

For Immediate Release:

March 2, 2008

TVF2008: 30th Tokyo Video Festival Grand Prize Winners Selected

Video Grand Prizes: "The Last Chapter"

(Makiko Ishihara, age 59, Canada)

"An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman"

(Yuki Kurokawa, age 21, Osaka, Japan)

JVC Grand Prize: "Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing

- From an Actual Scene of a Night School -"

(Masayuki Saito, age 42, Kanagawa, Japan)

On March 2, the 30th Tokyo Video Festival (TVF2008) announced its Grand Prize winners at a ceremony in Yokohama, Japan. Sponsored by Victor Company of Japan, Limited (JVC) and supported by the City of Yokohama, the festival attracted 2,010 entries from 53 countries and regions. 1,260 were from around the world and 750 from Japan. Entrants ranged widely in age from 9 to 91 with the greatest number, 52% of all entries, coming from people in their twenties.

The judges selected a total of 100 prize-winning entries, of which 70 were designated as Selected Works and 30 were chosen to receive Excellence Awards. Of these, two works, *"An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman"* and *"The Last Chapter"*, received the Video Grand Prize and *"Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing - From an Actual Scene of a Night School -"* received the JVC Grand Prize.

The contest rules originally called for one Video Grand Prize and one JVC Grand Prize. This year, however, two entries succeeded in creating a unique world within each work, and in the final round the judges decided to award the same Video Grand Prize to two entries.

It is noteworthy that for the last four years in a row, beginning with the 27th festival, the Video Grand Prize winners have all been women in their 20s. It is apparent that women's unique sensibility and free thinking has bloomed in the field of video expression, and expanded the stage for new creations.

Video Grand Prize Winning Entries



"The Last Chapter"

Makiko Ishihara, age 59, Videographer, Canada

A dignified non-fiction work which paints a portrait of the long estrangement between the artist and her strict father, and how time spent with the granddaughter provides an opportunity to rebuild family ties.

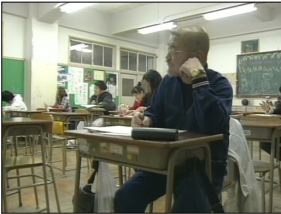


“An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman”

Yuki Kurokawa, age 21, Student, Osaka, Japan

A personal documentary in which the video maker, a university student, presents a diary of happenings in her living spaces, and shares her state of mind honestly through skillful editing and well-paced images.

JVC Grand Prize Winning Entry



“Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing - From an Actual Scene of a Night School -”

Masayuki Saito, age 42, Part-time instructor, Kanagawa, Japan

A documentary which puts the spotlight on the actual conditions in night high schools, which tend to be overlooked, putting the problems currently faced by education in Japan into sharp relief.

Another 3 entries were selected by members of the general public through an Internet survey to receive the “People’s Award”:

“Bonds” (Mahito Sonobe, age 58, Teacher, Hokkaido),

“In Yesterday’s Town” (Akira Iwamatsu, age 39, Teacher, Aichi),

“At Dusk” (Zenji Iwashita, age 63, Self-employed, Hiroshima).

■ About the Tokyo Video Festival (TVF)

- TVF is the world largest public-participation international video contest, annually hosted by JVC since 1978 to popularize video culture very close to society and people’s personal lives, as well as to increase possibilities to send messages and free expression with videos.
- The festival is open to individuals and groups of any nationality, age and sex, including both professionals and amateurs. Video compositions must be produced with a video camera. Playback time must not exceed 20 minutes. Any subject matter is acceptable.

