

MEDIA ALERT: June 26, 2019
Interviews Available



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WEDU PBS' Suncoast Business Forum Honored with Excellence in Financial Journalism Award



Tampa Bay, FL – The New York State Society of CPA's (NYSSCPA) has honored **WEDU PBS**, West Central Florida's PBS station, with an **Excellence in Financial Journalism Award**. The award recognized "**Tampa Bay: Innovation on the Rise**," an episode of WEDU's original local program **Suncoast Business Forum** in the **Best Video: Small Media** category.

Geoff Simon, the host of Suncoast Business Forum, accepted the award in New York City on June 7, 2019. Other honorees included *Bloomberg News*, *The Associated Press*, *Bloomberg Businessweek* and the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

"Tampa Bay: Innovation on the Rise" was a two-part special edition of Suncoast Business Forum that broadcast in July and August 2018. The episodes explored where Tampa Bay stands when it comes to innovation and what it takes for our metropolitan area to have the necessary elements to become a business and technology leader. Interviews seen in the episodes were taped onsite during the **Synapse Innovation Summit** held at Amalie Arena in Tampa which brought together people, ideas and technologies for two days of learning and celebrating the future of technology and innovation in Tampa Bay.

For more than 30 years, the NYSSCPA has used the EFJ Awards to pay tribute to journalists who have contributed to financial and business topics through their work. Each year, journalists, editors and authors submit their best work in nine different categories. The submissions are judged by Society members and journalists on accuracy of reporting; readability, clarity and style; and effectiveness and impact.

The winning special two-part episode and all Suncoast Business Forum episodes can be viewed online at:

www.wedu.org/programs/sbf. Suncoast Business Forum airs monthly on WEDU PBS. For a complete schedule, visit www.wedu.org/schedule.

ABOUT WEDU PBS

WEDU is West Central Florida's PBS station reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of multi-media platforms including: television programming, station website, www.wedu.org and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Marketing & Research Resources, Inc. M&RR, January 2017). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit www.wedu.org; WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter (@wedupbs) or call (813) 254-9338.

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