

SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

COTTAGE GROVE • GREY CLOUD • NEWPORT • SAINT PAUL PARK • WOODBURY

SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RECEIVES REGIONAL EMMY NOMINATIONS

COTTAGE GROVE, MN (Thursday, September 28, 2023) – South Washington County Telecommunication Commission (SWCTC) production and talent received three nominations for the 2023 Upper Midwest Regional Emmy® awards.

SWCTC Executive Director Mark Martinez remarked, “Receiving three nominations is a landmark achievement in our organization’s 40-year history. We want to thank the Upper Midwest regional chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and are proud to join the other nominees in recognition of our work.” This is the most Emmy® nominations that SWCTC has received in one year.

SWCTC Content Manager and Producer Ann Schweisguth received an Emmy nomination for her production “Woodbury City Budget – LEGO® style.” Schweisguth painstakingly built multiple LEGO® sets and showed that a city budget is a lot like LEGO’s® in the fact that the parts of a city’s budget come in different sizes, shapes and colors combining to provide the services people have come to expect. Schweisguth said, “I’ve been preparing for this project my whole life from playing with bricks as a kid, then with my niece and nephew and now with my daughter. Stop motion video can be frustrating at times to create, like when my entire LEGO® house toppled off the table and broke into a million tiny pieces, but it was also a lot of fun and a great challenge. My favorite part was creating a custom LEGO® set that looked like the Woodbury City Hall Council Chambers”

Category #509 Informational/Instructional

Woodbury City Budget - Lego Style

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_a98kq_51E

Lead Government Producer and previous Emmy winner Bob McSherry received two Emmy nominations, one for “Kate Swenson: Mom and Autism Advocate” and the other for “It’s Watering Day Cottage Grove.” “Kate Swenson: Mom and Autism Advocate” tells the story of Woodbury’s Kate Swenson, who is an advocate for moms and families with autistic children. She is inspired by her non-verbal autistic son Cooper. “Telling stories about people in our community is one of the favorite parts of my job. I am honored that Kate Swenson allowed me to tell her story. Her work with her son Cooper is inspiring. We produced this story as part of SWCTC’s commitment to Autism Acceptance Month. It reached a large audience and I hope people connected with it.” said McSherry.

McSherry’s other nominated video “It’s Watering Day Cottage Grove” a fun animated Public Service Announcement (PSA) with a message that your lawn only needs one inch of water per week to stay green and healthy. “Its fun to find ways to communicate important messages creatively. It started with an idea of having blades of grass singing a simple catchy original song about it being ‘Watering Day’. The animation really brought it to life. It was very exciting to see it all come together.” commented McSherry.

Category #517 HEALTH/MEDICAL

Kate Swenson: Mom and Autism Advocate

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qGjt3G6hw4>

Category #601 Public Service Announcement

It's Watering Day Cottage Grove

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EEwuBrDZRo&t=1s>

Awards will be presented at the 24th Annual Gala on October 14.

SWCTC is an award-winning, cable franchise supported, community media agency dedicated to sharing local stories of the region with the world. The Commission is a joint powers authority including the cities of Woodbury, Cottage Grove, Newport, St. Paul Park, and Grey Cloud Island Township. For more information, visit www.swctc.org or call 1-651-458-9241.

