

Key West Man Receives AEJMC 2014 Professional of the Year Award

MONTREAL -- Key West publisher Shirrel Rhoades was presented with the 2014 Professional of the Year Award by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (AEJMC), a college and university organization of more than 3,700 educators, students and practitioners from around the globe. AEJMC is the oldest and largest alliance of journalism and mass communication educators and administrators at the college level.

The ceremony took place last week during AEJMC's annual conference in Montreal, Canada.

Rhoades was introduced by Jacqueline Marino of Kent State University. The award was presented by Dr. David Sumner of Ball State University.

Also on hand was David Abrahamson of Northwest University. Abrahamson and Rhoades taught together in New York University's Center for Publishing some thirty years ago.

His wife Diane Brady and son Kevin Rhoades attended the presentation.

"I'm honored to receive this prestigious award," said Rhoades. "It's kind of like Tom Sawyer attending his own funeral. But I accept it in honor of all the talented people I have worked with during my career."

With over half a century in magazine publishing, Shirrel Rhoades has held executive positions with Reader's Digest, Scholastic, Harper's, Marvel Entertainment, and Cricket Magazine, among others. He is currently publisher/CEO of Absolutely Amazing eBooks.

A full-time resident of Key West, Rhoades also serves as president of Key West Art & Historic Society.

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Pictured (right to left) is Shirrel Rhoades, recipient of the AEJMC's 2014 Professional of the Year Award; Dr. David Sumner of Ball State University; and Jacqueline Marino of Kent State University.