■ The TVF 2008 Judging Committee

Nobuhiko Obayashi	Film Director
Hakudo Kobayashi	Video Artist and Professor at Seian University of Art and Design
Hiroaki Sato	Video Artist and a teacher at Nippon Engineering College
Makoto Shiina	Novelist
Isao Takahata	Animation Film Director
Susumu Hani	Film Director
Masanori Kitami	Victor Company of Japan, Ltd. (JVC)

■ Prizes in the 30th Tokyo Video Festival (TVF2008)

Video Grand Prize	2 works	500,000 yen, including prize money for the Excellence Awards. JVC hard disk camcorder, trophy, certificate, a round-trip visit to Japan for award ceremony for 1 person
JVC Grand Prize	1 work	400,000 yen, including prize money for the Excellence Awards. JVC hard disk camcorder, trophy, certificate, a round-trip visit to Japan for award ceremony for 1 person
Excellence Awards	30 works	100,000 yen, plaque, and certificate
Selected Works	70 works	Plaque and certificate
People’s Awards	3 works	Plaque

■ Support: The City of Yokohama



Trends and Themes among the Prize-Winning Entries of TVF 2008 (the 30th Tokyo Video Festival)

(ages as at time of entry)

1. A work exploring the relationships in three generations of a family: “The Last Chapter”

(Video Grand Prize) Makiko Ishihara, age 59, Videographer, Canada

The Video Grand Prize-winning work “The Last Chapter” is a dignified non-fiction work. The female protagonist has settled down in Canada after her international marriage. She reflects on her long estrangement from her father in Japan, who was a stubborn man, and tells the story of three generations of a family separated by an ocean.

The short last chapter of the memoir her father wrote before he died is about his family. Her father was never close to her when she was young but he welcomed his granddaughter (her daughter) and there still existed their family ties. At last she is ready to celebrate his life, and close the last chapter of his memoir.

Telling this story about her father also meant looking back at and reevaluating herself. The video artist’s last words leave a deep impression in our hearts: “I know there was love. Now what was a rift is a bridge to a new chapter.”

Judge Susumu Hani lauded the work, saying “this is an outstanding entry which, by focusing exclusively on the protagonist’s own family, is able to paint a vivid portrait of the strangeness of the human character.”

2. A work replete with youthful sensibility and the spirit of an Osaka girl:

“An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman”

(Video Grand Prize) Yuki Kurokawa, age 21, Student, Osaka, Japan

Following on from last year, also this year a young woman from Osaka claimed the Video Grand Prize. The university student who made this video has recently only experienced bad things, but she tells herself “there are good things and bad things in the world and the pluses and minuses add up to zero.”

The creator combines scenes showing events in her daily life with hand-drawn animations and a narration to tell the story of what she feels. It is a masterpiece that shows the experience of everyday life through the spirit of a girl from Osaka who is full of youth and brightness, and it moves along at a good pace.

Judge Makoto Shiina praised this work as symbolic of this year’s TVF, in which the young generation’s contribution stood out, saying “I don’t know if the video artist just let her feelings out and filmed them or whether she meticulously calculated the video in advance, but ... currently in the TVF this kind of youthful strength is at an amazing level.”

3. A work highlighting the crisis in the front line of education:

“Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing - From an Actual Scene of a Night School -”

(JVC Grand Prize) Masayuki Saito, age 42, Part-time instructor, Kanagawa, Japan

In TVF2008 many entries were received which looked at how the ability to record and communicate with video have become firmly rooted in the front line of education and are being utilized in a variety of ways or thought about in the best approach to education. Many of these entries also won prizes. One of these works, “Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing - From an Actual Scene of a Night School -” is a documentary that asks direct questions about the problems occurring in the front line of education in Japan and was chosen to receive the JVC Grand Prize.

Night time senior high schools are currently being shaken by mergers and closures. There are students in night schools that face a variety of difficult circumstances and do their best to overcome their handicaps. These kinds of places of education are currently in a crisis that could lead to their extinction.

In response to an appeal from a night school educator, the video looks at the actual situation on the ground through the same eyes as the teacher. It shows us circumstances confronting students who are denied a school education and losing the place where they belong, and examines the starting point of education.

Judge Isao Takahata said in his assessment of the work "it has persuasive force because it hints at specific contemporary answers to questions such as "What is a school?" and "What is necessary in a school?"

4. The contributions from the young generation stood out. A total of 47 works by people in their teens and twenties won prizes, including six productions by junior high school students.

