

The Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA)

Announces winners of the 2014 Awards for Editorial Excellence

Hong Kong, June 11, 2014 – The Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA), an organisation dedicated to best practices in professional publishing, presented 99 awards for outstanding journalism at its annual SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence gala dinner at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre tonight. (Please refer to the appendix for the Awards Winners List)

Over 260 senior media executives, editors, journalists and industry affiliates from across the Asia Pacific region attended the event. Ms. Tara Joseph from Reuters was the master of ceremonies (MC) at the Gala Dinner while Ms. Ying Chan from the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong (JMSC) was the moderator for the panel discussion session. Panelists included Ms. Hannah Beech of TIME Asia, Ms. Bopha Phorn of The Cambodia Daily, Ms. Kate O’Keeffe of The Wall Street Journal and Ms. Didi Kirsten Tatlow of The International New York Times joined a panel discussing the role of women in Asian journalism.

This year, the Awards received a record number of entries from across Asia, with around 676 nominated works competing in 18 categories among English and Chinese regional, local print or digital publications and wire services.

The panel of judges comprised more than 100 international judges in various locations around the globe including journalists, editors, columnist from leading publications, as well as notable academics from media departments of prestigious universities. The judging panel was led by Head of Judges, Jeffrey Timmermans, Director of the undergraduate journalism program at The University of Hong Kong. Mr. Timmermans has more than a decade of experience in Asia as a financial and business journalist, having worked as Managing Editor for Dow Jones Newswires in Hong Kong and Singapore.

Mr. David Smith, Chairman of SOPA, said, “The increased number of entries demonstrates the vitality of print and online media in Asia is on the rise. Given the rapid economic and technological transformation of the region, we expect media owners, senior executives and journalists to compete more intensely to provide compelling content – whether that be breaking news, investigative journalism and analysis through to lifestyle, entertainment and sports. Readers and viewers in Asia are seeking more information and views, and the growing dynamism of these

awards reflects that publishers and journalists are finding significant opportunities from this challenge.”

The SOPA 2014 Awards for Editorial Excellence is supported by Invest Hong Kong (Gold Sponsor), Hong Kong High Technology Limited (Silver Sponsor) and K11 as Supporting Sponsor. Golin Harris is the public relations partner while The Langham, Hong Kong is the official hotel partner.

Event highlights and photos can be downloaded at:

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Appendix

Excellence in Reporting on Women's Issues

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wall Street Journal Asia	Bloomberg News
Title of Entry:	Crimes Against Women in India	India's Shame
Award Recipients:	Krishna Pokharel, Saurabh Chaturvedi, Vibhuti Agarwal, Tripti Lahiri, Amol Sharma, Biman Mukherji, Rupa Subramanya and Aditi Malhotra	Andrew MacAskill, Bibhudatta Pradhan, Tom Lasseter, Natasha Khan, Ketaki Gokhale, Peter Hirschberg, Anne Swardson, Mark Williams, Anne Reifenberg, Marthe Fourcade and Jason Gale
Judge Comment:	The collection of stories portray the gamut of daily challenges faced by women in the world's second-most populous country, to not only raise awareness, but understand how the roots of the problems run deep.	The in-depth on-the-ground reporting, which is daring at times, and the comprehensive and readable result are testimony to the strength of the reporting and editing team that produced these stories.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Korea Times	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	Some migrant wives have broken hearts	China vice
Award Recipients:	Kim Ji-soo, Kim Rahn, Jun Ji-hye	Mimi Lau
Judge Comment:	The series was thorough in interviews with the women and marriage brokerages that often made false promises in fixing these marriages.	Mimi's 10-yuan story was especially compelling, and her interviews with the sex workers, at personal risk to herself, was impressive.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	EASTWEEK MAGAZINE 東周刊	Eastweek 東周刊
Title of Entry:	Egg freezing arouses controversy on legal and moral stances 法律道德有爭議 單身女人儲卵想生就生	The road to success of three leading businesswoman in the male dominated business world 打破商界「男性天下」 三大女強人上位路
Award Recipients:	記者：陳婉霞、陳念慈 / 攝影：張恩偉、晉平安、黃德堅	李淑賢、梅可茵
Judge Comment:	It is a typical in-depth news stories in layman terms. 有鮮活的人物、有高附加價值的知識、有放眼天下的比較，是深入淺出的新聞報導典型。針對女性普遍的困境嘗試提出解答，可惜偏菁英導向，非平民百姓可以負擔得起，是遺憾。	Story angle is good and the selected characters are representative. 傑出女性不算新議題，但大膽組合老中青三代、不同行業的女性奮鬥的故事，選題視角不錯，人物選擇也有代表性，報導本身也在努力挖掘這三位傑出女性成功的原因。只是有些簡單和流於形式。

