

RADIO & WEB-CAST JURY REPORT

The IAWRT AWARDS 2015 for radio and webcast audio received entries from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America. The entries tackled contemporary issues affecting women including illegal abortions, refugee experiences, trauma, slavery, women reporting on war, women in politics, art and gender, and feminist communal living.

The jurors, who came from Canada, Nepal and India, judged the programs on four criteria: presentation, content, technical quality and emotional appeal. By the end of the three days of listening, evaluation and deliberation, the jury arrived at unanimous decisions.

The Winner, web audio category:

"Save our Queens campaign" produced by Diana Wanyonyi, of Kenya, who works with Baraka FM. This program included interviews with a wide range of girls and women from various communities, who have been affected by violence such as child sexual assault, seduction and abandonment and parental neglect. The content was relevant and had a good balance of data and testimonials. The narration, the ambience and sounds, the mixing of voice overs with original voices was good, the stories were moving and engaged the jury right away. The title of the program comes from the name of a local organisation in a county of coastal Kenya. The representation of the organisations' effectiveness seemed to be honest reporting and not a puff piece.

Honorable mention, web audio category:

"Throwing in the towel: How Labour women MPs fought to change Westminster Politics" produced by Boni Sones, consisted of excerpts from interviews with ten women parliamentarians from UK's Labour party, who were leaving Parliament, some of them having served for 30 years. They included two former secretaries of state and several ministers and junior ministers. The interviews revealed their struggle to get even small things done, such as getting a childcare centre, or a family room for members of parliament. They spoke about their continuous struggle to be heard and respected. This 2015 audio series appears on the women's parliamentary radio website, which has been influential in gaining recognition for women members of parliament since 2007.

<http://www.bonisonproductions.com/wpradio/index.html> (March 2015)

The Winner, Radio category:

"Clandestine Abortion in Chile", produced by **Alexandra Christine Hall**. Chile is a developed country where abortion is totally illegal, but it is considering limited decriminalization. Illegal abortion is widely practiced. Hall's audio represented women from varied segments of society, including Chile's woman president Michelle

Bachelet. The program documented in a gripping, at times chilling narrative the experience of a woman who opted for an illegal abortion. The program ended with an on-site interview with volunteers for an underground helpline, who say complete decriminalization is the only reasonable answer. The jury felt strongly that the information in this documentary is important and rare, and relevant to many societies across the globe. Hall is a broadcast journalist who until recently was based in Santiago, Chile, working as a radio producer, translator and freelance journalist. Her reporting has been featured on National Public Radio, CNN Chile, Radio Ambulante, Telesur, and more.

Honorable mentions, radio category:

"Memories of Sarajevo: Singing a new song", produced by Karena Wynn-Moylan. The broadcast on Bay FM 99.9 in Australia, deals with issues of refugees whose trauma continues nearly 20 years after the end of the war. The women's testimonies were moving and informative, and the second half of the program revealed the importance of art in overcoming trauma, for example, forming a chorus and singing in their own language to not only bond, but also to help heal their lives. <http://bayfm.org/memories-of-sarajevo-radio-documentaries/>

"Women Journalists on the frontlines 2015" produced by Mindy Ran from the Netherlands comprised interviews with a wide range of women journalists who have covered conflict and have faced traumatic experiences reporting from dangerous zones both at home and abroad. This program was well researched, well scripted and presented in a manner which revealed the threats faced by the reporters. It seemed a significant topic for IAWRT. It was aired on the US Pacifica Radio Network and its affiliated stations in the US, through the Women's International News Gathering Service, Wings. <http://rabble.ca/podcasts/shows/wings/2015/09/women-journalists-on-frontlines>

It was not easy to choose these winners, but we are happy to say that the choices were unanimous.

Radio jury.

Archana Kapoor, India

Frieda Werden, Canada

Anupa Shrestha, Nepal