Once again the young generation's contributions stood out, even more than last year. Six works produced by junior high school students in junior high school broadcasting clubs and so forth won Excellence Awards or were designated Selected Works and 47 works by people in their teens and twenties won prizes overall, so this demographic made great strides to win nearly half of all the prizes.

"Don't Forget" (Suginami Municipal Higashihara Junior High school Broadcasting Club; Tokyo/ Excellence Award) is a documentary examining the prejudice and discrimination shown to sufferers of Hansen's disease. The Broadcasting club's activities have increased the number of people who appreciate the importance of empathy and respect for human rights.

"Video Poet: From Sone Tideland" (Kitakyushu Municipal Sone Junior High School Broadcasting Club; Fukuoka/ Excellence Award) looks at the creatures living in a tideland in order to raise serious problems through by examining of the interaction between people and nature, ecological changes, and the causes for worsening pollution.

Looking at examples of attention-getting works by young people, "Registration" (Seiya Sato; age 19; Self-employed; Tokyo/ Excellence Award) is a short and surprising dramatic work which reconstructs a shoplifting incident in a convenience store from the perspective of five people who were at the scene.

"The Dandelion Sister" (Yusuke Sakamoto; age 22; Student; Kanagawa/ Excellence Awards) meticulously portrays the emotions experienced by sisters through a doll animation, and "is a powerful work which skillfully depicts the feelings people have during adolescence" (Judge Takahata).

Looking at works from abroad, once again we received many works from the young generation in Asia. Five of the 11 winners of Excellence Awards from overseas were works by young people in their twenties from South Korea, China, or Hong Kong.

5. The rise of young women is notable, with their unique sensibilities and expressive power. For the fourth year in a row a woman in her twenties won the Video Grand Prize.

Women in their twenties have won the Video Grand Prize at TVF for four years in a row beginning with "Rainy Days" (Chieko Oki; then 24 years old) in the 27th TVF in 2005, followed by "Fledge" (Sawako Nakai; then 23 years old) in the 28th TVF, "Plays the air" (Seiko Uchida; then 23 years old) in the 29th TVF, and this year with "An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman" (Yuki Kurokawa; 21 years old). Since 2001 women in their twenties have won the Video Grand Prize six out of eight times.

In recent years young women have gained notice in the literary world by winning a lot of literary

awards, and they are also rising to prominence in the field of video production. It is apparent that sensibilities and viewpoints unique to women are coming into full bloom in the field of video production and expanding the stage for new creations.

Nine works infused with the fresh talent of women in their twenties won prizes including the Video Grand Prize-winning work and Selected Works. Examples include “Hansel’s Moon Town” (Yuri Nakadaira: age 23; Company employee; Tokyo/ Excellence Award), an original fantasy work which employs special video effects in an English language drama with a non-Japanese cast.

“Indian Club” (Mari Akutsu; age 27; Company employee; Tokyo/ Excellence Award), looks at an aspect of India through its investigation of the true nature of a foodstuff brought back from a trip to India.

In the introspective documentary “Homeroom” (Saori Adachi; age 23; Student; Kyoto/ Excellence Award), the video artist reexamines the relationship between herself and her family and the importance of each member of the family, and reevaluates herself.

6. Video production increases for senior generation as a creative activity, more than a hobby

While young people continue to make great strides, the senior generation also won a large number of prizes with video works infused with their life experiences. 18 works by video artists aged 60 or older won awards, and 13 of these were by artists aged 70 or older.

Even as the number of seniors who enjoy video production as a hobby in their free time steadily increases, each year there are more and more elaborate works at a level that exceeds a simple hobby, having distinctive themes and an original creative impulse, and strongly imbued with the spirit of the video artist.

“The Truth of Country Life” (Yoshio Fujii; age 69; Unemployed; Kanagawa/ Excellence Award) presents forthrightly and without embellishments the joys and pleasures experienced by an elderly husband and wife through their struggles as they realize escaping city life for a life in the country is not easy to do.