Excellence in Digital News

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Reuters	China Daily website
Title of Entry:	Breakout: Inside China's military buildup	Life After Loss - When Families Lose Their Only Child
Award Recipients:	David Campbell Lague, John Shiffman, Duff Wilson, Charlie Zhu, Bill Tarrant, Blake Morrison, Michael Williams, Troy Dunkley, Charlie Szymanski, Simon Scarr, Hwei Wen Foo, Matthew Weber, Christine Chan, Jim Bourg and Thomas White	Sun Peng
Judge Comment:	"Breakout: Inside China's Military Buildup" exemplifies what online storytelling should be.	Comprehensive reporting that brings technology, rigour, introspection, compassion and world class journalism to Chinese media

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	South China Morning Post	Phnom Penh Post
Title of Entry:	21HK: What's in your water?	Blow-by-blow election timeline
Award Recipients:	Christy Choi, Silvio Carrillo, Jane Pong	Producers: Marta Soszynska and David Boyle Researcher: Laignee Barron Interactive Developer: Andy Ball
Judge Comment:	Clean water is such a huge issue, globally. Showing what happens to it locally really made me sit up and pay attention.	This straightforward unification of print stories and videos, tied together with a graphic timeline, appears deceptively simple, but once you do start playing with it, it's very engrossing.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌	Business Weekly 商業周刊
Title of Entry:	"Who Owns the National Park?" Digital Special Report 「國家公園是誰的？」網路專輯	Global Battle of Taiwan Brother Black Dog 台灣黑狗兄的全球戰爭
Award Recipients:	史書華、洪梵軒、李啟佑、林韋葶、 林芳萱、何榮幸、高有智、劉光瑩、 鍾士為、黃兆徽、陳寧、孫柏峰、 洪雅芳、蔡紀眉、林有成	Selena Tsao、Vicky Lai、Wen-Tsai Yang
Judge Comment:	A nice piece of investigative report with detailed research, fact-based critique. It gives full play to the power of words and images. 页面设计非常 user friendly. 文字报道不单详尽，而且逻辑清晰。	Interesting and though-provoking with depth and width. Excellent blending of the power of print and digital media.

Excellence in Human Rights Reporting

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Reuters	Bloomberg News
Title of Entry:	The persecution of Myanmar's Rohingya	India's Shame
Award Recipients:	Jason Szep and Andrew R.C. Marshall	Andrew MacAskill, Bibhudatta Pradhan, Tom Lasseter, Natasha Khan, Ketaki Gokhale, Peter Hirschberg, Anne Swardson, Mark Williams, Anne Reifenberg, Marthe Fourcade and Jason Gale
Judge Comment:	While several news organizations did important work on this issue, this package stands out as being the clearest and most comprehensive, giving historical, political and global context.	The collection of stories show how a system is failing to ensure some of the most fundamental and basic human rights of women in India.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Edge Review	Korea Times
Title of Entry:	Buddhist Militancy in Southeast Asia	Minority Report
Award Recipients:	Bertil Lintner, Alex Bookbinder, Marwaan Macan-Makar, Luke Hunt, Keith Loveard	Kim Young-jin, Kim Tong-hyung
Judge Comment:	The Edge Review's series on Buddhist militancy across Southeast Asia took readers beyond the immediate events in Myanmar to look at the broader role of Buddhist political movements in the region and their ties to extremist politics.	Nicely written with just the right balance of real-life people/anecdotes, expert commentary and the broader cultural backdrop that shapes this issue in South Korea.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	CommonHealth Magazine 康健雜誌(天下雜誌群)	Apple Daily 香港蘋果日報
Title of Entry:	Caring Elderly Parents , Who we Love 照顧年老父母，我們所愛的人	Anwar Ibrahim pledges to wipe off the victory of Barisan Nasional 安華誓擦掉國陣光環
Award Recipients:	Huei-Ru Huang	國際版
Judge Comment:	The report goes deep into a social problem that is shared by many countries and provides possible solutions that worth deeper thoughts for the general public and policymakers.	The report gives a full account on the situation and particularly the limitations of the political system in Malaysia.

