

Kurt Schork Memorial Fund Awards in International Journalism

2013 award winners

Unique perspectives from inside Syria's civil war and exposure of health and safety failings in Chinese manufacturing won the attention and admiration of the jury in last year's Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism, presented in London on Thursday, November 28, 2013.



Rania Abouzeid, a Lebanese Australian based in Beirut, Lebanon, won the Freelance category award for her stories published by Time magazine and the New Yorker covering the Syrian conflict.

The judges' unanimous decision lauded her extraordinary access to life inside rebel factions and vivid eyewitness accounts and hard-won factual information that penetrated to the heart of an important, dangerous and confusing story.

Judges' citation *The judges were unanimous in the choice of Rania Abouzeid, citing her unique perspective on the Syrian conflict from extraordinary access to life inside rebel factions. The judges were particularly impressed by her effective combination of great writing flair, courage with common sense, an eye for detail and revealing analysis across a breadth of subjects, resulting in vivid eyewitness reports and hard-won factual information that penetrated to the heart of an important, dangerous and confusing story.*

[Read Rania's entries and story statements](#)

The Local Reporter category was won by China's **Fiona Xiao-Mi Tam** for her revelatory exposure, while based in Guangdong Province, of an appalling scale of health and safety abuse of workers in China's booming manufacturing sector published by the South China Morning Post.



Judges' citation *Xiao-Mi Tan's strong investigative reporting in the face of Chinese state secrecy and repression earned her this year's Local Reporter Award. The judges said her work was truly revelatory and of global concern. Her report, 'Maimed in China', stands out for the distance covered and the amount and breadth of interviews undertaken to expose an appalling scale of health and safety abuse in Chinese industry in Guangdong Province and how the entire local medical system exploits injured workers.*

[Read Fiona's entries and story statements](#)

More than 100 journalists representing 36 nationalities submitted entries in the 12th year of the awards. A shortlist of eight in each of the two categories was judged by broadcaster Michael Buerk, Channel 4 News (UK) International Editor, Lindsey Hilsum, freelance journalist, author, editor and President, Foreign Press Association in London, Paola Totaro and Director of Programmes at Al Jazeera English, Paul Eedle.

The other 2013 shortlisted entrants (in no particular order) were:

Freelance category Iona Craig (Republic of Ireland), Glen Johnson (New Zealand), Peter Chilson (USA), Tristan McConnell (UK), Francesca Borri (Italy), Lauren E. Bohn (USA) and Mary Cuddehe (USA).

Local Reporter category Jekonia Otieno (Kenya), Kipkoros Koima (Kenya), Reji Joseph (India), Hashmatullah Kohestani (Afghanistan), Syed Nazakat (India), Zorayda Gallegos (Mexico) and Saba Abu-Farha (Jordan).