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Twelve Years in Pursuit of Excellence

Newsletter Issue 5
November 2006
cnn.com/africanawards



**AFRICAN
JOURNALIST
AWARDS 2007**





Nolo Letele
Chief Executive Officer
MultiChoice South Africa



Eben Greyling
Chief Executive Officer
MultiChoice Africa

Reflecting back on the week spent in Mozambique in July is remarkable in that it is not often to see such a high level of debate and discussion on African media issues taking place between such a diverse and experienced group of media leaders from across the continent. The experience and value created by this interaction, coupled with the awards, is aimed at reinforcing the importance of the journalists' role in Africa, as well as to recognise and develop journalistic talent across all disciplines. It is for this reason that MultiChoice will continue to partner with CNN to ensure that we contribute to healthy and robust media industry in Africa.

In the words of CEO of MultiChoice Africa, Eben Greyling; "It has been proved in a number of global studies that communication is an essential element for development, and hence the role of journalistic excellence in the future of Africa remains critical." Globally, the current media can only be described as one of the most exciting and challenging ever. New technology is driving changes in the industry at an ever increasing rate. Together with the rapid rate of technology development is the fragmentation of media markets and the demand for original content that serves individual needs. The digital era has created an information superhighway, and Africa is part of this exhilarating new world.

While Africa faces a number of challenges in the media sector, MultiChoice South Africa CEO, Nolo Letele, believes the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist of the year awards provides a good platform to showcase excellence in journalism in Africa.

The awards provide an opportunity for journalists to position media in Africa as vibrant and robust. The partnership with CNN demonstrates MultiChoice's commitment to developing and growing the media in Africa. Over the years, these awards have played a crucial role in giving the media on this continent an identity, confidence and crucially, recognition for its achievements. We are proud to continue to be partners in this initiative.



Chris Cramer
CNN International Managing Director

Attending the CNN MultiChoice Africa Journalist Awards is always one of the highlights of my calendar. This year was no exception. It has grown over the years to so much more than an awards ceremony – the finalist programme is in-depth and far-ranging and as well as the talented finalists themselves top media from across the continent also gather to debate topics impacting on the industry.

Maputo was a fitting host city – in 2005 we expanded the competition to include entries from Portuguese-speaking countries - and as we came together for the eleventh time to celebrate excellence in African journalism, I was truly humbled by the breadth of talent that the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Award continues to discover.

This year again unearthed a wealth of voices, some old, some new, from around Africa, each with a compelling story to tell, and each demonstrating a quality of journalism, and in some cases a resourcefulness and bravery in pursuing the story in the first place, that has my deepest admiration. The stories that we saw in Moçambique ranged in content from the light-hearted to the harrowing. The common thread through each was the strength of journalist talent.

What started out in 1995 as the aspiration of a few dedicated individuals to recognise, promote and reward African journalists has grown both in stature and in reach to become the premier journalism award across the continent. We have been lucky enough to have continued those friendships from over a decade ago and forged new ones along the way.

I would like to thank those of you who continue to support this competition and encourage journalists across the African continent to enter the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2007 competition and become part of our pursuit of journalistic excellence. We look forward to welcoming you to Cape Town in July.



Jacqui O'Sullivan
Head of Corporate Communications and CSI

Seated on the marble steps rolling down to the pool at the splendid Polana Serena Hotel in Maputo – I was eavesdropping.

The judges and finalists had gathered for the next event on our busy schedule and animated conversations were being held in the brilliant sunshine.

One group were discussing HIV / AIDS and the approaches adopted by their home countries. Another group were talking football and the fact that the next FIFA World Cup will be held in Africa. A third group were debating homosexuality and how media in Africa deal with the topic.

In my mind this moment encapsulated what the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist of the Year competition is all about. It is about bringing together the best of African media, showcasing excellence and encouraging debate, while constantly striving to develop and enhance the industry on the continent.

South African Airways (SAA) have long realised and acknowledged the potential Africa holds for the rest of the world.

We have built an extensive route network across the continent and a large portion of our business focus is on Africa. Our Africa strategy is geared at continuously searching for opportunities to grow the airline's reach and connectivity throughout the continent.

With our own African focus in mind, I was honoured to be invited to join the judging panel, for this prestigious competition. It was a long and demanding process that required each of us to spend many hours and days getting to grips with the large number of entries.

I do believe that this rigorous and detailed judging process, undertaken each year, is the primary reason these awards have maintained such credibility and respect. These awards can be life changing and career-shaping. Their value cannot be underestimated.

The airline industry is helping change the face of Africa and a critical partner in this is the media.

We at SAA recognise the role we can play in helping develop the continent through tourism and business connectivity but Africa has many stories waiting to be told. These stories will help shape the perception and future of the continent.

These awards acknowledge the courage and creativity of individuals who tell Africa's stories to the rest of the world.

These reporters, broadcasters and photographers offer ordinary people, like you and me, an inside view into our continent. Hearing and reading and watching their stories, helps make the seemingly far removed, tangible and accessible.

The tireless efforts and passion of these journalists helps place Africa in perspective and SAA is honoured to have been involved in recognising their great work.

SAA will continue to support ethical, creative and inspired reporting and we salute all journalists on the continent, striving to achieve this.

South African Airways, like Africa, is growing, developing and brimming with potential. We are proud to be associated with the best of African journalism. We remain committed to working with Africa's media to showcase the best of our continent to the rest of the world.



Shola receiving the MKO Abiola Print Journalist Award from Krobo Edusei Jnr, CEO Safebond Africa Ltd.



Shola receiving the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2006 Award from President Armando Guebuza of Mozambique

Shola Oshunkeye - Nigeria

CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2006

“Did you sleep well?” That was the question Mr. Chris Cramer, Managing Director of CNN International, shot at me shortly after breakfast at the Polana Serena Hotel in Maputo, on Sunday, July 16, 2006. The night before, I had been named winner of the 11th edition of the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2006 Award. And I and Funsho, my wife of 25 years, had been so excited we almost couldn’t sleep all night. We were just ruminating on the entire ceremony and its implications for our lives all night. Everything seemed like a dream.

Of a truth, my journey to the continental award started small, very small like a drop in an ocean of possibilities. Although my article, Niger’s Graveyard Of The Living, that won the award for me, had been widely applauded back home in Nigeria as a masterpiece, it never occurred to me it could emerge the best. So, when I and my wife left Lagos, en-route Mozambique on the night of Sunday, July 7, the only thing we clutched was our pastor’s prayer on my 50th birthday in April, saying God would give me a hefty birthday gift on the global stage.