Excellence in Feature Writing

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Bloomberg Markets	The International New York Times
Title of Entry:	India's Cancer Surge	Beijing's Offshore Shadow
Award Recipients:	Jason Gale	Jeff Himmelman
Judge Comment:	This is a very big story, expertly reported and explained, and it drips with human tragedy from the first sentence to the last.	This is an excellent reporting adventure, an amazing physical phenomenon and a very good description of the geopolitics to boot.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	South China Morning Post	Philippine Daily Inquirer
Title of Entry:	Bo's descent into darkness	Meeting a Monster
Award Recipients:	Keith Zhai	DJ Yap
Judge Comment:	This was a piece that made sense of it all, put Bo's story in clear context and still managed to provide some golden nuggets not supplied elsewhere.	His first person account of the next few days, after the storm razed much of the city, is a model of deadline-driven feature journalism amid horrific conditions - vivid, impassioned, heart rending and tragic.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Global Views Monthly 遠見雜誌	Financial Times/ FTChinese.com
Title of Entry:	Future Electricity. Where Will It Come From? 未來的電哪裡來?	Lunch with the FT: Chen Xiaolu 与F T 共进午餐：陈小鲁
Award Recipients:	高宜凡、王美珍、朱乙真	Zhang Lifen
Judge Comment:	The team of reporters has demonstrated an in-depth scope and scale of the issues, which bring the audience face to face to the dimension and implication to future generations of this fatal choice.	During this interview with one of the symbolic figures in this disturbance, the reporter has demonstrated his knowledge to this part of history and its implication to the current political reality.

Excellence in Magazine Design

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	SILVERKRIS	Bloomberg Markets
Title of Entry:	SILVERKRIS May 2013	Holiday Issue
Award Recipients:	Joanna Lee	Bloomberg Pursuits
Judge Comment:	The magazine's design philosophy of less is more, allied with the love, care and attention lavished on the treatment of the type makes reading in a poorly lit aircraft cabin a relaxed pleasure.	The stylishly insouciant cover marks a sharp contrast to the crafted structure of the interior.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Tasting Kitchen	THE PEAK
Title of Entry:	Issue 09- Treasures of the Sea	THE PEAK April 2013
Award Recipients:	Alicia Beebe	Joanna Lee
Judge Comment:	Unlike the clutter in so many of the entries in this category, this issue gives design space—like a leisurely meal to be enjoyed.	The Peak's terrific redesign yields a magazine that combines strong photography, poster-like display and good use of white space.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	LEAP/艺术界	Bloomberg Businessweek (Traditional Chinese Edition)
Title of Entry:	THE GOOD OLD WAYS/复古	Come Out
Award Recipients:	Huang Lingzi	Eric Lai / Wilson Tsang / Joel Hung / Chia Ying Lin / Qiu Chen / Tseng Lee Yu
Judge Comment:	This magazine comes with a contemporary grid and page style setting design. Visual hierarchy is impressively set and embellished with unique typographic temperament.	The composition of cover image conveys the message well in a fashionable way. Infographics, illustrations, photos, fonts are creatively integrated into page layouts while giving readers a smooth reading flow.

Excellence in Lifestyle Coverage

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The International New York Times	Bloomberg Markets
Title of Entry:	Art and fraud in China	The Color of Money
Award Recipients:	David Barboza, Graham Bowley and Amanda Cox	Frederik Balfour
Judge Comment:	A highly informative and richly illustrated description of a number of astonishing phenomena: the flood of fakes in the classical Chinese art market, the cavalier practices of Chinese bidders, and the rise of Chinese auction houses.	The piece is evocatively written with rich description that puts the reader in the studio of the featured painter, with a broad portrait of several prominent artists that brings to life a number of personalities and talents in an overlooked corner of engaging creativity.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	DestinAsian	Time Out KL
Title of Entry:	“A New Season for Sumba”; “Kingdom in the Clouds”; “On Safari in Sri Lanka”; “Jakarta Modern.”	Broke in KL
Award Recipients:	Johnny Langenheim, Christopher Hill, Cynthia Rosenfeld, Lawrence Osborne	Words by Team Time Out KL, Art Director: Anthony Lau
Judge Comment:	Excellent photography and engaging story lines propel the pieces in this entry.	Useful information on living in KL presented in a fun and digestible format. Creative story approaches and design that draw the reader in.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Life Magazine 生活月刊	CommonWealth Magazine
Title of Entry:	The Road of Tea 茶之路	Why Hong Kong Is Smitten with Taiwan
Award Recipients:	Maling, Cha xiaoying, Xia Nan, Zhangquan, Rocky Liang, Yan Lizhong, Sun Cheng	Yi-Shan Chen, Shu-ren Koo
Judge Comment:	The whole piece is full of cultural touch, professional and informative knowledge. 以逾千年的历史跨度，探究种类繁多中国茶的渊源流变，细述其地理分布及各自特性，笔触传神富感染力；全篇充满浓烈文化气息，兼具专业性。整体筹划及制作宏大而细腻。	The story angle is uniquely crafted to reveal the contradiction between Hong Kong and the Mainland China. 该文角度独特，抓住当前香港与内地之间的矛盾，以台湾人的视野，通过旅游的方式，来看香港人心里变化。有内涵，令人深思。