“A Story of a Widower” (Shonosuke Shukuya; age 77; Unemployed; Ishikawa/ Selected Work) is a work playfully portraying the feelings of a man who continues to be confused by women, even in old age.

“Straight My Way” (Masafumi Masuoka; age 83; Unemployed; Ehime/ Selected Work) is an elaborate personal history in which the video artist looks back on 50 years of building tofu-makers, and depicts the hard time of developing the latest automatic tofu production line that he designed himself.

The creator of “Farewell (Part 1: Farewell, Part 2: Traces)” was the oldest entrant this year and he won a prize (Tadashi Orino; age 91; Unemployed; Aomori/ Selected Work). His pet birds, Nokko and Koro, come to the end of their lives, and the video artist shows images of when he was separated from them. He thinks deeply about how to face his own death which will come soon. It is an emotional work which expresses sadness and loneliness without affectation.

7. Videos portraying oneself and one’s family

In video works by individuals, naturally the most familiar and important subject is the “family.” It also seems that examining one’s family presents an opportunity to examine oneself. Looking at works submitted from within Japan this year, the most common theme “myself and family” was dealt with by 30% of the entries. Many of the prize-winning works, including Video Grand Prize-winner “The Last Chapter” had family as their major subject matter or theme.

The documentary “Reunion after 59 Years Old” (Ke Yue; age 34; Company employee; Tokyo/ Excellence Award) portrays the feelings of the video artist’s mother as she travels to China, Japan, and the United States to seek a reunion with the father she hasn’t seen since she was a young child

and depicts her ties to her family.

In the documentary “At Dusk” (Zenji Iwashita; age 63; Self-employed; Hiroshima/ Selected Work) the video artist looks back on his own life of over sixty years while looking after his mother who lives alone in his childhood home.

“Endless War (Three Sorrows and Encounters)” (Lim Jae-Wook; age 24; Student; South Korea/ Excellence Award) tells the story of a family separated during the Korean War, with part of the family in North Korea and part in South Korea, and their sorrow which continues to this day.

In the work “Bonds” (Mahito Sonobe; age 58; Teacher; Hokkaido/ Excellence Award) the video artist, who was a teacher to siblings, retraces the steps of the siblings who led wild lives when they were junior high school students, but subsequently got back on the straight and narrow and grew up to the point where they were supporting a family. It examines the nature of family ties.

8. Interest in entertaining works also strengthened, with many excellent works in this area, particularly from overseas

In recent years strengthening interest in providing entertainment has been one of the trends in individual video content production. Reflecting this, 33 works classified as dramas won prizes this year. They accounted for one-third of all the prize-winning works. In particular, 20 out of 40, or one-half of the international works which won prizes were dramas.

All of these works brought out the special characteristics of individuals or groups and had a distinctive flavor not seen in television dramas.

Looking at the Excellence Awards, “Ladenhüter (Shop Owner)” (Felix Stienz; age 24; Film maker; Germany) is an outstanding high-level drama with exquisite production values, portraying a small shop and the neighborhood people.

“DEMAIN LA VEILLE (Waiting for Yesterday)” (Julien Lecat & Sylvain Pioutaz; age 27/22; Film maker; France) is a surreal drama in which the hero tries to move forward in the right direction in a world in which everything is moving in the opposite direction.

“FENCE” (AUNTIES AND UNCLES; Malaysia) is a drama in which two children develop a friendship by exchanging letters with each other through the fence between their houses.

“Stamping” (Seo Dong-Heon; age 26; Student; South Korea) is a serious drama which examines the problems of disabled people sharply through a story beginning with the lifestyles of two men, and ends in a shocking conclusion. There were many powerful works from overseas.

Four dramatic works from within Japan also won Excellence Awards. In addition to the aforementioned “Registration”, “Hansel’s Moon Town”, and “Homeroom”, there was also “Blue Sky, Night Sky, Starry Sky” (Yu Katsumata; age 26; Part-timer; Kanagawa), a short drama revolving around the friendship and love of two girls who are good friends.

