

Story from SC Public Radio special coverage series, "*diSConnected,*" wins Public Media Journalists Association award

COLUMBIA, S.C. – SC Public Radio is proud to announce that a story from the special coverage series, *diSConnected*, reported by Scott Morgan, has received an award from the Public Media Journalists Association (PMJA). Each year, the national organization recognizes the best public media journalists across the United States.

In 2022, <u>diSConnected</u> began looking at how South Carolinians cope with loneliness and connection two years after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The piece titled <u>'I am because you are.' Ubuntu, deep listening, and connection Upstate</u> received the PMJA award in the enterprise category, which recognizes a story that demonstrates significant journalism breaking new ground and/or approaching a story from a unique and compelling angle. The reporting for this category must go deeper than daily reporting, providing a fresh perspective, compelling voices, thoughtful analysis, and clear and complete treatment of an issue or event.

Ubuntu is an African spiritual concept meaning "we exist together, and we need each other". During the award-winning story, Morgan discusses what Ubuntu might help do for a discombobulated, disconnected world trying to find its feet after two years in a pandemic.

PMJA supports, empowers and advocates for journalists in public media. Each year, PMJA recognizes the best of local public radio news in a wide array of categories. The award winners are celebrated at the PMJA awards banquet during the annual conference. <u>A full list of PMJA winners</u> can be found the PMJA website.

Morgan is based at ETV Carolinas, South Carolina ETV and Public Radio's regional studio in Rock Hill. He began as a newspaper reporter and editor in New Jersey before pursuing a career in public media in Texas. Morgan joined SC Public Radio in March 2019.

Morgan's work has appeared in various national and regional publications, as well as on NPR and MSNBC. He has won numerous awards from state, regional and national organizations for his work, including a national Edward R. Murrow award.

For more information about PMJA, visit <u>www.pmja.org</u>.

QUOTES

"People like Scott Morgan are rare and exceptional. He provides authentic stories and coverage across many platforms. He focuses on the community. He knows the importance of people working together and understanding each another." – **Director of SC Public Radio Sean Birch**

"I am grateful to PMJA for acknowledging this story. We need each other to survive. It was an honor working with Melanie Gordon to put the message together." – *diSConnected* correspondent Scott Morgan

FAST FACTS

- The *diSConnected* story titled <u>*'I am because you are.' Ubuntu, deep listening, and connection Upstate* won a PMJA award in the enterprise category.</u>
- Scott Morgan is the reporter for the *diSConnected* series of special coverage.



- The PMJA is an association representing public media journalists across the United States.
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- For more information about PMJA, visit <u>www.pmja.org</u>.

About South Carolina ETV and Public Radio

South Carolina ETV and Public Radio (SCETV) is the state's public educational broadcasting network. SCETV amplifies South Carolina voices, provides educational experiences and strengthens communities, while working toward creating a stronger, more connected and informed South Carolina. In addition to airing local programs, such as *Carolina Classrooms, Making It Grow,* and *This Week in South Carolina*, SCETV also presents multiple programs to regional and national audiences, including *By The River, After Action, Reconnecting Roots, Reel South, Somewhere South, Yoga in Practice* and *How She Rolls.* In addition, SC Public Radio produces the national radio production, *Chamber Music from Spoleto Festival USA*.

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