



**Town Square
Television**

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MEDIA RELEASE

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DATE: October 9, 2023

TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION HONORED WITH SEVEN NATIONAL AWARDS

Inver Grove Heights, MN— The Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission (NDC4) and Town Square Television, its affiliated non-profit corporation, were recognized with seven national awards at the October 5th celebration of the NATOA GPA Awards, including two Awards of Excellence (FIRST PLACE) awards.

The National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) honored the winners of the 38th Annual Government Programming Awards (GPA) at its Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA. The awards program honors excellence in broadcast, cable, multimedia and electronic programming produced by local government agencies. This year NATOA received more than 950 entries submitted by local governments across the country. [A complete list of finalists and winners, with video links, can be found here.](#)

“Our team is honored to be recognized in a highly competitive national contest that is judged by our peers across the country. It is especially gratifying to see our *Insight 7* news magazine stories competing with entries from cities like Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Arlington, TX. We also want to give a shout out to our neighboring stations in the Twin Cities for a very strong showing from Minnesota’s local community media channels,” says Executive Director Jodie Miller, “Residents are reminded to send us your story ideas at Insight7@townsquare.tv. We’re always looking for stories that need to be told about people, places and events in our area.”

Insight 7 appears daily on Town Square Television’s Community Channel 14SD/799HD for Comcast Xfinity cable subscribers in Northern Dakota County and on-demand at townsquare.tv and on Town Square Television’s Facebook and Vimeo accounts. The program features news, sports, recreation, history, and community stories focused on the cities of Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul.

Detailed list of TST/NDC4 Finalists & Results, with Vimeo & Facebook Links:

Category 2 - Edited Community Event Coverage (Operating Budget Under \$350,000)

Total Entries in Category: 18

Award of Excellence (1st Place)- "Minnesota Ice Maze" Town Square Television, MN

<https://vimeo.com/795327977> <https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/714958073572144>

Category 16 – NEW! Historical

Total Entries in Category: 23

Award of Distinction (2nd Place)- "A Call to Remember Lower Lilydale" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/747780347> <https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/1082509729117841>

Category 26 – Parks & Recreation (Operating Budget Under \$350,000)

Total Entries in Category: 20

Award of Honor (Honorable Mention)- "The Ultimate Goal - Blade with the Blue" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/795308471> <https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/486592627009517>

Category 29 – Arts and Entertainment (Operating Budget Under \$350,000)

Total Entries in Category: 8

Award of Distinction (3rd Place)- "Art Battle Minnesota" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/803627356> <https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/728366715635713>

Category 33 – Profile of a City/County Dept. or Employee (Operating Budget \$200,000 - \$400,000)

Total Entries in Category: 14

Award of Distinction (2nd Place)- "A New Level" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/747873922> <https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/764079468191023>

Category 37 – Profile of a Resident, Business or Organization (Operating Budget \$200,000 - \$400,000)

Total Entries in Category: 20

Award of Excellence (1st Place)- "Growth Spurt" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/762439693>
<https://www.facebook.com/townsquare.tv/videos/1474278959736773>

Category 65 – Storytelling

Total Entries in Category: 18

Award of Honor (Honorable Mention)- "Tell Us Your Story" Town Square Television, MN
<https://vimeo.com/821752938/e18384b05f>

NATOA is a national trade association whose members are cities, counties, and local government departments working with telecommunications and local cable television issues.

NDC4 is a joint powers cooperative formed by its seven-member cities to administer and enforce the cable television franchise ordinance for each of the seven cities. NDC4 is the local franchise authority representing cable subscribers' consumer interests, and also overseeing five SD and three HD local community access channels on the Comcast cable system. Town Square Television is a non-profit organization producing local television programs and providing access to video production equipment, studios, training, and cable television channel time for community members who wish to televise their own programs. For more information, call 651-352-6100.