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Attachment

●Works Selected for TVF2008 “Excellence Award”

< International >

NO.	Title	Entrants' name	Age	M / F	Occupation	Country / Region
1	고슴도치 소녀 미남이 (Hedgehog Girl Minamu)	Choi Kook-Hwan	25	M	Student	South Korea
2	제자리 걸음 (Stamping)	Seo Dong-Heon	26	M	Student	South Korea
3	끝나지 않은 전쟁 (세개의 슬픔 그리고 만남) (Endless War (Three Sorrows and Encounters))	Lim Jae-Wook	24	M	Student	South Korea
4	铜门日记 (Tongmen Diary)	Jin Huaqing	28	M	Reporter	China
5	The Chronicle of a Drawing; Footprints of Time	George Cheuk-hin Wong	25	M	Student	Hong Kong
6	FENCE	AUNTIES AND UNCLES				Malaysia
7	The Last Chapter	Makiko Ishihara	59	F	Videographer	Canada
8	Nada com Ninguém (Nobody Is Here, Nothing Is Here)	Marcos Pimentel	30	M	Documentalist	Brazil
9	Ladenhüter (Shop Owner)	Felix Stienz	24	M	Film maker	Germany
10	DEMAIN LA VEILLE (Waiting for Yesterday)	Julien Lecat & Sylvain Pioutaz	27/22	M/M	Film maker	France
11	The Autumn Wind Ritual	Alex Romanov	35	M	Director	Russia

* Country and region names are sequenced as follows: Asia, North America, Central and South America, Europe, Oceania, the Middle East, and Africa.

< Japan Domestic >

NO.	Title	Entrants' name	Age	M / F	Occupation	Country / Region
12	Bonds	Mahito Sonobe	58	M	Teacher	Hokkaido
13	Hansel's Moon Town	Yuri Nakadaira	23	F	Company employee	Tokyo
14	Reunion after 59 Years Old	Ke Yue	34	F	Company employee	Tokyo
15	Indian Club	Mari Akutsu	27	F	Company employee	Tokyo
16	Climbing up the Station Building	Takashi Kunimoto	26	M	Company employee	Tokyo
17	Enoaru Café -we are living in the park!-	Takafumi Yoshida	31	M	Company employee	Tokyo
18	Registration	Seiya Sato	19	M	Self-employed	Tokyo
19	Don't Forget	Suginami Municipal Higashihara Junior High school Broadcasting Club			Student	Tokyo
20	Blue Sky, Night Sky, Starry Sky	Yu Katsumata	26	M	Part-timer	Kanagawa
21	The Truth of Country Life	Yoshio Fujii	69	M	Unemployed	Kanagawa
22	The Dandelion Sister	Yusuke Sakamoto	22	M	Student	Kanagawa
23	Opportunities to Study Are Disappearing - From an Actual Scene of a Night School -	Masayuki Saito	42	M	Part-time instructor	Kanagawa
24	To My Farm	Yoshie Koike	62	F	Housewife	Aichi
25	Homerom	Saori Adachi	23	F	Student	Kyoto
26	Mutual Link	Meng Xiangyu	26	M	Student	Kyoto
27	An Assertion from a Modern 21-Year-Old Woman	Yuki Kurokawa	21	F	Student	Osaka
28	The World of Mantises	Hisao Yoshimura	73	M	Self-employed	Osaka
29	Protecting a Terraced Paddy Field	Shinji Ono	65	M	Self-employed	Yamaguchi
30	Video Poet: From Sone Tideland	Kitakyushu Municipal Sone Junior High School Broadcasting Club			Student	Fukuoka

* Regions of the Japanese entrants listed from North to South.

