with stunning imagery captured by videographers **Christopher Elberfeld** and **Vincent Manganello**.

The acclaimed public television film, *Undefeated: The Roger Brown Story*, was awarded **second place** for “Best Documentary.” The film tells the moving story of a young man robbed of his prime and his dignity, who overcame obstacle after obstacle to become an artist in the eyes of the few lucky enough to see him — and a better man for these trials.

Undefeated: The Roger Brown Story was produced by **Ted Green** and edited by **Pete Saetre**.

In the category of “Best Coverage of Government or Politics,” the public affairs special, *Indiana Prepares*, placed **third**. The program focuses on the two main pillars of preparedness: first responders, and Indiana hospitals. It provides an inside

look at training and best practices, as well as areas needing improvement. *Indiana Prepares* was produced by **Michael Husain** and edited by **Brad Hoehner**.

Producer **Bryan Boyd**'s *The Backlash of the Fred Wilson Project*, a report about a controversial piece of art that was originally commissioned by the Indianapolis Cultural Trail, received **third place** honors for “**Best Coverage of a Minority Issue**.” The segment was produced by **WFYI Public Television**, and featured on the website **SkyBlueIndy.com**.

WFYI Public Radio also earned **three “Best of Indiana”** awards in recognition of its outstanding newsgathering efforts on air and online this past year. Reporter **Sam Klemet** earned **second place honors** for both “**Best Sports Report**” and “**Best Feature Story**,” while **Sharon Alseth**, 90.1's former morning anchor, **placed third** in the “**Best Newscast**” category.

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About WFYI Public Media:

For more than four decades, WFYI Public Media has served as a center of discovery for all ages. WFYI's diverse public radio and television programs and services provide a foundation for early learning, inspire curiosity and serve as a catalyst for lifelong learning. To learn more about WFYI Public Media's programs and educational services, visit the station's website — www.wfyi.org, “like” us on Facebook, or follow along on Twitter (via [@wfyi](https://twitter.com/wfyi) and [@wfyinews](https://twitter.com/wfyinews)).