That prophetic saying flashed through my mind as Mr. Cramer posed his question. And I said, ‘Oh, we slept well,’ not meaning it. He laughed and said he would be surprised if the award did not add some pep to my life. “See you in Atlanta,” he said in conclusion, as he walked away.

Looking back at what has happened to me these past months, no one can fault Mr. Cramer’s confidence. With the award, it’s like I have been given a key that unlocks a door of infinite opportunities. Among other things, I have been able to build a network of inestimable value, not only on the continent but also across the world, and the contacts have pleasantly lifted my practice, far beyond my imagination. Between October 30 and November 17, 2006, I participated in the 17th edition of the CNN International Professional Programme at CNN Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, where I met and interacted with several anchors and reporters of the network, as well as some of the brains behind it (especially Cramer, who I met thrice).

That stanza of the IPP, the 17th in the series, was like a mini United Nations as it drew participants from virtually every continent of the world. The 14 participants came from Australia, Bulgaria, India, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, New Zealand, South Africa, Russia, Taiwan, Turkey and Venezuela. The programme exposed the participants to the network’s operations (both international and domestic), its huge investment in technology and extensive coverage of the world. It was like we were in another world, professionally speaking. The CNN complex and its seemingly out-of-this-world operations dazzled the participants on end. I can’t quantify the experience I gained during the programme. The memories, like diamonds, will last for ever.

At the home front, that night in Maputo changed everything for me in many ways that outstretched my imaginations. For instance, by the morning of Sunday, July 16, I was told Mr. Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the Governor of Lagos, my state of residence in Nigeria, had issued a statement of congratulations even as all the major media networks in the country were abuzz with the news. When we arrived, few days later, the Vice President, Mr. Atiku Abubakar, not only wrote to congratulate me, he also invited me to a reception at the State House in Abuja, our federal capital. Few days later, the President’s senior special assistant (media and publicity), Mrs. Oluremi Oyo, also sent her letter of congratulations. Mr. Olagunsoye Oyinlola, the Governor of my home state, Osun, not only sent a letter, he hosted me and my family to a lavish reception at the state capital. It was a huge media affair. What is more, Mr. Orji Kalu, the Governor of Abia State, in south east Nigeria, also the publisher of THE SUN newspaper, where I’m General Editor, not only congratulated me, he took me on a whirlwind tour of five West African nations. These included Liberia (whose president, Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, received us), Sierra Leone, Guinea and The Gambia (where we were received by the vice president, also a woman). I had become an instant celebrity. Yet, all these are just to mention but a few.

Now, the whole essence of this narration is not to show off. Far from it! It is to underscore the significance of the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist of the Year Award, an event that recognizes the oases of excellence on the continent, and its gargantuan impact on the lives and practice of the winners.

I will end this short piece with an advice to journalists across the continent: The CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Award is our own Pulitzer. Submit entries for it. Embrace it. Publicize it. It may be your key to irreversible breakthrough, the biggest splash in your own ocean of possibilities.



Shola pictured with CNN founder Ted Turner in Atlanta



Josephine Akarue - Cote d'Ivoire
2006 Finalist - Highly Commended South African Airway Tourism Award

Stretching the frontiers of my dreams

Everyone loves to win. Yet, when cheerless thoughts threaten to drag me down, I only need to recall July 15, and life takes on a different perspective. I simply do a quick retake and redirect my mind to Maputo 2006. Here, on the exquisite grounds of the chic Polana Serena Hotel, life as a freelance African journalist took on a more profound meaning. As one of the 21 finalists, what hit me was not simply the exhilaration of recognition. It was the healing that came along with it. In a sense, I had come one full circle.

It has meant richer social contacts, wider professional networking and a more balanced perspective of what the toil of this job means. It has compelled my looking at my community with new eyes and asking, how can I make a greater impact? For example, in Côte d'Ivoire, I am asking how can I get involved with improving the lives of animals in the zoo and increase its tourist potentials. Together with some friends, we are building on that.

This is the real cake. The rest- the commendation, the gifts, hugs and friendships- are the icing. Today, being a finalist means a ticket to setting higher standards and stretching the frontiers of my dreams. It is the elixir every journalist needs to push back the barriers and get to the story we all long to tell the world. Excellence pays.



Joel Kibazo
Chairman of the 2006 Judging Panel

You could have heard a pin drop. In fact it was unnerving; a group of media professionals in a single room without as much as a whisper? But it was all for a good reason. We were absorbed in reviewing the entries into the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2006 competition.

My partners in this tough assignment were Dr Doyinsola Abiola, Executive Director, The Daily Times Newspaper Group; Souleymane Diallo, President of West African Editors' Forum; CNN's Africa correspondent Jeff Koinange; Arlindo Lopes, Secretary General of SABA – the Southern African Broadcasting Association; Jacqui O'Sullivan, Head of Corporate Communications at South African Airways; and Anna Umbima, journalist and broadcaster. Filipe Correia de Sá, Senior Producer at BBC World Service, was brought in to help judge the Portuguese speaking category.

Locked away in CNN's London office over a 5 day period, my colleagues and I went through the 1530 entries, telling Africa's story of 2005; there was a total of 15 categories to judge including entries in general news, TV news bulletin; health and medical; arts and culture; and economics and business.

Judging was a two-step process of pre-selection and final judging to determine winners. Each entry was read, viewed and heard for pre-selection by the judges to narrow the field and to submit the top entries for final judging. Then the judges chose the finalists and winners in each of the categories.

With the competition no longer restricted to English language, there was an increase in Francophone and Lusophone entries. The general health and medical category remained and in 2006 saw the welcome addition of the HIV/AIDS journalism category supported by the Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation.

Overall, there was more than plenty to keep the judges occupied, we were engaged by some very well written pieces; enlightened and delighted by some very well told television stories and fascinated by some compelling radio pieces.

Radio is a category that remains the Cinderella in the competition in terms of the numbers of entries. It is a situation the judges would like to see improved and would really encourage more entries in this category.

We would also like to see more online entries' coming through; after all this is the fastest growing journalism medium and it can embrace all the categories of the competition.

The deafening silence was of course eventually broken as a vigorous exchange of views ensued among the judges. Having cajoled and persuaded one another, we all agreed on the 2006 finalists and winners and it was wonderful to spend time with them all in Maputo. During the course of the finalist workshops, media forums and dinners we had the opportunity to get to know them all and debate the issues facing journalists on the continent.

For all the judges it is a real joy to read, see and hear the best stories Africa has to offer. We encourage the journalists of Africa to enter this year's competition and look forward to meeting the finalists for the 2007 Awards in Cape Town.



