



**NorCal RTNDA**  
**Radio-Television News Directors Association of Northern California**  
Website: [www.norcalrtnda.com](http://www.norcalrtnda.com)

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## **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual NorCal RTNDA NEWS AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Northern California RTNDA (Radio-Television News Directors Association) News Awards. Plaques are awarded to television and radio newsrooms in Northern California and Reno. Program and website categories were separated into divisions, Larger Markets (1 to 30) and Smaller Markets (31 and higher). All other categories are grouped by Television and Radio. The entry period was from July 1, 2012 until June 30, 2013. The entries were judged by news managers from around the country. 93 entries were received from 20 stations.

In the division competition for television KDTV Univision 14 received the News Broadcast 30 minutes Larger Markets for “Noticias Univision 14 6pm.” News Broadcast 30 minutes Smaller Markets went to KFTV Univision 21, Fresno for “Obama in the Valley.” KOLO 8 Reno received two awards for Smaller Markets: Special News Program: “The Other side of the Fence;” and Public Affairs Program: “Run, Retreat, Resist.”

The Radio division winners Larger Market included KCBS Radio for News Broadcast over 15 minutes: “KCBS 5pm News;” Breaking News: “Chevron Refinery Fire;” Special News Program: “Sunnydale;” and Sports Program/Special: “Giants World Series Parade.” KQED-FM received the award for News Broadcast under 15 minutes for “KQED News;” Public Affairs Program: “Forum;” and News Website. The Smaller Markets News Broadcast under 15 minutes went to KCLU-FM, Santa Barbara for “KCLU News with Jim Rondeau.” KVPR, Fresno received the Public Affairs award for “Valley Edition.”

Overall KQED-FM received nine plaques with KNTV NBC Bay Area receiving six and KCBS Radio receiving five.

Due to the late judging we are unable to schedule an awards dinner this year. Plaques will be mailed to the winners.

The complete list of winners follows:

### **TELEVISION DIVISION AWARDS**

#### **News Broadcast-30 Minutes (Division A, Markets 1-30)**

**KDTV Univision 14, “Noticias Univision 14 6pm 3/13/13,” Maria Leticia Gomez, Anthony Spagna, Vicenta Jauregui, Luis Felipe Godinez, Carolina Nunez, Karla Argumedo**

*Judges comments:* Excellent show. Great content, creatively built and seamless execution. Well deserve RTNDA Award.

### **News Broadcast-30 Minutes** (*Division B, Markets over 30*)

**KFTV Univision 21, “Obama in the Valley,” Sandy Sirias, Marialcy Carreno, David Ibarra, Sayra Vazquez, Michelle Garcia**

*Judges comments:* This is a single entry, but I believe it's indeed an RTNDA Award winning show. Well executed, compelling content. Pieces a bit long, but given the magnitude of the significance for the Central Valley, I believe the length can be justifiable.

### **Special News Program** (*Division B, Markets over 30*)

**KOLO-TV 8, “The Other Side of the Fence,” Terri Russell, Wade Barnett, Timm Rensel**

*Judges comments:* Great show, long term production, creatively shot and masterfully written. Little slow at times, but it captures the viewer's attention and show an interesting and mostly unknown angle of the all known border issue.

### **Public Affairs Program** (*Division B, Markets over 30*)

**KOLO-TV 8, “Run, Retreat, Resist,” Terri Russell, Wade Barnett, Doug Tepe, Timm Rensel**

*Judges comments:* Simply excellent. Great public service.

## **TELEVISION AWARDS** (*All Markets*)

### **Investigative Reporting**

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “Free Time Off,” Jenna Susko, Julie Putnam, Jeremy Carroll, Matt Goldberg**

*Judges comments:* Very informative series of reports highlighting issues in local government. Excellent research and use of documents to tell a story.

### **Multi-Part Series**

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “Giving a Voice to the Voiceless: Exposing ADA Abuses,” Vicky Nguyen, Kevin Nious, Jeremy Carroll, Felipe Escamilla**

*Judges comments:* Finally, an undercover sting of abusers of handicapped placards that leads to ACTION.

