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VOP-TV6 Entries Winners in National Programming Competition

Original programs produced by the Village's municipal cable television station were big winners in national competition, as documentaries on the history of the Oak Park Farmers' Market and the Barrie Park remediation project both won first place honors in two categories.

The awards were presented last week by the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA), a non-profit professional association that recognizes the accomplishments of municipal television stations through annual programming awards. This was the 21st year the awards have been presented by NATOA.

Still Fresh: 30 Years of the Oak Park Farmer's Market, produced in celebration of the market's 30th anniversary, won first place honors in both the event and profile categories of documentaries. *The Return of Barrie Park*, which profiled the project from planning to the reopening of the park, won first place honors in both the public education and community awareness categories.

Black History in Oak Park – Percy Julian won third place honors in the ethnic experience category, while *Bigger, Better and Greener: Building the New Public Works Facility* was an honorable mention in the community awareness program. *Still Fresh* also took second place in the innovative program category.

More than 1,000 entries were submitted this year by municipal television station operators from across the county. Oak Park was among 160 agencies from 25 states that won awards for excellence in broadcast, cable, multimedia and electronic programming produced by local government agencies.

VOP-TV6 Manager Joe Kreml produces, films and edits all Village of Oak Park videos. Kreml's videos have now won 21 NATOA awards since he took over management of the station in 2001.

In addition to broadcasting public information programs such as these award-winners, the station produces public service announcements, broadcasts Village Board meetings and airs information on government related services and events. Emergency information also can be found on Channel 6.

For more information on VOP-TV6 programming, call 708.358.5775 or email village@oak-park.us.

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