●Works Chosen for TVF2008 “Selected Award”

< International >

NO.	Title	Entrants' name	Age	M / F	Occupation	Country / Region
1	Happy Ending	GREENGATE				Thailand
2	엄마 기다리는 아이 (Child Waiting for His Mother)	Oh Jung-Seok / Kim Hyun Su	25/21	M/M	Student	South Korea
3	言繪師 Symbolist (Symbolist)	Chou Shian-chian		F	Student	Taiwan
4	Looking for Heart of Gold	Jia-Jun Chiu	16	M	Student	Taiwan
5	水漂 WATER DRIFT (Water Drift)	Tao Zhi Pan	31	M	Cameraman	China
6	一支春天的歌 (Spring Song)	Qiao Hua	28	M	Cameraman	China
7	上上下下 (Up and Down)	Anny Ni	23	F	Student	China
8	第十二个后 (After the 12th Child Was Born)	Qiao Nan	24	F	Director	China
9	重拾童年快乐时 (Cycling Trip of Old People's Club)	Keyein Feng	27	M	Company employee	China
10	2006 世界杯和小活佛 (2006 World Cup and Little Buddha)	Long Yuancheng	22	M	Student	China
11	陶陶 (Tao Tao)	Li Kang	22	M	Student	China
12	Yuan Yang (Mandarin Ducks)	Lung Wing Pong / Evan Church	31/30	M/M	Video editor	Hong Kong
13	Oral Stage	Tuss Wu	30	M	Reporter	Hong Kong
14	The Wall	Chun Kim Kiu	43	M	Web designer	Hong Kong
15	HUNA HUNA (Consciousness)	Wilfred Allen Galila		M	Film maker	Philippines
16	GOODBYE LONELINESS	Nguyen Hoang Trung		M	Director	Vietnam
17	THIRST FOR LIFE	HTV TIVI STATION				Vietnam
18	The Red Umbrella	Tan Siang Yu	37	M	Teacher	Singapore
19	The Dream	Zhu Chuan	17	M	Student	Singapore
20	Antes de que me despierte (Before I Wake up)	Vértice				Colombia
21	Crisalidas (Chrysalises)	Fernando Mendes	22	M	Student	Brazil
22	look what she did	Limonera Bozna	18	F		Albania
23	TWINS IN THE SIGN OF THE MOON	Nightwatch Filmgroup				Switzerland
24	BAD TO THE BONE	Leandro Blanco	58	M		Spain
25	LA TÒFONA El diamant negre de la cuina (Truffles the Culinary Black Diamond)	Ángel Casas i Oliva	58	M	Audiovisual production	Spain
26	LE COULOIR (Corridor)	Marie Boivent & Cécile Guieu	29	F	Artist	France
27	PROMENADE	Junichiro Ishii	32	M	Artist	France
28	LA CANETTE MAGIQUE (Magic Canned Juice)	Ludovic Piette	26	M	Projectionist	France
29	cleaning earth	Shafic Koyalat	23	M		Lebanon

* Country and region names are sequenced as follows: Asia, North America, Central and South America, Europe, Oceania, the Middle East, and Africa.

●Works Chosen for TVF2008 “Selected Award”

