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KOMU 8 News Takes Home Three Emmys

Station Wins Honors for Interactivity and Sarah's Stories

COLUMBIA, MO – KOMU 8 News was honored with three Emmy awards at the 36th Annual Mid-America Emmy awards ceremony in Kansas City on September 22.

KOMU 8 won two Emmys for news features and an Emmy for best interactivity for "U-News," the first-ever live local newscast that used Google Plus Hangouts to allow face-to-face interaction between anchors and viewers.

"Introducing interactive digital news was another first that KOMU 8 brought to mid-Missouri audiences, and we're proud to be recognized again for our innovation," KOMU 8 General Manager Marty Siddall said. "We're using those interactive elements to enhance our other newscasts."

KOMU 8 also won two Emmys related to storytelling. Sarah Hill and videographer Scott Schaefer were recognized for best human-interest news feature for "Baby Chloe's Diamond in the Sky," a story about a volunteer organization that took photos of a baby during her 85 minutes of life. Hill and Schaefer also accepted the Emmy for best historical/cultural news story or feature for "Concentration Camp Wedding Dress," a story about a Fulton woman who survived the Holocaust.

"We're proud of the continued recognition of our storytelling abilities," Siddall said.

Emmy winners are presented by the Mid-America Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, or NATAS, a nonprofit organization that includes television markets primarily in Missouri, Arkansas, and Illinois.

KOMU 8 is an auxiliary enterprise of the University of Missouri and is expected to generate all revenues for station operations. Its operations and investments in broadcast technology are funded entirely by advertising and retransmission revenues. The station receives no funding from the university or state.