Refinaldo Chilengue - Mozambique

2006 Portuguese General News Category winner

Winning the CNN MultiChoice Annual Award for the best reporting work in Portuguese and being presented with the award in my country's capital was an extremely gratifying experience for me, as I believe it was for Mozambique and for all Portuguese-speaking countries as well.

Although I wrote my winning articles without even thinking about the competition – since writing is something that is part of my life – the prize opened doors for me and drew me out of the reserve with which I had always protected myself.

After winning the award, I received so much publicity that invitations to work with the local media and to take part in symposiums and other kinds of professional events significantly increased.

More importantly, I earned the trust of the Banco Mercantil de Investimentos (BMI), which is giving me the financial support necessary to edit and publish a monthly magazine due to be launched in February 2007.

In short, the CNN Multichoice award was extremely gratifying and greatly enhanced my professional reputation.

Gratificante

A conquista de melhor trabalho de reportagem em português do Prémio Anual da CNN, cujo prémio foi-me entregue na capital do meu país, foi para mim extremamente gratificante, acreditando o ter sido igualmente para Moçambique e para todos os países falantes da Língua Portuguesa em todo o Mundo.

Se bem que escrevi os artigos que submeti à avaliação longe de pensar no concurso, porque o escrever é já algo que faz parte da minha vida, o galardão veio-me abrir mais portas e retirou-me da discrição a que sempre me resguardei.

Depois de receber o prémio vi o meu nome mais projectado profissionalmente de tal sorte que convites para colaborações em meios de comunicação social locais e convites para participar em simpósios e outro tipo de eventos sócio-profissionais ultrapassaram a média que era habitual.

Mais importante ainda foi o facto de ter merecido confiança do Banco Mercantil de Investimentos (BMI) que me assegurou patrocínio para a edição e publicação de uma revista mensal a sair para a rua a partir de Fevereiro de 2007.

Resumindo, o prémio da CNN/Multichoice foi extremamente gratificante e prestigiante para mim.



Ramata Soré - Burkina Faso

2006 Francophone Print Winner

Le Prix CNN et MultiChoice m'a donné des ailes!

Dans mon pays, le Burkina Faso, autrefois les homosexuels étaient considérés comme des chiens. Aujourd'hui, au moins, ils sont tolérés. Certes, je leur avais consacré un article. Mais l'octroi du Prix CNN et sa forte médiatisation ont beaucoup aidé. Du coup, je me suis découvert une nouvelle vocation : repartir sur les bancs à l'Université pour apprendre encore et encore afin de témoigner encore mieux. Et de continuer à donner et diffuser une image plus juste de la journaliste burkinabè et africaine : battante et perpétuant l'excellence.

«Big, big bravo pour ton Prix que tu viens de recevoir à Maputo au Mozambique. Tu es devenue l'étoile du journalisme burkinabè et notre fierté», m'a lancé, une lectrice burkinabè du nom de Rose Somda. Depuis, le prix Cnn multichoice m'a offert plusieurs occasions de recevoir la reconnaissance de la population burkinabè, africaine et de mes pairs.

L'Association des Professionnelles Africaines de la communication (APAC-Burkina) a initié une conférence de presse le 9 août 2006 pour présenter le trophée. La Télévision nationale du Burkina (Tnb) m'a fait l'insigne honneur de me consacrer une ? heure d'émission, animée par l'une des journalistes vedettes. Très lu sur le continent africain, le magazine Amina No 437 du 1er septembre m'a affichée à sa Une. Tant et si bien que ma modeste personne semble être à l'origine de quelques vocations. « Suite à la lecture de votre entretien dans le journal Amina, j'avoue que vous m'avez communiqué votre passion pour le journalisme. Je suis en classe de première et j'aimerais être journaliste comme vous. Comment faire pour le devenir ? ». Ce message m'est parvenu le 04 octobre 2006 par SMS à Ouagadougou depuis le Tchad. Visiblement, la nouvelle, largement médiatisée a parcouru les quatre coins du continent. Et je suis tellement heureuse et fière de participer à la naissance de nouvelles graines, à l'émergence d'une pépinière de journalistes africains compétents.

Par ailleurs, le sujet évoqué par mon article – justement primé par le prix CNN, commence à faire l'objet de discussions ouvertes et sereines dans mon pays. Avant, au Burkina Faso, être homosexuel, c'était être moins qu'un animal, c'était subir une damnation, vivre en marge de la société. Aujourd'hui au moins, les choses bougent, lentement, mais elles bougent. Et je ne suis plus l'objet des réactions violentes allant jusqu'à des menaces physiques contre ma petite personne.

On le voit, l'attribution de cette récompense internationale a donc permis de provoquer un débat de société sur l'homosexualité au Burkina Faso. Et je suis ravie d'avoir modestement participé à ce changement de comportement, à cette nouvelle tolérance. Certains me considèrent comme une personne ressource en matière des droits des minorités. Aussi, il m'arrive de répondre à de nombreuses sollicitations en provenance des médias et de certaines chancelleries (USA, Allemagne), pour aborder le sujet.

Au delà de ces bonnes nouvelles, l'octroi du prix Cnn Multichoice Afrique m'a permis de vivre cinq jours exceptionnels à Maputo au Mozambique, la ville de Samora Machel. Le voyage m'a permis de tâter les pulsations du monde journalistique. De côtoyer les meilleurs du monde des médias africains et mondiaux. De nouer et de maintenir des contacts. Pour moi, ce prix est un geste d'humanité. C'est un contrat pour l'excellence. Toute chose qui galvanise et pousse à mieux faire. Et moi, je veux être la MEILLEURE. C'est d'ailleurs pourquoi, je suis reconnaissante à l'Ambassade américaine de mon pays qui soutient ma candidature à la bourse d'étude Fulbright. Imaginez donc : une petite Sahélienne au pays de l'Oncle Sam. Elle est pas belle la vie ? Si. Grâce au CNN awards, elle devient merveilleuse pour moi.



Ramata Soré - Burkina Faso
2006 Francophone Print Winner

Flying high, thanks to CNN & MultiChoice

In my country, Burkina Faso, gays and lesbians used to be viewed as dogs. Today, they are at least tolerated. Sure, I wrote an article about them. But the CNN MultiChoice Award and its extensive coverage helped enormously. It also led me to discover a new vocation: I went back to university to learn even more, so that everything I write about would reflect reality even better. I also wanted to provide and spread a more accurate picture of what female African and Burkinese journalists are really like: winners who always strive for excellence.