< Japan Domestic >

NO.	Title	Entrants' name	Age	M / F	Occupation	Country / Region
30	How to Make a Grass Roll	Ryuji Makino	22	M	Student	Hokkaido
31	Farewell (Part 1: Farewell, Part 2: Traces)	Tadashi Orino	91	M	Unemployed	Aomori
32	Small Ills Can Extend Longevity	Shinichi Kato	72	M	Unemployed	Ibaraki
33	A Village with a Ford	Yoshio Saito	70	M	Unemployed	Ibaraki
34	Together with My Family of Bees	Hiroshi Nagatsuma	70	M	Unemployed	Ibaraki
35	Devious Midori and Hoshino's Bread	Masaya Yoshida	26	M	Student	Gunma
36	Overlapped Images	Masashi Yokota	24	M	Student	Saitama
37	Study on Mosquitoes	Moe Kurosaki / Tadashi Oi	9/61	M	Student / Self-employed	Saitama
38	The Challenge after 20 Years	Kiyokatsu Iijima	72	M	Unemployed	Chiba
39	Foot Matters	Showa Women's University Junior High School Broadcasting Club			Student	Tokyo
40	Under a Tall Tree	Ren Murakami	35	M	Actor	Tokyo
41	Together with Kainyo	Hayato Matsui	21	M	Student	Tokyo
42	Cloud Man, Rain Man	Tomoyoshi Joko	23	M	Student	Tokyo
43	A 70-Year-Old Woman Travels Alone	Sumiko Arai	70	F	Housewife	Tokyo
44	Life, Picture-Card Show	Hajime Marutani	36	M	Self-employed	Tokyo
45	Stopping Circle	Shizuko Tabata	34	F	Unemployed	Tokyo
46	Why Didn't the Hero Appear in the Iraq War?	Tsuyoshi Ishii	24	M	Unemployed	Tokyo
47	Beyond the Rainbow	Nanase Takarada	27	F	Company employee	Tokyo
48	Pets	ZERO-0-Project				Tokyo
49	Northern Paradise	Chihiro Kawashima	24	F	Student	Kanagawa
50	Lessons -Please Accept the Views of Students-	Fujisawa Municipal Shonandai Junior High School Arts and Literature Club			Student	Kanagawa
51	Two-Men Play -Challenge for 29 Minutes-	Toyokazu Kaneko	74	M	Unemployed	Kanagawa
52	Don't Forget Miyagase	Chokichi Uchida	77	M	Unemployed	Kanagawa
53	A Story of a Widower	Shonosuke Shukuya	77	M	Unemployed	Ishikawa
54	Mt. Hachibuse Story	Kazuhiko Yoshino	46	M	Self-employed	Nagano
55	In Yesterday's Town	Akira Iwamatsu	39	M	Teacher	Aichi
56	Sakurabito	Tomohiro Nakamura	34	M	Teacher	Mie
57	A Day in Early Summer	Mayumi Sasabuchi	21	F	Student	Shiga
58	Whole Body Teacher	Ryo Katanosaka	20	M	Student	Shiga
59	Present	STUDIO BAKUBAKU				Kyoto
60	School Saiyuki	Kyoto Municipal Shimogamo Junior High School PC Club			Student	Kyoto
61	Unhidden Sorrow of the Tokuhi Family	Toshiaki Tokuhi	23	M	Part-timer	Osaka
62	Frogs in a Rural Area	Himeji Municipal Sugano Junior High School Biology and Science Research Group			Student	Hyogo
63	Shikaido	Sho Shintate	22	M	Student	Nara
64	CM2057	MUSAOKA FILMS				Hiroshima
65	At Dusk	Zenji Iwashita	63	M	Self-employed	Hiroshima
66	Prostate Cancer	Michinori Hidaka	55	M	Company employee	Hiroshima
67	Thank You	Hiroshi Miyashita	72	M	Unemployed	Yamaguchi
68	Garbage Collection Story	Toshiaki Nagaike	77	M	Unemployed	Yamaguchi
69	Straight My Way	Masafumi Masuoka	83	M	Unemployed	Ehime
70	Yakushido Dayori	Banji Matsumoto	60	M	Self-employed	Ehime

* Regions of the Japanese entrants listed from North to South.

30 years of the TVF (Tokyo Video Festival)

[Concept behind the TVF when it was started]

- Since the time of the development and launch of VHS video in 1976, JVC has considered the three functions of home video to be (i) recording and playing back television programs, (ii) watching commercially-released content, and (iii) visual communication through filming with a video camera, and we have worked to disseminate these functions. In particular we have placed importance on function (iii) filming with a video camera as a video activity that enables users themselves to have fun in a manner which is active and creative, and we have aimed to pursue the possibilities of disseminating and creating “camcorders.” For example we were the first in the industry to retail a home-use video camera.
- In 1978 we started the Tokyo Video Festival (TVF) as an event designed to communicate this philosophy to the world and promote and pursue the possibilities of video content production.

