

Wan-Ifra reveals 2018 Laureates of Women in News Editorial Leadership Award

Wan-Ifra has announced the 2018 Laureates of the Women in News Editorial Leadership Award.



Barbara Kaija, group editor-in-chief of New Vision Press and Publishing Company and Noura al Hourani, lead Arabic editor at *Syria Direct*.

The Women in News Editorial Leadership Award recognises an exemplary contribution of a woman editor to her newsroom – and under her leadership the contribution of her newspaper – to society. Editors from Syria and Uganda will receive the Award recognising their exceptional leadership in their newsroom during the Wan-Ifra Women in News Summit, Estoril, Portugal, on 6 June 2018.

Barbara Kaija, group editor-in-chief of New Vision Press and Publishing Company in Uganda, has been named the 2018 Africa Laureate. Noura al Hourani, lead Arabic editor at *Syria Direct*, has been named the 2018 MENA Laureate.

Large voice for the voiceless

"This acknowledgement by Wan-Ifra is recognition for all women in the media in Africa. My win, is a win for all women in the newsrooms at Vision Group and all women in the media in Uganda. I am humbled to join the few women laureates in newsrooms in Africa and I pray that this will grow into a large army and large voice for the voiceless in our society," said 2018 Africa Laureate Barbara Kaija.

On being named a winner, 2018 MENA Laureate Noura al Hourani said: "Today, we must strive to empower women at all levels and ensure that they are properly represented in leadership roles--politically and professionally, especially in the Middle East. I am incredibly grateful to Syria Direct for providing me with my first opportunity to lead, and I want to thank Wan-Ifra for your support and encouragement for women to be role models."

The Women in News Editorial Leadership Award is part of Wan-Ifra's Women in News initiative, made possible through support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Award recognises one Laureate from MENA and one Laureate from Africa, annually.

Previous Laureates

Previous Laureates include: Toyosi Ogunseye, former editor of the *Sunday Punch* in Nigeria, Karima Kamal, columnist and contributing editor for the Egyptian daily *Al Masry Al Yom*, and Pamella Sittoni, editor of the International Desk for the Nation Media Group and managing editor for *The East African*.

The 2018 Laureates will be honoured at the Wan-Ifra World News Media Congress, World Editors' Forum, and Women in News Summit, taking place in Estoril-Cascais, Portugal from 6-8 June. For more information on the programme of the conference, click [here](#).

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