



## RESOLUTION

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### RESOLUTION FOR DAVID BURKE DISTINGUISHED JOURNALISM AWARDS

October 8, 2015

WHEREAS, the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Award was named after David W. Burke, who was the founding chairman and leader of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for its first three years;

WHEREAS, the award recognizes courage, integrity and originality in reporting by journalists within the BBG broadcast organizations;

WHEREAS, the broadcasters' stories enlighten and inform listeners and exhibit a commitment to the free exchange of ideas; and

WHEREAS, the submissions for the David Burke Distinguished Journalism Award met the following established criteria:

- Individual's or team's performance in any area of U.S. international media: reporting, broadcasting, writing, editing, filming, producing stories or reports across various platforms.
- An individual or team can be nominated for a single story, a body of work or exceptional performance, such as extreme bravery or hardship in reporting a story.
- The work must inform and enlighten audiences, impacting their lives in a meaningful way. It must exhibit originality.
- The work should exhibit a commitment to the cause of democracy and the free exchange of ideas.
- Permanent or contract employees working for U.S. international media.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Broadcasting Board of Governors grants an award to the following individuals who demonstrated exceptional performance:

Voice of America (VOA) -- Ibrahim Ahmed: In recognition of Mr. Ahmed's on-the-scene coverage while traveling through Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa States during the height of Boko Haram attacks there, and providing stories of survival and resistance to VOA audiences on digital products, on radio and television as well as on the Hausa website that he helped create.

Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) -- Jose Alpizar: In recognition of Mr. Alpizar's work with OCB by singlehandedly nurturing a network of dedicated Cuban citizens to disseminate Radio and Television Marti content on the island.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Baku Bureau: In recognition of the team's uncommon courage, consummate journalistic professionalism, and deep commitment to democracy and free speech, as it continued to produce exemplary journalistic content and build audiences in

Azerbaijan in the face of intensified government attacks on critical voices; threats, harassment, and arrests of Baku-based journalists; and an illegal December 26 police raid on the bureau that forced it to suspend operations.

Radio Free Asia's Uyghur Reporter -- Shohret Hoshur: In recognition of Mr. Hoshur's exceptional coverage of Xinjiang Province.

Middle East Broadcasting Networks' Producers of Alhurra's *Delusional Paradise* -- Leila Bazzi, Pierre Jad, and George Chewah: In recognition of their work on a thought-provoking documentary series that sheds a light on the atrocities committed by Daesh in a way not often seen on Arab television.