

DWRI Student Short Wins 27th Annual Webby Awards

ATLANTA, GA — Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – John Varkados is announced today that he has been named the Best Student Video in the **27th Annual Webby Awards Internet Celebration**. Hailed as the “Internet’s highest honor” by The New York Times, The Webby Awards, presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS), is the leading international awards organization honoring excellence on the Internet. IADAS, which nominates and selects The Webby Award Winners, is comprised of Internet industry experts including **Questlove**, DJ and Producer; **Tan France**, Fashion Designer, Television Personality & Author; **Natalie Guzman**, Co-President & CMO, Savage X Fenty; **Werner Vogels** CTO, Amazon; **Roxanne Gay**, Host, The Roxanne Gay Agenda; **Quinta Brunson**, Writer, Director and Actor; **Ziwe Fumudoh**, Comedian and Writer; **Reshma Saujani**, Founder, Girls Who Code; **LeVar Burton**, Actor, Podcaster and TV Host; **Andy Slavitt**, Host, In The Bubble; **Takashi Murakami**, Artist; **Samantha Bee**, Comedian; and **Tracy Chou**, Founder & CEO, Block Party.

JOHN VARKADOS NAMED BEST Student Video IN THE 27th ANNUAL WEBBY AWARDS; An American Sunset Tops the Shortlist for International Awards Honoring Best of Internet. Visit [Webbyawards.com](https://webbyawards.com) to see John Varkados’ hallmark 5-word acceptance speech and follow @thewebbyawards on Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, and experience the 27th Annual Webby Awards Internet Celebration on Monday, May 15, 2023.

“John Varkados has set the standard for innovation and creativity on the Internet,” said **Claire Graves, Executive Director of The Webby Awards**. “This award is a testament to the skill, ingenuity, and vision of its creators.”

John Varkados will be honored at the 27th Annual Webby Awards in New York City on May 15th, hosted by Roy Wood Jr.

This year's Webby Special Achievement honorees include: **Emoji Creator Shigetaka Kurita** (Lifetime Achievement), **SZA** (Artist of the Year), **Sharon Horgan** (Actress of the Year), **SmartLess Hosts Jason Bateman, Will Arnett and Sean Hayes** (Podcast of the Year), **Tracee Ellis Ross** (Webby Special Achievement), **Tobe Nwigwe** (Webby Special Achievement), **Under the Desk News** (Webby Special Achievement), and **Chat GPT** (Breakout of the Year).

Hosted by comedian **Roy Wood Jr.** (The Daily Show) the Webby Awards' star-studded ceremony will take place in New York City on Monday, May 15, and will celebrate the best of the Internet. Fans can follow and watch show highlights including hallmark 5-Word Speeches from the night's big winners on **May 15th** by following The Webby Awards @thewebbyawards on Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and on YouTube.

ABOUT WINNER

<https://linktr.ee/johnvarkados>

Find The Webby Awards Online:

Website: webbyawards.com

Instagram: [@TheWebbyAwards](https://www.instagram.com/TheWebbyAwards)

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Facebook: [Facebook.com/TheWebbyAwards](https://www.facebook.com/TheWebbyAwards)

YouTube: [youtube.com/thewebbyawards](https://www.youtube.com/thewebbyawards)

Snapchat: [TheWebbyAwards](https://www.snapchat.com/add/TheWebbyAwards)

About The Webby Awards:

Hailed as the "Internet's highest honor" by The New York Times, The Webby Awards is the leading international awards organization honoring excellence on the Internet, including

Websites and Mobile Sites; Video; Advertising, Media and PR; Apps, dApps & Software, Social; Podcasts; Games and Metaverse, Immersive & Virtual. Established in 1996, The Webby Awards received nearly 14,000 entries from all 50 states and over 70 countries worldwide this year. The Webby Awards are presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS). Sponsors and Partners of The Webby Awards include Canva, WP Engine, Verizon, Omidyar Network, YouGov, NAACP, KPMG, Wall Street Journal, All Tech Is Human, Podcast Movement and AIGA.