### **News Reporting**

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “Emergency Responders: Driven to Distraction,” Vicky Nguyen, Kevin Nious, Jeremy Carroll, Matt Goldberg**

*Judges comments:* Thorough investigation. Well told, shot and edited. Nicely done.

### **Feature Reporting-Serious**

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “Medical Information Black Market,” Vicky Nguyen, Kevin Nious, Jeremy Carroll, Matt Goldberg**

*Judges comments:* Important topic and good information everyone should know. Good job tracking down the "go-between" in Costa Rica and getting him to talk.

### **Feature Reporting-Light**

**KOVR CBS 13, “NOH8,” Kenny Holmes**

*Judges comments:* Nice pacing and storytelling. The use of natural sound took me inside the event. A different coverage point on a story which made news across the state and country.

### Specialty Reporting

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “Cons, Tricks, and Scams,” Vicky Nguyen, Julie Putnam, Kevin Nious, Jeremy Carroll, Mark Villarreal**

*Judges comments:* Each of these stories was unique and exposed a problem I had not seen before. They felt original, not recycled ideas from other markets. Well done.

### Weather -Segment/Story

**KPIX CBS 5, “Show Me The Weather-Roberta Gonzales KPIX TV,” Roberta Gonzales**

*Judges comments:* Weather with a personality, Out in the weather live as well as the studio. Good information, graphics and maps. Plus some fun.

### Traffic-Segment

**KNTV NBC BAY AREA, “All Trafficked Up,” Mike Inouye**

*Judges comments:* Traffic from all angles: Helicopter, Live Shots, Fixed Traffic Camera plus informative maps and graphics. Good information for commuters

### News Writing

**KFSN ABC 30, “Wing and a Prayer,” Dale Yurong**

*Judges comments:* Excellent story with compelling storytelling. The writing took viewers back to the plane crash and the impact it had on the crew. Wonderful dedication to local journalism.

### Video Journalist/Multi-Media Journalist

**KRON 4, “BayView Illegal Parking Series - People Behaving Badly,” Stanley Roberts**

*Judges comments:* Nicely done. Simply told but effective. It's difficult to get stories like this when you are acting as a one man band.

## TELEVISION AWARDS (All Markets)

### News Broadcast-Over 15 minutes (Division A, Markets 1-30)

**KCBS Radio, “KCBS 5PM News,” KCBS News Team**

*Judges comments:* Clear, concise explanation of SCOTUS decision, followed by input from many stakeholders. Great use of sound/interviews

### News Broadcast-Under 15 minutes (Division A, Markets 1-30)

**KQED Public Radio, “KQED News,” Joshua Johnson**

*Judges comments:* Nicely done and balanced reporting on a breaking story. Very well done.

### News Broadcast-Under 15 minutes (Division B, Markets over 30)

**KCLU-FM/Santa Barbara, “KCLU News With Jim Rondeau,” Jim Rondeau**

*Judges comments:* Well written and conversationally delivered. More tape - even phone interviews - would make the newscast even stronger.

### Breaking News (Division A, Markets 1-30)

**KCBS Radio, “Chevron Refinery Fire,” KCBS News Team**

*Judges comments:* Nice handling of a dramatic refinery fire by KCBS anchors, who initially depended on phone calls from eyewitnesses and their traffic reporter. They also issued calm instructions to listeners in fire area

**Special News Program** (*Division A, Markets 1-30*)

**KCBS Radio, “Sunnydale,” Doug Sovern**

*Judges comments:* Great story about life in a horrible place; kids talking about living with regular gunfire in this SF public housing project was especially effective

**Public Affairs Program** (*Division A, Markets 1-30*)

**KQED Public Radio, “Forum: In My Experience: The Iraq War,” Michael Krasny, Judy Campbell, Irene Noguchi, Amanda Stupi, Dan Zoll**

*Judges comments:* Thought provoking look at the personal impact of the Iraq war on several interviewees, including a soldier who served there and an Iraqi interpreter who now lives in the Bay Area.

