

## PRESS RELEASE

# The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Announces 2025 Silver Circle Honorees





Felipe Gómez Martínez



Linda Hernández



Sean Hickey



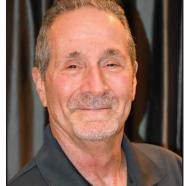
Mike Holfeld



Jimmy Knight



Patricio Muñoz



Ralph Rayburn



Ivonne Solla Cabrera

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Pembroke Pines, FL (March 2025) - The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences is pleased to announce the 2025 Silver Circle honorees. The Silver Circle honors individuals who have contributed to the television industry for 25 years or more, with a significant portion of their work taking place within the Suncoast Region, which includes the State of Florida, the State of Louisiana, the Mobile, Alabama-Pensacola, Florida television market, and Puerto Rico. <a href="mailto:suncoastchapter.org">suncoastchapter.org</a>

#### Silver Circle 2025 Honorees

**Louis Aguirre,** multiple EMMY® Award-winning journalist, got his start at Local 10 as a reporter in 1990 and also formally cohosted WSVN's Deco Drive. Louis went onto to work for several national TV shows before returning home to South Florida in 2017. Louis anchors Local 10's early evening newscasts and is the station's Environmental Advocate, spearheading the weekly Don't Trash Our Treasure franchise.

**Felipe Gómez Martínez,** a seasoned journalist from the Dominican Republic, has over 40 years of experience in media. He started his TV career in Puerto Rico in 1992 as a news reporter in Teleonce. He now anchors NotiCentro WAPA América and NotiCentro Edición Nocturna at WAPATV, focusing on news for the people of Puerto Rico and the US. A passionate advocate for the Spanish language, Felipe has received numerous accolades, including EMMY® Awards, and serves as a mentor to aspiring journalists.

**Linda Hernández**, a dynamic media professional with over three decades in television, started at Telemundo in 1980 and later lead TeleOnce's news department. Under her management, news and TV shows have received multiple EMMY® Awards and championed press freedom as president of the Puerto Rico Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Currently, she serves on several boards and has a Master's in Library Science, alongside advanced management training from Northwestern University.

**Sean Hickey,** EMMY® Award-winning editor/videographer, has been with South Florida PBS since 1997. As Senior Videographer/Editor, he has worked on acclaimed documentaries and serves as Director of Photography for Changing Seas. With 18 Suncoast EMMY® Awards, Sean excels in underwater cinematography and mentoring fellow filmmakers, helping to shape the station's visual storytelling and technical advancements.

**Mike Holfeld,** retired EMMY® Award-winning investigative reporter with WKMG-TV, made central Florida history over his 25 year career in the Suncoast region. Since 1999, Mike's reporting has prompted new state and national laws protecting the rights of first responders and consumers across the country. He has been honored with the NAB Service to America Award and featured on Dr. Phil, Inside Edition, CBS and CNN.

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**Jimmy Knight**, given the opportunity to work at WLTV-23 in 1979, started as an "audioman", operated CG, TD, and directed newscasts. Audio was his calling, and his perseverance helped in establishing audio as a professional position at the station and the network. He is particularly proud of the work done in the 80s and 90s covering everything from Mariel to political debates, elections, and riots ... WLTV was among the lowest rated newscasts, but we managed to make it to number one.

**Patricio Muñoz**, Editor-in-Chief of WSCV-Telemundo 51, has been recognized for over 30 years of dedication, earning 44 EMMY® Awards. His visionary leadership has elevated Hispanic and English-language journalism. Honored with induction into the prestigious Silver Circles, Muñoz's legacy continues to inspire the industry.

**Ralph Rayburn,** EMMY® Award-winning WSVN-7 helicopter photojournalist, has contributed to countless stories in his 47-year career that have shaped South Florida's history. A couple of his most notable contributions to news include shooting the only known video of Manuel Noriega at the Homestead Air Reserve Base and reporting live from Skyforce at the tragedy in Parkland in 2018.

**Ivonne Solla Cabrera**, born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, is a distinguished journalist and former volleyball star. With a Master's in Communications, she excelled as an anchor for Telemundo Puerto Rico's Telenoticias since 1993 and has received multiple awards for her investigative reporting, including an EMMY® for "Albizu and the Secret of the Vatican." Ivonne enjoys great credibility in the Puerto Rican media due to her verticality and responsibility, among other attributes.

The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences accepts nominations for the prestigious Silver Circle annually. The Board of Governors evaluates nominees' contributions and then votes for inductees by secret ballot.

#### About the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences is a nonprofit Florida corporation dedicated to excellence in television. We offer annual EMMY® Awards called The Suncoast Regional EMMY® Awards to television markets in the entire State of Florida, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles and New Orleans, Louisiana, Mobile, Alabama, Thomasville, Georgia and Puerto Rico. The Chapter is comprised of professional people who work in television or students who are studying television in colleges or universities and aspire to become professionals. If you would like to become a member, please visit our Membership page. If you are interested in the Suncoast Regional EMMY® Awards, please visit our website at <a href="mailto:suncoastchapter.org">suncoastchapter.org</a>.