■ Members of the Judging Panel for the First TVF

Leading authorities in the field came together to act as judges for the festival, as of 1978 they included the chief judge Hiroshi Minami (Professor emeritus at Hitotsubashi University and founder of the Japan Society of Image Arts & Sciences), Nobuhiko Obayashi (film director), Masahiro Ogi (film critic), Osamu Tezuka (comic book artist and animator), Katsuhiko Yamaguchi (video artist and professor at the University of Tsukuba), Fujiko Nakaya (video artist), and Hakudo Kobayashi (video artist and lecturer at the University of Tsukuba). The current judges are on page 2 of this press release.

- Holding TVF lead to the promotion of various kinds of video productions by individuals and groups and the release of these works expanded video to new and greater possibilities. The festival has also been beneficial in the discovery of new talent and lead to the creation of new forums for video production and so forth.

■ Prizewinner at the 2004 Mécénat Awards

In December 2004, Mécénat (Association for Corporate Support of the Arts, Japan) gave an award (the Mécénat Award for Video Exploration) to JVC for supporting the TVF continuously over a quarter of a century. The festival receives strong praise from society as a corporate cultural program.

<Trends in the Entries Submitted from Japan and Overseas>

(A total of 50,286 entries have been submitted over the first 30 years of the festival.)

• Number of Entries and the Trend towards Internationalization

1st (1978) =	257 entries	(overseas:	24 entries /	4 countries and regions)
5th (1982) =	1,003 entries	(overseas:	430 entries /	22 countries and regions)
10th (1987) =	1,661 entries	(overseas:	597 entries /	30 countries and regions)
15th (1992) =	1,364 entries	(overseas:	520 entries /	26 countries and regions)
20th (1998) =	2,096 entries	(overseas:	941 entries /	41 countries and regions)
25th (2003) =	2,386 entries	(overseas:	1,451 entries /	38 countries and regions)
30th (2008) =	2,010 entries	(overseas:	1,260 entries /	53 countries and regions)

- Trends in the Age of Entrants: increasing percentage of young people (in their twenties) and seniors

	(Cumulative over the first ten years)	→	(30th TVF)
Teens or younger:	6.4 %	→	7.5 %
20s:	28.3 %	→	52.3 %
30s:	32.8 %	→	13.4 %
40s:	17.0 %	→	6.7 %
50s:	9.1 %	→	5.0 %
60s:	5.3 %	→	8.1 %
70s or older:	1.2 %	→	6.9 %

<History of Developments in Video Production Revealed by the Video Grand Prize-Winning Entries>

TVF	Year	<i>Video Grand Prize-Winning Works and the Reason for their Win</i>
1st	1978	“RUN! ENODEN” (Kawasaki City Junior High School Broadcasting Club): Anticipates the future and hope of video production.
3rd	1980	“Third avenue : Only the strong survive”: The birth of video journalism. One of the creators of this video, Jon Alpert, subsequently went on to win the 8 th Video Grand Prize as well and he has made a name for himself as a video journalist through multiple entries and wins.
9th	1986	“Video letter exchange Longfellow-Furzedown”: An exchange of video letters between elementary schools in the United States and the United Kingdom. Demonstrates the power of communicating in images using videotape.
14th	1991	“Autobiography with a Tattered Cover”: The creator of this video, a retiree, developed the new genre of “personal video history.”
20th	1997	“What Did TV Report?: Coverage of the Matsumoto Sarin Incident” (JVC Grand Prize): A group of high school students investigated the approach of the initial television reports at the time of the Matsumoto sarin gas incident. The video sheds light on the issue of media literacy.
24th	2001	“That Dam’s Water, Who Needs It!” In this video record the environmental protection movement and communications initiatives by citizens are combined into one. The video is civic journalism rooted in local communities.
27th	2004	“Grainy Days” (Chieko Oki; then 24 years old): A self-portrait in the style of a stream-of-consciousness novel. The sensibility of the young woman reaches full bloom through video expression. Beginning in this year, works by women in their twenties won the Video Grand Prize for four years in a row.

*Most of the award-winning works in the 30th TVF and the Video Grand Prize-winning works from the first 29 years can be viewed on JVC’s TVF web site.