Excellence in Explanatory Reporting

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Reuters	Reuters
Title of Entry:	The deeper agenda behind 'Abenomics'	Breakout: Inside China's military buildup
Award Recipients:	Leika Kihara, Taiga Uranaka, Linda Seig, Yuko Yoshikawa, Tetsushi Kajimoto, Tomasz Janowski and Yoko Kubota	David Lague, John Shiffman and Duff Wilson
Judge Comment:	A first-class job of looking behind the scenes to explain what Abenomics is, where the economy ranks on Abe's list of priorities and what he is ultimately after, how achievements and policies have been produced, and what the result has (or has not) been.	Good work in explaining the historical reasons and modern day concerns that drive China's military build-up. Good investigative reporting in telling the story of how China has been able to develop its military capability by exploiting foreign technology by stealth.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Asia Sentinel	Time Out Hong Kong
Title of Entry:	Thailand's Political Crisis	The Pearl River Delta Megacity: Will it be the death of Hong Kong?
Award Recipients:	Our Correspondent	Samuel Lai Chun-chit
Judge Comment:	A well reported and well written account of the political crisis that manages to convey the complexity without obscuring the narrative.	A well-written and well-reported article -- supplemented with graphics, photos, and people-on-the-street interviews -- that gets to the heart of Hong Kong's identity crisis.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Hong Kong Economic Journal 信報財經新聞	Yazhou Zhoukan 亞洲週刊
Title of Entry:	The difficult times of the local industries 產業困境系列報道	Vested interest behind the soaring price of Hong Kong taxi license 香港天價的士牌照背後利益格局
Award Recipients:	Shu Tsun-Bon, Tsang Kwong-Yu, Chan Kit-Yu, Kong Hoi-Ni	Jiang Yannan
Judge Comment:	It's a very detailed package of stories with focuses on some key sectors that face both opportunity and challenge in today's Hong Kong.	The unique combination of the small case and big picture reflects the dilemma of governance and how free market system can still work or be already weakened in today's Hong Kong society.

Excellence in News Photography

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The International New York Times	Reuters
Title of Entry:	Typhoon Haiyan coverage	Haiyan's aftermath
Award Recipients:	Tyler Hicks, Sergey Ponomarev, Jes Aznar and Bryan Denton	Erik de Castro and Damir Sagolj
Judge Comment:	Amazing, heart wrenching photographs of the devastating aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan that words cannot fully describe. They do more than tell the story, they inspire empathy and a desire to help.	While still relying on aesthetics and composition to document one of the year's biggest stories, the photojournalists really searched and found intimate scenes and decisive moments to deliver a series of images that tell a story of destruction and survival.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The New Paper	Myanmar Times
Title of Entry:	Little India Riot: Police cars overturned, some in flames	Letpadaung fury
Award Recipients:	Jonathan Choo	Kaung Htet
Judge Comment:	When most other media caught the aftermath of the Little India riot, Jonathan Choo's photos caught the happening of it, with greater intensity and transparency.	Kaung Htet's photo of the woman holding Aung San Suu Kyi's hand shows how tension, anger and desperation can all be illustrated in a single frame.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Ming Pao 明報	Business Today 今周刊
Title of Entry:	Candles in the Rain 守住燭光	The truth of Taiwan 真相台灣
Award Recipients:	李澤彤	Po- Lin, Chi
Judge Comment:	Rigorous scene setting, thoughtful perspective 取景嚴謹，寓意深遠。	Scenes of homeland destruction is shocking. 國土遭破壞的景象怵目驚心，不過這些照片基本上為專業空照師的作品，並非今周刊原始取得，作為新聞攝影作品較弱。