**Public Affairs Program** (*Division B, Markets over 30*)

**KVPR Fresno, “Valley Edition: Summer Scoop, New Fresno State President, Bike Plan, Police Brutality,” Joe Moore, Rebecca Plevin, Ezra Romero**

*Judges comments:* Nicely done! Especially the opening segment on the role ice cream plays when you're growing up in a small town.

**Sports Program/Special** (*Division A, Markets 1-30*)

**KCBS Radio, “Giants World Series Parade,” Stan Bunger, Steve Bitker, KCBS News Team**

*Judges comments:* Enthusiastic coverage of a real "feel good" moment for SF Giants fans, the city, and KCBS reporters alike: the victory parade for the SF Giants' second world series win.

**RADIO AWARDS** (*All Markets*)

**Investigative Reporting**

**KQED Public Radio, “Farmworker Sexual Harassment,” Sasha Khokha, Grace Rubenstein**

*Judges comments:* Excellent investigative work on a disturbing and under-reported topic. Well done.

**Multi-Part Series**

**KQED Public Radio, “Men of Influence,” Caitlin Esch**

*Judges comments:* The reports were raw and honest. She took the listener places they normally wouldn't go. Terrific story-telling. Brave and bold.

**News Reporting**

**KCLU-FM/Santa Barbara, “The Long Goodbye,” Lance Orozco**

*Judges comments:* Wonderfully done story. Real life. Moving. Inspiring.

**Feature Reporting-Serious**

**KQED Public Radio, “Refilling the Central Valley's Overdrawn Aquifers,” Sasha Khokha**

*Judges comments:* Excellent, well-written piece about an important and complex environmental issue. This story made me care.

**Feature Reporting-Light**

**KGO NewsTalk 810, “Local Boy Makes Good: Karim 'Hard Hitta' Mayfield,” Scott Lettieri**

*Judges comments:* Crisp, tight writing. Good use of nat sound and music. Audio mix was consistent and made the piece pleasant to listen to.

## Specialty Reporting

**KQED Public Radio, "Community Health," Mina Kim**

*Judges comments:* Mina's reports covered unique topics, and were made up of very interesting "characters" or subjects. Great story-telling and her writing was descriptive--especially in the elderly nursing home. Her story-telling put you there. Solid reports.

## Sports-Segment/Feature

**KAZU CSU Monterey Bay, "From Pro to Elite: A Local Surfer's Journey,"**

**Lindsey Graham-Jones**

*Judges comments:* Judges learned a lot about competitive surfing; well reported, with surfer interviews telling the story.

## Traffic-Segment

**KCBS Radio, "BART Shutdown," Stan Bunger, Susan Leigh Taylor, Kim Wonderly, KCBS News Team**

*Judges comments:* Calm, complete coverage of breaking news that impacted hundreds of thousands of listeners. KCBS covered all the angles; great source for BART passengers wondering "what now?"

## News Writing

**KQED Public Radio, "Berryessa-Snow Mountain Conservation Area," Craig Miller**

*Judges comments:* Important issue, well told.

## Use of Sound

**KQED Public Radio, "On the Elephant Seal Dating Scene, It's All About Bravado,"**

**Lauren Sommer**

*Judges comments:* Excellent use of sound. Creative, tight writing. Great use of the naturalist interspersed in the story to give the "play-by-play" of what was happening. Lauren painted a great word picture taking me right to the beach to witness the goings on. Nice work

## NEWS WEBSITE

**News Website (Division A, Markets 1-30)**

**KQED Public Radio, "KQEDNews.org," KQED News & Web Team**

*Judges comments:* KQED's website is clean, sophisticated and makes terrific use of photography. We were also impressed by the consistent integration of social media, logical use of links and complementary information from a variety of sources. Overall the KQED website is excellent.

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