'Huge congratulations on the prize you just received in Maputo, Mozambique. You've become the star of Burkina Faso journalism and we're proud of you.' That was the reaction of a Burkinese reader called Rose Somda. Since then, the CNN MultiChoice Award has given me many opportunities to receive the thanks of my peers, fellow citizens and other African people.

The Association of African Communication Professional Women (APAC Burkina) held a press conference on 9th August 2006 to present the trophy. Burkina National Television (TNB) gave me the special honour of a half-hour programme presented by a leading female journalist. The magazine *Amina*, which is widely read across the African continent, put me on the front page of Issue 437 of 1st September. So humble little me seems to have inspired several people to choose this vocation. 'Having read your interview in *Amina* magazine, I must say you have inspired me with your passion for journalism. I am in the first grade and I would like to be a journalist like you. How do I go about it?' This message from Chad, dated 4th October 2006, reached me by SMS in Ouagadougou. Obviously, the news received such wide coverage that it spread to the four corners of the continent. And I am so pleased and proud to have inspired so many people and encouraged them to become the outstanding journalists of the future.

Moreover, the subject of my CNN MultiChoice Award-winning article, which was published online at http://www.cnpres-zongo.net/evenementbf/pages/dossier_1_64.htm, is beginning to be debated calmly and openly in my country. Before, being gay or lesbian in Burkina Faso was to be less than an animal – to be damned and an outcast. Today, things are at least moving; slowly, but they are moving. And I am no longer the target of violent reactions, which even included physical threats.

It is plain that such international recognition has opened up social debate on gay and lesbian sexuality in Burkina Faso. And I am delighted to have played a modest part in this change in behaviour, in this new tolerance. Some people see me as a source of information on the rights of minorities and now I am handling numerous requests from the media and other countries (the US and Germany) to talk about the subject.

What's more, winning the CNN MultiChoice Award gave me the chance to experience five wonderful days in Maputo in Mozambique (the town of the late President Samora Machel). This trip allowed me to put my finger on the pulse of global journalism, to rub shoulders with the world's best in the African and international media, and to make and maintain new contacts. For me, this award is a gesture of humanity. It's a commitment to excellence. Something which galvanises and pushes you to do better. And I want to be the BEST. That's why I am grateful to the United States Embassy in my country for supporting my application for a Fulbright scholarship. Imagine it: a woman from the Sahel in the country of Uncle Sam. Isn't life great? Yes. Thanks to these Awards, life's really amazing for me.

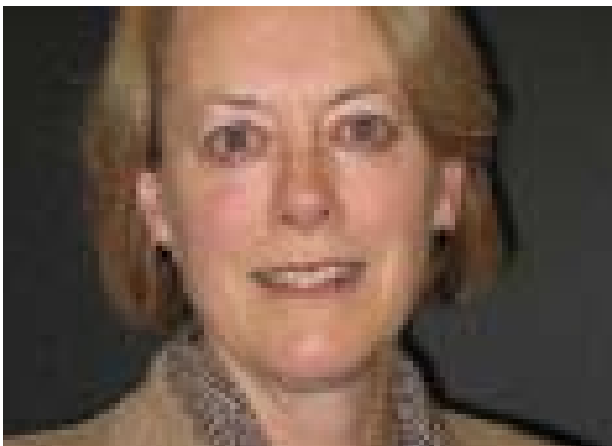


Penny Duckham

Executive Director Kaiser Media Fellowships Program

In 2005, Khopotso Bodibe and Anso Thom began reporting for the Health-e News Service on the aggressive marketing of so-called HIV/AIDS “cures” in the Cape Town area of South Africa. Despite the threat of lawsuits, a series of hard-hitting investigative radio and print pieces followed, and the expose led to the HIV/AIDS “cure” doctor leaving the country. In July 2006, the two reporters won the first Excellence in HIV/AIDS reporting award for African journalists, supported by the Henry J.Kaiser Family Foundation as part of the CNN MultiChoice awards, in a glitzy ceremony in Maputo, Mozambique. They beat some 135 other applicants from 29 different African countries, who submitted a range of emotionally tough, informative in-depth stories covering rape in refugee camps, HIV/AIDS and the police, and the stigma surrounding the epidemic.

The Kaiser Foundation, based in the U.S., focuses on health issues and works extensively with journalists around the globe. The Foundation invited 16 of the HIV/AIDS award finalists to meet in Maputo for the July ceremony, and organized a 4-day program of briefings and reporting discussions on HIV/AIDS, including visits to families in Maputo living with HIV/AIDS, and to hospitals and clinics caring for HIV/AIDS patients. The focus was on figuring out effective ways to report on HIV/AIDS and related public health issues, and to prepare for the XVI International AIDS conference to be held in Toronto, Canada, in August 2006. Kaiser then sponsored the reporters to travel to Canada to report from the Conference for their news organizations.



Penny Duckham

Getting to Canada was a grueling exercise—not least just getting a travel visa. Despite the importance of HIV/AIDS to so many African countries, several of the Kaiser journalists were the only ones able to report for their country from the Conference. For those able to make it, the IAS Conference is a bi-annual week-long opportunity to meet literally thousands of medical experts, Government officials, researchers and advocates for those living with AIDS, and to report alongside 3,500 other journalists from around the world. Stars like Bill Gates and Bill Clinton provide headline news at the Conference most days, but there are endless individual human stories to be told by just stopping along the Conference corridor or visiting the exhibit halls. The Kaiser group of African journalists were a dominant sight in the Media Centre, filing daily stories for their news organizations back home at all hours of day and night—literally, given the 7-hour time difference.

After two months working so closely together, in Maputo and in Toronto, our group of journalists has returned home. E-mail is a great way to keep connected, but we are hoping to regroup—one way or another—and to meet new colleagues interested in learning more about reporting on HIV/AIDS at the 2007 CNN MultiChoice Awards meeting.