Excellence in Business Reporting

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The International New York Times	Bloomberg News
Title of Entry:	Wall Street's Golden Ties to China's Elite	Tech's Hidden Costs
Award Recipients:	David Barboza, Jessica Silver-Greenberg, and Ben Protess	Cam Simpson, Melissa Pozsgay and Flynn McRoberts
Judge Comment:	A truly exceptional piece of in-depth reporting, masterfully documented, exceedingly well told in a series of artfully written pieces, and ultimately damning in its revelations.	A beautifully written story, heart wrenching and damning in its expose of worker exploitation in the electronics industry.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Edge Review	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	The Big Gamble	Shanghai Free Trade Zone
Award Recipients:	Leslie Lopez	George Chen, Nick Edwards
Judge Comment:	This story does a nice job of putting the 1MDB story into the local and wider context and of conveying the potential for trouble due to its past and present investment strategies.	This story leverages the reporters' source work to break news and provide a glimpse into how the Chinese leadership is struggling to reshape the economy as it outgrows its old export manufacturing model.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	CommonWealth Magazine	Global Views Monthly 遠見雜誌
Title of Entry:	The Two Faces of China	The War of Technology Across the Straits. Who's the Ultimate Winner? 兩岸科技大車拼 誰是最後的贏家?
Award Recipients:	Fuyuan Hsiao, Yi-Shan Chen, Shu-ren Koo, Jimmy Hsiung, Jin Chen	林士蕙、鄭婷方、彭漣漪
Judge Comment:	The package takes a comprehensive approach to examining China's future and presents in clear, concise story-form the dilemmas new President Xi Jinping faces.	The advantage that China once gave to Taiwanese electronics suppliers has become a double-edge sword, however, as they increasingly are faced with a rising breed of China-based electronics makers that have created their own brands.

Excellence in Information Graphics

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	TODAY	The Wall Street Journal Asia
Title of Entry:	'A-HEAD' of its time	Judging Japan's Experiment
Award Recipients:	RODOLFO CARLOS PAZOS	MinJung Kim, Kana Inagaki, George Nishiyama, Takashi Nakamichi, Takashi Mochizuki, Eleanor Warnock, Kosaku Narioka, Christopher Kaeser, Phred Dvorak, Jacob M. Schlesinger & Jessica Yu
Judge Comment:	This Information Graphics uses 2D and 3D visualization plus interactivity on a virtuoso way.	Facts and information were easy to digest. Concise and elaborate graphics.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	South China Morning Post	The Straits Times/ The Sunday Times
Title of Entry:	Under the sea	Tech from nature
Award Recipients:	Alberto Lucas	Lim Yong
Judge Comment:	Visually captivating and increasingly interesting as the reader studies it, this effectively shows what would happen if all of the ice melts.	This packs a lot of interesting information into a relatively small space. It is visually busy and could easily have taken over another page without adding more information. That said, it is an engaging page that I read intently to the finish.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌
Title of Entry:	Taiwan's 12 Controversial National Park Development Cases 台灣 12 大國家公園爭議開發案！	The New Tech Paradigm : Why Taiwan Still Matters ! 非台灣不可：科技新四強，群雄爭霸戰！
Award Recipients:	史書華、洪梵軒、李啟佑、 林韋葶、林芳萱	史書華、洪梵軒、李啟佑、林韋葶
Judge Comment:	It exemplifies how interactive infographics and investigative journalistic story-telling can be combined to become a well-crafted media report of an important social topic.	It contains a nice combination of creative infographics and traditional journalistic story-telling to describe the current development of technology industry in Taiwan.

