



Press Release

NHK Documentary Wins Rockie Award at Banff

TOKYO, June 13, 2006 – The 27th Banff World Television Festival is being held in Alberta, Canada, and the winners were announced Monday, June 12, local time. Over 1,000 programs representing 24 countries were entered in 18 categories this year, and NHK's *The Cyborg Revolution* received the Rockie Award, a prize that is given to the best program in each category, in the Popular Science & Natural History Programs category.

Rockie Award [Popular Science & Natural History Programs category]

The Cyborg Revolution

(Produced by NHK, Japan, aired November 5, 2005, 74 min.)

Synopsis: Cyborg technology allows the brain and the nervous system to be directly connected to devices attached to the body. Once a dream of science fiction, this revolutionary technology is now becoming a reality. This technology is producing dramatic results for those suffering from disabilities and chronic illness, but at the same time military applications are also being developed. Japan's leading journalist explores the future of humankind.

Two international co-production programs that NHK took part in also received the following awards.

Grand Prize (given to the best program among all the 18 categories)

Rockie Award [Arts Documentary category]

American Masters: No Direction Home: Bob Dylan

(Produced by Thirteen/WNET New York, Grey Water Park Productions, Spitfire Pictures, Cappa/DeFina Productions in co-production with Vulcan Productions, BBC/Arena, NHK. Aired November 23, 2005, 113 min.)

Martin Scorsese succeeded in making a 10-hour interview with media-shy Bob Dylan. The program focuses on the singer-songwriter's unrevealed philosophy of life and music.

NHK President's Prize (given to the best program using HDTV technology)

The Queen of Trees

(A Deeble and Stone Production for Thirteen/WNET New York, NHK, Granada International, BBC and ZDF. Aired January 6, 2006, 69 min.)

A remarkable story of an African fig tree and its special relationship with a tiny insect partner. The relationship is a pinnacle of co-evolution, and the basis of a complex web of dependency which supports animals from ants to elephants.

About Banff World Television Festival

Banff World Television Festival is a program competition that has been held in Banff, Canada, in early June every year since its establishment in 1980. This year, the festival is taking place between June 11 and 14. Four international jury members screened the finalists of each category. (<http://www.banff2006.com/>)

Past awarded NHK programs

Global Television Grand Prize (2004)

Rockie Award in Family and Youth Programs category (2004)

Children- Full of Life: Learning to Care (NHK)

Rockie Award in Sports Programs category (2005)

262 Hits-Ichiro's Perspective (NHK)

Rockie Award in Popular Science and Natural History Programs category (2005)

Unprecedented Fabrication (NHK)

Rockie Award in Family and Youth Programs category (2005)

Extracurricular Lesson: Tell Us About Your Life: Conquer the World with Smile Power!

(NHK Enterprises Inc., TV MAN UNION, Inc.)