Attending the Kaiser Workshop in Maputo

- Ms. Lillian Aluanga, The Sunday Standard, Kenya
- Mr. Simon Kasyate, Daily Monitor, Uganda
- Mr. James King, The Advocate newspaper & Harbel Radio, Liberia
- Ms. Tchibozo Komlan Makeba, Adjinakou newspaper, Benin
- Mr. Francisco Manjate, Jornal Noticias newspaper, Mozambique
- Mr. Gustavo Mavie, Diario de Mocambique newspaper, Mozambique
- Ms. Hellen Miseda, The People On Sunday/The People Daily, Kenya
- Ms. Arlita Jose Monjane, TV Miramar, Mozambique
- Mr. Robert Mukondiwa, The Sunday Mail, Zimbabwe
- Mr. Samuel Muraya, Metro-FM radio, Kenya
- Mr. Elseborn Mwangi, freelance reporter, The People Daily, Kenya
- Mr. Ansbert Ngurumo, East African/Free Media, Tanzania
- Ms. Nassima Oulebsir, Le Jeune Independent newspaper, Algeria
- Ms. Anso Thom, Health-e/Sunday Times, South Africa
- Ms. Zeguella Yao Bi Bagayoko, Fraternite Matin newspaper, Ivory Coast



Kim Cloete

South Africa

Being awarded a Nieman Fellowship to Harvard University last year was the culmination of a long-cherished goal. It would be an opportunity to plunge into studying, reflect on journalism and deepen my interest in global issues. What I didn't realise fully was how rewarding it would be for my family as well.

The Nieman Fellowship is considered the most sought-after in journalism and draws journalists from around the globe for a year of study, debates and discussions.

But what it also does is open up your world to a kaleidoscope of new experiences and friends, and to cap it all, includes your partner and children. Partners are also able to take courses across the spectrum of Harvard's nine schools, from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to the Kennedy School of Government and the Harvard Business School.

My husband, Ken, immersed himself in fiction writing, art and music classes.



Our 12-year-old son, Sebastian, went to a public school and settled smoothly into a different way of life. He made friends, ran in the Heartbreak Hill Race, run on the same day as the Boston Marathon, explored the New England area on camping trips with schoolfriends and tackled different subjects at school. Through getting together with other "Nieman" kids he learnt about ways of life for children in Brazil, Cameroon and Pakistan.

In all ways, the year exceeded my expectations. There were 23 Nieman Fellows – 11 Americans and 12 International Fellows, each from a different country ranging from Brazil and Japan to Canada and China. Many of them brought their families.

We met during the week for seminars and journalism "shop talks" on issues ranging from the crises in Darfur and the Mideast to the state of print and broadcast journalism and the rapid development of internet journalism. Once a week throughout the year, Fellows would take turns to deliver an hour-long talk and prepare a traditional dinner for the group. It helped us appreciate each other's cultures and careers and was a highlight of the week.

We experienced the seasons of New England, from the brilliant golds and reds of Autumn, for which the area is known, to the snow in Winter, and all of its accompanying delights, including sledding with newfound friends and taking up ice-skating lessons on the open-air rink in the middle of Boston.

On a personal level, I combined courses which would further my skills in journalism together with deepening my interest in international rights and the political economy of Africa. I also studied film and music.

The year offered the opportunity to delve into new challenges. Together with my Brazilian counterpart I ran a media workshop for women leaders and journalists in conflict-ridden countries. I travelled to New York to represent the International Fellows at a function and hosted several sessions at the Narrative Conference for Journalists in Boston, which drew over a thousand reporters and editors.

We made lifelong friends among the Nieman group, frequently meeting for dinners, trips to nearby towns and villages and coffees and drinks in Harvard Square, the hub near the campus. Our children have become firm friends and plan to meet again one day.

I feel immensely privileged to have had the opportunity to spend the year as a Nieman Fellow and encourage other journalists to apply for a Fellowship.

I was fortunate enough to have won a CNN African Journalist of the Year Award for Television News in 1999. I believe the award helped me significantly in being accepted for a Fellowship and opening the door to a once-in-a-lifetime experience for myself and my family.



Edward Boateng

**Founder - African Journalist Awards
Managing Director-Global Media Alliance - Senior Advisor- CNN Africa**

The African Journalist Awards - Its Role in Africa

African journalism had, for sometime been overlooked and disregarded because it was thought to lack the glamour, importance and elegance of other professions. Through the initiative of concerned and influential minds, the celebration of African Journalism has unearthed and highlighted “journalistic diamonds”, praised their effort and initiatives and placed their stories on the international stage.

The contribution of African journalists cannot be overlooked in our developmental efforts. It is their responsibility to inform us on the issues, enumerate the problems, provide platforms for solutions to these problems, help influence perceptions and assist in building the Africa psyche. Through the celebration of the African Journalist every year, we seek to help recognize the journalists who out there working hard to achieve these ideals through their stories. These include, the stories that have the capacity to impact and bring together people, highlight conflicts and help resolve issues, bring joy to people’s lives, increase the awareness of our rich cultural heritage and lend a hand in building up the African confidence.

For the past eleven (11) years, we have celebrated dedicated individuals committed to promoting African Journalism in the true sense of the words. We took it a step further this year to celebrate the triumphs of Mozambique; a remarkable African story. A country that has picked itself up from the ashes of war and complete devastation and is now a role model African country of good governance and economic growth. Several people travelled to Maputo to witness the celebrations and left Maputo with a sense of optimism, the feeling of the birth of a new African child and with that the desire to go back to their countries and contribute in more positive ways.

The task ahead is still immense and the challenges daunting. In some instances, journalists have become their own enemies by flaunting their newly acquired freedoms, straying from the fundamental ethics of their profession and using the power of their pens and lenses to intimidate the people they are meant to defend for their own personal gain. However, through these Awards, we will strive to highlight those journalists who continue to uphold and promote, accurate and fair reporting, for our challenge is to develop a cadre of credible and honest African Journalists through whose stories the image of Africa will be redefined this century.

The constant “outdoor” of African journalism will help Africa in shedding its image from poverty stricken, disease ridden, conflict devastated and the “hopeless and dark continent” to one of hope, peace and prosperity.

In the words of international geographer, George Kimble who said, “The darkest thing about Africa has always been our ignorance of it.”, until Africans tell the truth in stories about Africa, with passion, style and purpose, the continent will always be misinterpreted. Through the CNN Multichoice Awards, we seek to create this platform for the African Journalist and African Journalism.



Khopotso Bodibe (left) and Anso Thom (right) receiving their award from Penny Duckham, Kaiser Family Foundation Media Fellowships Program

Anso Thom - South Africa

Journalist, Health-e News Service

Over 20 000 people from around the world, all passionate about defeating the Aids epidemic, gathered under the watchful eye of around 3 000 journalists in one of Canada's most beautiful cities – Toronto – in August.

The 16th International Aids Conference drew the largest attendance in its history as a diverse groups including among others scientists, researchers, sex workers, doctors, Buddhist monks, nurses, former US president Bill Clinton, celebrities, recovering injecting drug users, people living with HIV, activists, one of the world's richest couples – Bill and Melinda Gates met for six days to find new ways forward in the fight against probably one of the world's biggest challenges ever, the Aids epidemic.