Excellence in Reporting Breaking News

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Reuters	The International New York Times
Title of Entry:	Bangkok uprising redux	Typhoon Haiyan coverage
Award Recipients:	Orathai Sriring, Andrew R.C. Marshall, Aubrey Belford, Amy Sawitta Lefevre and Jason Szep	Keith Bradsher
Judge Comment:	The Reuters coverage of the Thai political crisis was authoritative in tone, with great detail and sense of place. Reuters should be commended for its combination of strong reporting and clear analysis that adeptly explains a complex situation.	The New York Times' coverage of Typhoon Haiyan was detailed and diverse, touching on the essence of the tragedy through its coverage of the human and logistical impacts while also conveying the wider context of life and death in the Philippines.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	South China Morning Post	Phnom Penh Post
Title of Entry:	Snowden breaks cover	2013 Cambodian election (package)
Award Recipients:	Lana Lam	Abby Seiff, Cheang Sokha, Vong Sokheng, Meas Sokchea, Sen David, Kim Sarom, Chhay Channyda, Sean Teehan, Amelia Woodhouse, Buth Reaksmey Kongkea, May Titthara, Stuart White, Mom Kunthear, Shane Worrell, Phak Seangly, Kevin Ponniah, Koam Chanra
Judge Comment:	The first interview with Snowden whilst in hiding in Hong Kong was one of the most important interviews in the world in 2013.	A gripping series of articles put together with excellent photojournalism. The Phnom Penh Post puts the hard news at the top whilst creating a colourful narrative. Each stage in the political process was presented succinctly as it happened with street-level events presented in tandem.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Caixin Media 财新传媒	Ming Pao 明報
Title of Entry:	Serial reports of Oil pipeline blast in Qingdao 青島中石化管道爆炸事故系列報道	9 Hong Kongers Killed in Egypt Balloon Tragedy 熱氣球爆炸 9 港客埃及亡慘劇
Award Recipients:	Dao ZHENG, Ning YU, Haitao XIE, Kaixi HUANG, Dawei YU, Xia ZHANG, Huiling LI Editor: Chen HUANG Designer & Developer: Zhicai LI Supervisor: Zhimin HUANG	一般組、國際組
Judge Comment:	Impressive coverage of unfolding breaking news on website, social media and in print.	good team work, insightful background analysis/photos with eye-catching layout. well-re-editing reportage with wire services and first-handed interviews.

Excellence in Opinion Writing

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Financial Times	The International New York Times
Title of Entry:	The China story	The Excesses of Power
Award Recipients:	Patti Waldmeir	Yu Hua
Judge Comment:	Ms Waldmeir was highly rated by all three judges, who praised her refreshing attitude, humour and original choice of topics. She combines the highest standards of writing and research with the courage to flout conventional choices in news values and subject matter.	His deft use of fiction-writing technique, observant eye and insider knowledge make for pieces which are illuminating and impressive reading.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Korea Times	The Straits Times/ The Sunday Times
Title of Entry:	A Whiff of Singapore	Prepare for the next horror that surely will come
Award Recipients:	John Burton	Ravi Velloor
Judge Comment:	John Burton's series comparing South Korea to Singapore checks all the boxes for Excellence in Opinion Writing: It's a collection of strong opinions on a clear theme.	He offers a smart analysis of Asia's susceptibility to natural disasters with wise suggestions.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wall Street Journal Asia 华尔街日报网络版	Yazhou Zhoukan 亞洲週刊
Title of Entry:	The column of Zhang Qian-fan 张千帆专栏	Bloodshed in North Korean political arena and the lesson of Stalinist purges in Soviet Union Union 俄羅斯鏡子映照朝鮮 斯大林主義血腥教訓
Award Recipients:	张千帆	Zhang Hailing, Kim Jinho, Jiang Xun
Judge Comment:	The article's viewpoint is clear and shape. 文章的观点明确，笔锋犀利，以“政治遗产”，“宪政”，“舆论斗争”等为主线，指出个案背后的普遍规律，警示读者在中国政治体制改革漫长的道路上存在着的陷阱、隐患、障碍与制约，同时进谏执政者应如何度德量力、顺应民意，从而真正建立其统治的合法性。	This series of articles started from the history of political struggle, taking Stalinism as the reference, to in-depth analyze a series of measures of the new North Korea leader. 朝鲜领导人在国内政治与国际外交方面的思维逻辑一直笼罩在神秘中，外人只能依赖其官方话语及为数不多的可以直接观察到的事件去猜测背后的动因，其中不乏相互矛盾以及事实与真相相去甚远的例子。这组文章从政治整肃出发，以斯大林主义为参照系，深入地评析了朝鲜新领导人上台之后采取的一系列包括“清君侧”在内的政治举措，为读者相当完整地勾连了朝鲜政局中各个看似独立的政治事件。

