

# And the envelope please...SWOCC announces winners

The stars of Community Access television were out recently to celebrate another year of great public, educational and governmental access television.

Each year, the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission honors the volunteers and producers that make a difference in community access television, and 1999 was no exception.

This year's award presentations began with a new category: the Special Recognition Award, which was given to three deserving volunteers.

Pat Iahana was honored for her outstanding dedication to the Cable Access Committee. She has not missed a meeting in over three years. Way to go Pat!

David Kinchen was honored for his outstanding dedication to the community. David is not only the host of "Teenage" a show on channel 8, but he is also a mem-

ber of the Cable Access Committee, as well as several other community organizations devoted to children and families.

Finally, Jim Brown was recognized for his 10 years of volunteer service. Thank you, Jim for your 10 years of active service to Community Access television.

SWOCC honored eight students who were nominated by their instructors for outstanding dedication to educational access television. The students were: Demetrius Brown, Leah Compagnoni, Cassandra Hart, Heidi Rockonstaus, Horvath, Gina Ljukaj and Paul Novak from

Clarenceville High, Janet Morrison from Novi High School, and Ben Mitchell from Walled Lake Western.

SWOCC honored the following public access volunteers for their service during 1998: Irja Connolly, Mark Hamilton, Nino Arena, Mary Connell, Tatiana Arena, Brian Eaton, Chuck Cook, Kathy Musick, Tim Eaton, K.C. Pugliese, Jerry Bauer and Eva Thompson. Each of these individuals served as a crew member at the SWOCC or Time Warner studio at least seven times during 1998.

Extra special kudos go to the next group of award winners. These volunteers went beyond the call of duty by serving as crew members on seven or more programs on a regular basis: Vita Accinoli, Harry Robertson, Mike Brennan, Calvin Schmidt, Frank Benesh, Josephine Schmidt, Jim Brown, Robert

Wightman, Fran Dudas, Bryan Zeitlin, and Pat Iahana.

These producers were awarded the Dedicated Service as a Producer Award for producing 12 or more shows in 1998. They also received a free set of business cards which each can use to promote his or her program and recruit special guests: Frank Benesh, Jonathan Brateman, Harriet Cosby, Daniel S. Max, Deborah Lim-Arena, Detective Pat Fanning, Ben Marks, Tracy Thompson and Theron Walker.

Three public access producers were recognized for their award winning programs. Harry Robertson won a Philo T. Farnsworth Award for his show "A Culinary Adventure." He was joined in the winner's circle by Frank Benesh for "INFO TV-12 Newsmagazine" and Deborah Lim-Arena, who was a finalist for her show, "Fitness Motivators."

**A special thanks to all of the generous sponsors who donated gift certificates and other prizes.**

Government access producers were not left out of this year's recognition night. Farmington Hills, Novi and SWOCC producers were recognized for their national and regional award winning shows. Farmington Hills was recognized for "Nature In The Hills" and "Teenage." SWOCC also honored the city of Novi for the award-winning program, "Ask the Answer Man" and SWOCC Video Operations Manager Eric Angott for his first- and-third-place awards for

his documentary on the "Tim Pope Memorial Play Structure" Let's keep up the good work!

Also, a special thanks to all of the generous sponsors who donated gift certificates and other prizes. The awards night ceremony was a great success, and a good time was had by all.

Don't feel left out! Your name could be listed here too! Get involved with community access television. Call SWOCC at 248-473-7266 to find out how!

Melanie Young is the Community Relations Specialist of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission. The next SWOCC meeting is 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 21, at Farmington Hills City Hall. The next CAC meeting is 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 8, at SWOCC. The next access forum is 7 p.m., Tuesday Aug. 3, at SWOCC.

## INKWELL

On May 1, for the second consecutive year, Kevan Ventura of Farmington Hills received an outstanding rating in the American Guild of Music International Competition, held at the Dearborn Hyatt Regency.

His adjudicated guitar performance was a solo rendition of the popular song "Good Riddance" by the band Green Day. In May of last year, Kevan secured an outstanding rating for his rendition of "Blackbird" by the Beatles.

Kevan is an honor roll student at East Middle School and has been playing the guitar for three years. Among his goals are his desire to be an owner/manager of a Bill Knapp's Restaurant where he may try to work entertainment into the menu.

## Friday reception to honor Miss Farmington

The Miss Farmington Executive Board and Kathy and Dwane Cogswell will host a special reception in honor of Erin Whitney Cogswell, Miss Farmington/Oakland County, on her way to Miss Michigan 1999. The public is invited to meet the

Miss Farmington/Oakland County contestants, sponsors, supporters, city officials and local dignitaries from 6-8 p.m. Friday, June 4, at 5515 Bentwood in Huron Hills. Call 360-0980.

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