A group of African journalists travelled from all corners of the continent, some managing to successfully sidestep the massive clampdown on hand luggage and liquids in Heathrow, while others were less fortunate and found themselves stranded at the airport for several hours.

The group arrived several days before the start of the conference to attend a workshop put together by the Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation, who also sponsored our travel, accommodation and attendance of the conference.

The presenters at the workshop were top notch with high powered leaders such as Helene Gayle, who also co-chaired the conference, sharing her insights with our group on what was expected to feature during the conference. Other excellent speakers, all leaders in their field, ensured that we were well

briefed on treatment, prevention and other issues that were likely to be discussed at the conference, which is often a bewildering and overwhelming experience for newcomers.

A group of experienced African and American journalists were also made available to answer any questions, fears or uncertainties throughout the conference, making sure everyone was able to report on the various angles pertinent to their countries.

The support from the Kaiser team was phenomenal – we were accommodated in a hotel within walking distance from the conference centre (this is huge plus as many colleagues had to travel two hours by train to get to their accommodation), laptops were made available and there was always someone in the media centre able to help.

But it was not all work as the group socialized at night – enjoying the fantastic food Toronto is renowned for (although many colleagues were mumbling that they missed their home country food towards the end!).

Toronto was an incredible opportunity, an unforgettable experience and one that will forever remain a climax of my Aids reporting career. It is difficult to mention all the highlights, but probably the best part was the relationships formed with colleagues from the continent who understand the critical role we have to play in stemming the tide of an epidemic threatening to devastate our beautiful Africa.



The children at the school

Ouézen Louis Oulon

Burkina Faso 2004 Francophone

As I prepared to participate in the CNN African Journalist 2004 competition, which I had not heard of before, I never, for one moment, imagined how prestigious this award was. My participation was purely an attempt to see how lucky I would get and it turned out to be a master stroke, better even, a label that today is of benefit to my whole village. For 40 years, Boli my village, had been in need of a school to educate its children and it is today equipped with a modern primary school welcoming this year over 51 students. It is as if the village came out of 40 years of darkness to suddenly find itself under a bright light all thanks to the CNN prize won by one of its sons.

It was really due to the pride that I had bestowed on my native region by having won numerous prizes over the last 10 years, at a national and international level, and to congratulate me that people from my province (Le Nahouri) organised a ceremony in October 2004. And given that, amongst all the past trophies collected, one bore the CNN name, the organisers decided then to invite his excellence Anthony Holmes, the US ambassador to Burkina Faso. It is during this occasion that I raised the issue regarding the lack of educational infrastructure in my village. A grievance that



Ouézen, pictured at the 2004 Awards ceremony, went to America this year on a Fulbright scholarship for a Hubert Humphrey Fellowship. As part of his course, Ouezen will begin a ten-week internship with CNN International at its headquarters in Atlanta in January 2007.

Ouézen, qui est photographié ici à la cérémonie de remise de prix en 2004, est allé cette année aux Etats Unis avec l'aide de Fulbright pour faire une bourse d'étude d'Hubert Humphrey. Une partie de son cours aura lieu au siège principal de CNN à Atlanta où il fera un stage de dix semaines en Janvier 2007.

touched the American diplomat who immediately financed the building of the school whose inauguration took place on the 18th of March 2006.

This is where the CNN Prize can take you. Where you least expect it. And when I read on the plate that proudly sits on the school building: "Fruit of the cooperation Burkina Faso/ United States of America, in tribute to Ouézen Louis Oulon, 2004 CNN prize winner of the CNN African Journalist 2004" I don't have enough words to thank the organisers of this competition which today allowed children of my village to attend school.

Quand je participais en 2004 au prix CNN du journaliste africain, compétition que je ne connaissais pas du tout auparavant, je n'imaginai pas un seul instant ce que ce prix comportait comme prestige. Cette tentative "à la main levée" qui à mon sens était de tenter ma chance s'est révélée un coup de maître et mieux, un label qui profite aujourd'hui à tout mon village. Boli mon village qui, depuis 40 ans était dans le besoin d'une école pour l'éducation de ses enfants est aujourd'hui dotée d'une école primaire moderne qui accueille cette année plus 51 élèves. C'est comme si le village sortait de 40 ans de ténèbres pour se retrouver brusquement sous une lumière grâce au prix CNN remporté par un de ses fils.

En effet, c'est pour me féliciter pour les nombreux prix remportés par ma modeste personne ces 10 dernières années au plan national et international que des fils et filles de ma province natale (le Nahouri) avaient initié en octobre 2004 une cérémonie de félicitation de ma personne pour l'honneur que je fais à la région. Et Comme parmi les trophées remportés il y avait un, qui portait le label de la chaîne CNN, les organisateurs avaient alors invité l'ambassadeur des Etats Unis d'Amérique au Burkina Faso, monsieur Anthony Holmes. C'est à cette occasion que j'avais posé le problème du manque d'infrastructures scolaires dans mon village; une doléance qui a touché le diplomate américain qui a immédiatement financé l'école dont l'inauguration a eu lieu le 18 mars dernier.

Voilà où peut aller le prix CNN. Où on l'attend le moins. Et quand je lis sur la plaque qui trône sur le bâtiment de l'école : "fruit de la coopération Burkina Faso / Etats Unis d'Amérique, en hommage à Ouézen Louis Oulon, prix cnn 2004 du journaliste africain de l'année 2004" je manque de mots pour remercier les organisateurs de cette compétition qui ont permis aujourd'hui aux enfants de mon village d'aller à l'école.



Jeff Koinange
CNN Africa Correspondent

Maputo Magic....Cape Town Calling...

Few of us who had been to the CNN MultiChoice Awards in Nairobi, Kenya in 2005 ever imagined another city could possibly outdo the warm welcome and great fun we had there. That was until we arrived in Maputo, Mozambique, for the 11th Annual Awards. How wrong we were.

If there's a capital in Africa (and I've been to most) that's retained its colonial quaintness, it's Maputo, formerly Lorenzo Marques.

From the beautiful Polana Serena Hotel straddling the Indian Ocean, to a place known as the Fortress, to the city's main railroad station which doubles-up as a restaurant at night where patrons can wine and dine right on the platform, Maputo is simply Magic, or as the country's President so proudly calls "The jewel of the Indian Ocean."

If you weren't a finalist this year, this is what you missed....and more. The icing on the cake is of course Awards Night and this year the setting was a marquee-turned-convention centre (affectionately knick-named the 'Maggie Eales' Convention Centre after our ever-tireless and hands-on Team Leader who just happens to be Senior Vice President of Turner/CNN).