Excellence in Editorial Cartooning

Group A

Category Cancelled

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Straits Times/ The Sunday Times	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	Reviving the land of the rising sun	Snowden: America's most wanted
Award Recipients:	Manny Francisco	Harry Harrison
Judge Comment:	It captures perfectly Japan's situation with regard to its economy and overall security.	It would have been easy to come up with a million cartoons on Snowden but this series captures the sentiment in Hong Kong brilliantly.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Apple Daily, Taiwan branch 台灣蘋果日報	Bloomberg Businessweek (Traditional Chinese Edition)
Title of Entry:	President Ma's Pretending Reconciliation 馬「假和解 仍要戰」不再抗告 追打關說	The protest culture of Legislative Council meetings in Hong Kong 香港議會抗議文化
Award Recipients:	Wang Shih-chuan, Fung Chi-kit, So Tim-wah, Yu Wei-non, Chou Sheng-chung, Yu Pen-yuan, Mi Cheng-ho	TSENG LEE YU
Judge Comment:	Showed great editorial skills in simplifying complex and often confusing information and clarifying ideas for readers. 帮助读者在混乱的信息中理清思路，必经过化简为繁，再化繁为简的艰辛钻研，所以，最件见编辑功底。	Critical, comprehensive and self-explanatory.

Excellence in Reporting on the Environment

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The International New York Times	Bloomberg Businessweek
Title of Entry:	Environmental Turning Point in China	“Drowning Kiribati”
Award Recipients:	Edward Wong	Jeffrey Goldberg
Judge Comment:	This package of stories provides damning evidence of Chinese governmental awareness of a series of injurious events and ignored circumstances that are affecting the lives of millions.	Heartrending. Hilarious. BRILLIANT.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Bangkok Post	Phnom Penh Post
Title of Entry:	Blood in the Forest	Last days of a valley damned
Award Recipients:	Piyaporn Wongruang	Journalists: May Titthara, David Boyle and Danson Cheong; Photographer: Will Baxter
Judge Comment:	Well reported, great quotes, strong human impact, multivalent, clean writing, all adds up to a frankly terrifying portrait of a fight over resources descending into bald violence and trumping shared humanity.	The resource, the devastation, the corruption, the threatened reporters — just a really excellent read and a thorough, important--and one hopes impactful--story.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Global Views Monthly 遠見雜誌	Apple Daily 香港蘋果日報
Title of Entry:	Future Electricity. Where Will It Come From? 未來的電 哪裡來?	Bloody Clothing 血肉衣裳
Award Recipients:	高宜凡、王美珍、朱乙真	林熊、張軍
Judge Comment:	<p>It brings us a three-dimensional understanding and enlightenment of the dilemma which is affecting the fate of our generations.</p> <p>日本 3.11 海嘯引致福島核災難，令全球對核電的危險性重新警覺。同為島國的台灣對是否捨棄核電面臨重要抉擇和爭議。報導適時進行了詳細採訪分析。記者探究了率先於事件後宣布放棄核電的德國，以及仍然堅持向世界輸出核電技術的法國。然後反照台灣本土的處境及政策。記者採訪的跨域大，報導內容亦見深入。讓讀者對這項影響世代命運的抉擇，帶來立體的認知和啟示。</p>	<p>A big thank to the courage and wisdom of the reporter, whose text and pictures give us a powerful allegation to the consumer society.</p> <p>報導徹底暴露美侖美奐的皮草大衣背後被人忽視的殘酷現實。記者”深入虎穴”，揭發提供皮毛的動物養殖場尤如動物地獄的情景。記者的勇敢和智慧，得以讓圖文向消費社會作出有力的指控。</p>

Excellence in Feature Photography

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	TIME Asia	Reuters
Title of Entry:	Drug-Resistant TB in India	Kiribati: Gone in 60 years
Award Recipients:	James Nachtwey	David Gray
Judge Comment:	This photographer remains at the top of the profession for good reason. It is obvious in every powerful photographic image that comes out of his camera.	In a brief glance, the picture looks simple. Yet it conveys a very clear message--the threat of the raising of sea level is something imminent.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Tasting Kitchen	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	SPICE WORLD	Minimum thinking
Award Recipients:	David Luke Hartung	SCMP photographers
Judge Comment:	Beautifully shot in rich colors. Shows all the different aspects of the largest spice market in New Delhi.	The portraits give us small but honest insight into the life of minimum wage workers in Hong Kong at the same time that confronts the public with an important social and economic issue.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	EAST WEEK MAGAZINE 東周刊	The Outlook Magazine 新視線
Title of Entry:	Imported fresh chickens become invisible killers to Hong Kong people 揭病雞來源地 輸港鮮雞變隱形殺手	YOHJI YAMAMOTO 山本耀司
Award Recipients:	攝影師：張恩偉	Mr Douglas Ho Kah Joon
Judge Comment:	The photos have well captured the potential risk of the avian flu at its origin.	The photos are very successful in bringing out the personality and temperament of fashion designer Yohji Yamamoto in his more relaxed moments.

