



**For Immediate Release
Citigroup Inc. (NYSE: C)
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**Citi Journalistic Excellence Award 2018
Ninth Year in Promoting Excellence in Hong Kong's Finance Journalism**

*Local winner to represent Hong Kong at a study seminar in
Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York*

Hong Kong – Citi Hong Kong today announced the winners of the 2018 Citi Journalistic Excellence Award (CJEA), a Citi global competition held locally which aims at recognizing high quality finance journalism and the role of media in upholding Hong Kong as an international finance center. First-time finalist **Mr. Cheuk Wai Ip** from *iMoney* topped contestants to become the champion this year for Hong Kong, after a vigorous appraisal and selection process by an independent judging panel consisting of esteemed academics and business leaders.

Mr. Weber Lo, Citi Country Officer and Chief Executive Officer, Hong Kong and Macau, extended a warm welcome to the audience in his opening remarks, highlighting the significance of CJEA to the Hong Kong financial journalistic community. “We are delighted to mark the ninth consecutive year in hosting this prestigious global competition in Hong Kong. Amidst the revolutionary change that is transforming the financial services landscape globally, the need for top-quality financial journalists has never been greater. I hope to see this great tournament go from strength to strength in promoting excellence in finance journalism in Hong Kong well into the future.”

Cheuk Wai Ip was crowned champion in this year's competition with an article titled “Jump on the Annuity Bandwagon for Retirement Security”, published in the *iMoney* on April 29, 2017. He will represent Hong Kong to join 20 other winners from other parts of the world at an 8-day study tour hosted by the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in New York this summer in June.

The other two Hong Kong winners for 2018 are first runner-up Mr. Johnny Wong of *Ta Kung Pao* and second runner-up Mr. King Hay Ho of *HK01*.

For the first time in its nine years, the CJEA tournament introduced a two-tier appraisal process. Each entry was evaluated by the city's senior media representatives during the first round judging. This in hope would bring about a more robust and well-rounded approach to the appraisal process.

A team of respectable academics and business leaders was formed to the independent judging panel in appraising all the entries for the Citi Journalistic Excellence Award 2018. The judging panel includes:

- The Honorable Bernard Chan, President of Asia Financial Holdings Limited
- Professor Kalok Chan, Dean of CUHK Business School and Wei Lun Professor of Finance
- Professor KC Chan, Adjunct Professor of Finance, HKUST Business School
- Mr. Philip Chen, Chief Executive Officer, Hang Lung Properties Limited
- Ms. Sabrina Fung, Group Managing Director, Fung Retailing Limited
- Ms. Agnes Wu, Independent stock commentator

The CJEA 2018 winners from various markets around the world will spend 8 days together in New York where they will take part in seminars with leading Columbia University faculty members, engage in discussions with senior academics and policy-makers, and visit key financial institutions such as the New York Stock Exchange, Standard & Poor's, Bloomberg Business News and the Federal Reserve Bank.

This year marks the 36th anniversary of the Citi Journalistic Excellence Award globally. The prestigious program spans close to 40 countries, selecting 20 outstanding journalists with the basis of a published article focusing on finance, business or economics. To date, over 400 talented journalists from over 100 media outlets around the world have enhanced their professional development through participating in the study seminar.

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About Citi

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