After the ceremony, the feeling I got from the winners was that they've never seen or experienced anything like the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist of The Year Awards....and many of

them vowed to enter again next year and hopefully make it to Cape Town, the place many refer to as a totally 'Out Of Africa Experience', only it's in Africa.

By the way, the entries this year (2006) were the best yet, proof positive that the event is getting more and more competitive each year....and making our (judges) jobs even more difficult. Take the overall winner, Nigerian, Shola Oshunkeye. His incredible compilation of reports on one of the most 'under-reported' stories of the year, the famine in Niger, was as good as it gets. Take it from me. As CNN's Africa Correspondent, I too was in Niger during that terrible time so I could relate to the story but anyone reading those reports from anywhere on the planet felt that they were there, living the unfolding tragedy through Shola's first-rate reports.

And that's exactly what we (the seven judges) look for in your stories. We're looking for honest, bold, strong, well researched, well written, well voiced (where appropriate) stories that when we look at, we'll automatically say, "This is a winner." Again, take it from me....it's not rocket science- as long as you can 'walk us through' the experience, tell us the Who, What, Why, When, Where and How of the story and tell it simply and conversationally, you're already half-way there...after all, what's the worst that can happen? We reject your entry.....and the Best? You end up in Cape Town as a finalist....maybe even a winner. It's as easy as that.



Behind the scenes

The setting for the 2006 CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Awards was stunning. From the splendid Polana Serena Hotel in Maputo, the views over the Indian Ocean were absolutely breathtaking. The General Manager, Richard Lander, and his staff couldn't have done more to ensure that the event was the best ever. They provided a blank canvas upon which to paint a spectacular event, hosting over 500 specially invited guests along with all the visiting media. The production crew were responsible for turning a live event into a highlights' programme, which was aired in 40 countries across the African continent in 3 languages. No pressure then – except our blank canvass was the hotel's bowling green!!

So, what went on behind the scenes to turn 40 square metres of grass into a spectacular indoor venue? Firstly CAP Productions was appointed to produce the live event; they had worked on the 2005 Awards in Kenya so knew the high standards required.

We then made sure we worked with a company that specialised in building outside venues across Africa and met Guy de Jongh of MPR Hiring. Guy and his team brought with them not only huge experience in this very specialised area, but also truck loads of equipment. As there were delays at the border, the teams worked tirelessly (but still cheerfully!) and in the space of three days and nights we had a venue which would be the envy of many.



Several months before the Awards ceremony preparations start - these include making the coveted winners' statuettes. Johannesburg based, Mitch Webber has been designing the African Journalist Awards for the past 8 years and painstakingly hand-makes each award.

Above: This year, Mitch was awarded the citizen of the year award and the top 5 Achiever award.



Ghana 1995

The CNN Awards began in Ghana in 1995 with Joana Mantey as our first African Journalist of the Year. Africa was the first journalist initiative for CNN International and has led the way for other territories to follow.

Now, CNN journalist competitions are running in German speaking territories (Germany, Austria and Switzerland); Brazil; Venezuela; India and Pakistan and a new award in France has just been launched.



Winners of CNN Young Journalist Award 2005, India



Journalist of the year winners 2005 & 2006, Brazil



Journalist of the year winners 2006, Germany





CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2007 Awards

How to enter

It's time to review your work of 2006 and enter the most prestigious journalism competition in Africa.

The competition is open to all African journalists and freelancers working in Africa for African media organizations.

All you have to do is review your work that's been printed, online or broadcast from January to December 2006, fill in the entry form and send it to one of our collection points. It's that easy. With a total of 16 categories to choose from, there's at least one that's suitable for your stories. So, whether you're a print, radio, television, internet or photo journalist there's a category for you.

Through MultiChoice and their network of DStv offices around Africa you can leave your entries in their local offices or send directly to CNN in London or at any of the collection points listed on the entry form. So long as they find their way to us by Feb 21st 2006 your work will be included in the judging process.

As you'll have read in Joel Kibazo's piece, the judges were disappointed in the number of radio entries in 2006 so remember to encourage your radio colleagues to enter their best general news piece.

If you've lost your entry form, or need more, you can access it at our website – www.cnn.com/africanawards - or if technology fails us please contact Kevin Talbot on +44 2076930846; email cnafrica.competition@turner.com. Photocopies of the entry form are accepted and please remember to send a recent colour photo of yourself along with your CV and the background on how you got your story, if it's relevant.

Go through your work of 2006 and enter today. And, as Jeff Koinange, said in his article – you may just end up in Cape Town as one of the finalists' and have the opportunity to network with the best journalists across Africa.

Interested in applying for a Knight Fellowship?

The John S. Knight Fellowships at Stanford University is accepting applications from journalists outside the U.S. for its 2007-2008 fellowship program. Fellowships are granted to up to 8 journalists each year who have already done first-rate work and who have the potential of reaching the top ranks in their specialties. Fellows receive a stipend of \$55,000 plus supplements for housing, child care, health insurance and books, plus round-trip airfare for the fellow. The program pays Stanford tuition for each Fellow.

Applicants must have at least five years of full-time professional experience, be currently working full-time as journalists and fluent in English. International Fellows are financed by grants from a variety of sources. All activities of the program are open to spouses and partners of Fellows.

Knight Fellowships:

Application Deadline is December 15, 2006

but for more information, please visit: <http://knight.stanford.edu>

1995 - 2007 12 years of winners

1995

John Githongo, Kenya, **Yasmin O Bedwei-Majdoub**, Ghana
Olumuyiwa Moyela, Nigeria, **Erich Ogosu Opolot**, Uganda

1995 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Joana Mantey, Ghana

1997

Tom Dorkennoo, Ghana, **Anthony Livuza**, Malawi
Daniel Brande, Ghana, **Zingisa Makina**, South Africa
Ayida Komla Dany, Togo, **Roger Makings**, South Africa
Outsa Mokone, Botswana, **Joseph Ode**, Nigeria
Jessica Pitchford, South Africa

1997 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Ken Opala, Kenya

1998

Olukayode Thomas, Nigeria, **Nicky De Blois**, South Africa
Daniel Mensah Brande, Ghana, **Linus Kaikai**, Kenya
Angie Kapelianis, South Africa, **Mutahi Mureithi**, Kenya
Tamunoibim Sememitari, Nigeria, **Ronel Van Zyl**, South Africa

1998 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Newton Kanhema, Zimbabwe