The Scoop Award

Group A

Category cancelled

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	South China Morning Post	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	Snowden breaks cover	Zhou Yongkang
Award Recipients:	Lana Lam	Staff reporters
Judge Comment:	This series embodies the idea of a scoop, with most of the world's media scrambling to cite or match the initial story. The SCMP did a fine job following up with other stories of interest from and about Snowden.	The SCMP has doggedly advanced this story ahead of the competition, maintaining its place as a must read for China watchers.

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Apple Daily 香港蘋果日報	Business Today 今周刊
Title of Entry:	Series on the conflict of interests of senior officials of Development Bureau in North East New Territories Development Plans 發展局高官新界東北利益衝突系列	Deadly artificial food 要命恐怖食材
Award Recipients:	林偉聰、韓耀庭、袁柏恩	LEE, CHIEN - HSING; LINDA, LIN; HSU, CHIUNG – WEN
Judge Comment:	Through perseverance and with meticulous attention to detail, the enterprising reporters have managed to piece together an expose which sent shocks through Hong Kong's political system.	The comprehensive and investigative reporting have helped raise public awareness and prompted authorities to take immediate action.

Excellence in Investigative Reporting

Group A

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Bloomberg News	Reuters
Title of Entry:	Tech's Hidden Costs	The persecution of Myanmar's minority Muslims
Award Recipients:	Cam Simpson, Melissa Pozsgay and Flynn McRoberts	Jason Szep and Andrew R.C. Marshall
Judge Comment:	An important and well researched look at the realities behind the division of labour in a global economy, and the price that workers in Asia pay for to produce the tech devices that power the modern world.	An impressive look at a dangerous practice of piracy-for-ransom in a remote area of Southeast Asia, as well as a finely illustrated look at the phenomenon of Buddhist-Muslim relations in Myanmar, seldom portrayed in western media and chronicled here in rich detail.

Group B

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Phnom Penh Post	The Bangkok Post
Title of Entry:	Giving more than 100%	Rampage at Ramkhamheang
Award Recipients:	Reporter: David Boyle	Piyaporn Wongruang, Chaiyot Yongcharoenchai and Nattha Thepbamrung
Judge Comment:	David Boyle's close examination of records shows in a black-and-white way just how prevalent voter fraud is, or could be, in Cambodia.	Impressively detailed reconstruction

Group C

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Ming Pao 明報	Apple Daily 香港蘋果日報
Title of Entry:	Former ICAC Chief Scandal Exposed 揭發前廉政專員湯顯明醜聞	Series on the conflict of interests of senior officials of Development Bureau in North East New Territories Development Plans 發展局高官新界東北利益衝突系列
Award Recipients:	偵查組	林偉聰、韓耀庭、袁柏恩
Judge Comment:	Great investigative reports that helps safeguard the rule of law and clean government, which are amongst the core values of Hong Kong.	Good investigative pieces which unveil facts that change the debate between development and conservation of rural areas in HK

Journalist of the Year

Group A

Award for Excellence

Publication:	The Associated Press
Award Recipients:	Todd Pitman
Judge Comment:	He has an eye for fine detail and a sensitivity well attuned to the nuances of his subjects in these two different circumstances of suffering and turmoil, the Filipino typhoon and the attacks on Muslims in Myanmar.

Group B

Category cancelled

Group C

Category cancelled

About SOPA

The Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA) was founded in 1982 to promote excellence in journalism and best practices across all local and regional publishing platforms in Asia Pacific. SOPA is a not for profit organisation based in Hong Kong and represents international, regional and local media companies in Hong Kong and around Asia. It also hosts the prestigious annual SOPA Awards for Editorial Excellence to set world-class benchmarks for journalism in Asia.

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