Broadcast Journalism Icon, Columbia Trustee Roone Arledge, CC’52, Wins First-Ever Lifetime Achievement Emmy Award

BY CAROLINE LADHANI

TV sports innovator and creator of 20/20, Prime Time Live and Nightline, Roone Arledge, also a Columbia Trustee and alumnus, has won the first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award bestowed by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Barbara Walters presented the award on Sept. 10 at a black-tie affair at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in midtown.

Arledge, CC’52, instigated a revolution in sports coverage when, as chief of ABC Sports from 1968 to 1986, he introduced new camera techniques such as slow motion, stylized graphics, and instant replay. An article in the 2001 November/December Columbia Journalism Review described how it all began by citing a mid 1960s memo that Arledge, then an ABC sports producer, sent his boss explaining his vision for TV sports: “Herefore, television has done a

NOTE

It should be noted that new Columbia Trustee Harold Varmus was nominated by the Alumni Trustee Nominating Committee of the Alumni Federation, which represents all schools of the University. Each year the Committee sends one or more nominations to the Trustees for consideration, and one alumni trustee is elected each year. This process is explained in more detail at www.columbia.edu/cu/alumni/alumni federation.html.

—Jennifer Ulrich

ABC’s coverage of the Olympic Games for 10 years. Arledge also caused a stir in television news when during his 20 years as president of ABC News, he and his staff created the first ever, late-evening TV news program Nightline, as well as ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings and This Week with David Brinkley, among others.

Rounding out his many honors, Arledge was inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame in 1990. Life magazine named Arledge among its “100 Most Important Americans of the 20th Century.” He was awarded the Medal of the Olympic Order, four George Foster Peabody awards, the highest distinction in the broadcast industry, 36 Emmy Awards, and 20 Peabody Awards. In 1996, during his tenure as chairman of ABC News, the organization became the first network news group to receive the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University Award’s Gold Baton for overall excellence. In 1998, the Columbia Alumni Association bestowed on him its highest honor, the Alexander Hamilton Medal.

Recent Columbians have seen Arledge’s name donning the façade of the Columbia Post and Postey’s, one of the most popular places on campus. It is the place to eat, study, and gather with friends. And when not at work, Arledge spends time at his home in the Hamptons, enjoying the view of the ocean and the serenity of the landscape.

Sixty-Four Finalists Picked for Third Annual Online Journalism Awards

Online news enthusiasts will recognize many of the 64 finalists spanning this year’s Online Journalism Award (OJA) potentials, announced by the Graduate School of Journalism and the Online News Association (ONGA) last week. The list features such familiarities as The New York Times on the Web, PBS.org, Salon, Slate, and WashingtonPost, com with those off the beaten path, including Rockland Village Soup, covering the sinking of a small her-ring trawler in Rockland, Maine (http://rockland.villageSoup.com/Government/Story.cfm?Sto- ryId=12390), and DigitalJournalist. Seeing the Picture, an in-depth look at how photojournalists do their work (http://digitaljournalist.org/issue0206/sam_intro.html).

The contest, which honors excellence in Internet journalism, received 728 entries from 10 countries this year and was judged by a team of distinguished journalism leaders. The winners will be announced at the OJA awards banquet during the third national conference of the Online News Association on Friday, Oct. 18, at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Times Square.

For the third year in a row, we had a very competitive field of entries,” said Srenath Sreenivasan, administrator of the awards and a professor of new media at the Graduate School of Journalism. “Once again, the finalists are a showcase of high quality reporting, writing and production that will inspire journalists from around the world.”

For a complete list of finalists, visit www.onlinejournalis-mawards.org.

—Caroline Ladhani