AJHA Announces 2018 Book of the Year Award

The American Journalism Historians Association has selected Steven Casey of the London School of Economics and Political Science as the winner of its Book of the Year Award for 2018 for “The War Beat, Europe: The American Media at War Against Nazi Germany” (Oxford University Press).

The award, which recognizes the best book in journalism history or mass media history published during the previous calendar year, will be presented at AJHA’s Annual Convention Oct. 4-6 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

“Our panel of judges agreed that Steven Casey’s work once again established that good history at its best should be good reading,” said Aimee Edmondson from Ohio University, chair of the book award committee. “They also agreed his book provides a landmark work for scholars, an engaging and compelling account of journalists dedicated to reporting the Allied campaigns to dislodge the German forces from Europe.”

Casey is a professor of international history who specializes in U.S. foreign policy. His book—based on hundreds of manuscript collections, many previously unpublished—provides the first comprehensive account of how American war correspondents reported World War II.

Two authors also will be given honorable mention for the award: Carolyn Edy from Appalachian State University for “The Woman War Correspondent, the U.S. Military, and the Press: 1846-1947” (Lexington Books), and Julia Guarneri from the University of Cambridge for “Newsprint Metropolis: City Papers and the Making of Modern Americans” (University of Chicago Press).

“Typically we name one winner, but this year’s competition included so many wonderful works, judges agreed we should award two honorable mentions,” Edmondson said.

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society.

For more information on AJHA, visit http://www.ajhaonline.org.

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