

## Patience Akumu wins the 2013 David Astor Journalism award

Patience Akumu, a feature writer at *The Observer* has won the 2013 David Astor Journalism award. The award is given for a career of local and professional commitment, adherence to the highest ethical standards with the deep reverence for talent and resilience.

By [Ninsiima Racheal](#) 4 Feb 2013

She was nominated for her work on human rights, ranging from women's rights to lesbians, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights.

"This is a huge personal honour for me. To be recognised as a distinguished journalist is amazing," said Akumu.

With the award, Akumu took home US\$500 (about Shs 1.3m) in cash. She will get an opportunity to work for UK's *Guardian* newspaper for three months starting in June and become a career member of the David Astor Journalism Award Winners network. The first runner-up, also from *The Observer* was Sulaiman Kakaire.

"In any competition, there is always the best and Akumu was the best and deserves it," Kakaire said.

Kakaire gets US\$250 (Shs 700 000). Established in 2006, the David Astor Journalism Trust (DAJAT), which administers the award, operates in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The David Astor awards involve three-month work experience, attachments with newspapers in the UK or South Africa, followed by continuing long-term professional support.

Previous winners of the award include Raymond Baguma, of the *New Vision*, Yasiin Mugerwa and Barbara Among of the *Daily Monitor* and Daniel Edyegu. The trust is named after the late David Astor, a distinguished editor of *The Observer* newspaper in London from 1948 to 1975, who was a lifelong champion of African development, human rights and social justice causes.

Source: [Media Source Africa](#)