1999

Kim Cloete, South Africa, **Themba Hadebe**, South Africa
Vinicius Hodges, Liberia, **Sy Lerman**, South Africa
Janet Mba-Afolabi, Nigeria, **Marianne Merten**, South Africa
Ima Niboro, Nigeria, **Osita Nwajah**, Nigeria
Linus Kaikai, Kenya

1999 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Declan Okpalaeke, Nigeria

2000

Adewale Adeoye, Nigeria, **Shenid Bhayroo**, South Africa
Brian Hungwe, Zimbabwe, **Mia Malan**, South Africa
Ingrid Martens, South Africa, **Sophia Phirippides**, South Africa
Sorius Samura, Sierra Leone, **Jabulani Sikhakhane**, South Africa
Olukayode Thomas, Nigeria, **Charlene Smith**, South Africa

2000 Joint CNN African Journalists of the Year:
Jacques Pauw and Adil Bradlow, South Africa

&

Wanja Njunguna-Githinji, Kenya

2001

Tony Carnie, South Africa, **Faizel Cook**, South Africa
Shyaka Kanuma, Rwanda, **Njoki Karuoya**, Kenya
Declan Okpalaeke, Nigeria, **TJ Lemon**, South Africa
Manfred Mensah, Ghana, **Mpho Moagi**, South Africa
Eric Orina, Kenya, **Jonathan Shapiro**, South Africa
Adolf Spangenberg, South Africa

2001 Joint CNN African Journalists of the Year:
Jacques Pauw, South Africa

And

Samantha Rogers, South Africa

2002

Sara Blecher, South Africa, **Declan Okpalaeke**, Nigeria
Patrice Douh-Lessou, Cote d'Ivoire, **John Mwendwa Gitari**, Kenya
Khadija Magardie, South Africa, **Isaac Masingati**, Malawi
Tsvangirayi Mukwazhi, Zimbabwe, **Caroline Nakazibwe**, Uganda
Angie Kapelianis, South Africa, **Loretta Vanderpuye**, Ghana

2002 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Susan Purén, South Africa

2003

Claudine Atohoun, Benin, **Maggi Barnard**, Namibia
Eric Kakore, Uganda, **Gill Gifford**, South Africa
Anna-Maria Lombard, South Africa
Alpheus Siebane, South Africa, **Patrick Maigua**, Kenya
Walter Marwizi, Zimbabwe, **Betty Mkwasa**, Tanzania
Ambrose Namoyo, Malawi, **Siphiwe Sibeko**, South Africa
Mpho Moagi, South Africa

2003 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Ibiba DonPedro, Nigeria

2004

Alakagni Hala, Cote d'Ivoire, **Lokumu Kabamba**, Gabon
Simon Peter Kasyate, Uganda, **Sarah Kimani**, Kenya
Matuma Letsoala, South Africa, **Wisani wa ka Ngobeni**, South Africa
Dumisani Ndlela, Zimbabwe, **Thuli Nhlapo**, South Africa
Mwenda Njoka, Kenya, **Neo Ntsoma**, South Africa
Oscar Ogonyo, Kenya, **Orto Sori Orto**, Kenya
Cliffderrick Richard Otieno, Kenya, **Ouèzen Louis Oulon**, Burkina Faso
Sophia Phirippides, South Africa
Jonathan Pienaar, South Africa

2004 CNN African Journalist of the Year:
Peter Murimi, Kenya

2005

Ntai Bagshaw, Nigeria, **Sakina Dato**, Tanzania
The late Deyda Hydara, Gambia, **Benjamin Joffe-Walt**, South Africa
Julie Kelly, South Africa, **Sarah Kimani**, Kenya
Nadia Lamlili, Maroc, **Nkepile Mabuse**, South Africa
Hilary Mboke, Malawi, **José Luís Mendonça**, Angola
Orto Sori Orto, Kenya, **Jessica Pitchford**, South Africa
Mohamed Saïm, Algeria, **Nicolene Troll**, South Africa
Roseline Wangui Wanyiri, Kenya, **Debbie Yazbek**, South Africa

CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2005:
Angelo Kinyua, Kenya

2006

Lillian Aluanga, Kenya, **Angus Begg**, South Africa
Khopotso Bodibe, South Africa, **Refinaldo Chilengue**, Mozambique
Victoria Cullinan, South Africa, **Tanya Farber**, South Africa
Salwa Jaafari, Maroc, **Desmond Kwande**, Zimbabwe
Isaac Masingati, Malawi, **Sandy McCowen**, South Africa
Dumisani Muleya, Zimbabwe, **Sammy Muraya**, Kenya
Joe Ombuor, Kenya, **Jacques Pauw**, South Africa
Ramate Soré, Burkina Faso, **Anso Thom**, South Africa

CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2006:
Shola Oshunkeye, Nigeria

2006 Finalists & their work

Josephine Akarue, NewsAfrica, Côte d'Ivoire - *Walking back in time*

Marion Alina, WBS Television, Uganda - *The arrest of Dr Kizza Besigye*

Lillian Aluanga, The Sunday Standard, Kenya - *Gift of Healing*

Angus Begg, Carte Blanche, M-Net, South Africa - *Night Cricket*

Refinaldo Chilengue, Revista Mais, Moçambique - *Trabalho agrícola na África do Sul - Fel e mel!*

Victoria Cullinan, Carte Blanche, M-Net, South Africa - *Ashley's story*

Tanya Farber, The Sunday Independent, South Africa - *Wide World of Cuisine*

Salwa Jaafari, 2M, Maroc - *A la vie a la mort*

Desmond Kwande, Daily Mirror, Zimbabwe - *Operation Murambatsvina (Get rid of trash)*

Isaac Masingati, The Sunday Times, Malawi - *Spinning scrap into gold*

Sandy McCowen, South African Broadcasting Corporation, South Africa - *Rape*

Dumisani Muleya, Zimbabwe Independent, Zimbabwe - *CIQ Takes Over Private Media*

Sammy Muraya, Metro FM, Kenya - *Kakuma Story*

Bamuturaki Musinguzi, New African, Uganda - *Communication Changing Lives*

Joe Ombuor, Daily Nation, Kenya - *In the bowels of Ngong forest*

Shola Oshunkeye, TELL, Nigeria - *Niger's Graveyard of the living*

Adeshina Oyetayo, TELL, Nigeria - *The Amazing World of Albinos*

Jacques Pauw, Special Assignment, SABC, South Africa - *Room 6A*

Ramata Soré, L'Événement, Burkina Faso - *Etre Homosexuel au Burkina*

Anso Thom and Khopotso Bodibe, Health-e News Service, South Africa - *Rath's Free Reign*

