

EMBARGOED: Sunday, Jan. 18 at 10:15 p.m. ET or after the awards ceremony



CLAIR OBSCUR: EXPEDITION 33 WINS GAME OF THE YEAR AT THE 2026 NEW YORK GAME AWARDS

The award show also featured the debut of a new song from Mega Ran, a tribute to the New York Game Awards' 15th anniversary

NEW YORK – January 18, 2026 – The [New York Videogame Critics Circle](#) (NYVGCC) recognized the best games, actors, journalists and more during a special 15th anniversary celebration at the 2026 New York Game Awards. **Clair Obscur: Expedition 33** came away with the coveted Game of the Year Award, **People Make Games** received the prestigious Knickerbocker Award for Best Games Journalism, **Ball x Pit** took home the inaugural Excelsior Award for Best NY Game and **The Pokémon Company** was honored as the recipient of the 2026 Andrew Yoon Legend Award.

The 15th Annual New York Game Awards Winners:

Big Apple Award for Best Game of the Year
Clair Obscur: Expedition 33

Off Broadway Award for Best Indie Game
Blue Prince

Herman Melville Award for Best Writing in a Game

Blippo+

Statue of Liberty Award for Best World

Hades II

Tin Pan Alley Award for Best Music in a Game

South of Midnight

Great White Way Award for Best Acting in a Game

Jennifer English as Maelle in *Clair Obscur: Expedition 33*

Excelsior Award for Best NY Game

Ball x Pit

Coney Island Dreamland Award for Best AR/VR Game

Lumines Arise

Central Park Children's Zoo Award for Best Kids Game

Donkey Kong Bananza

A-Train Award for Best Mobile Game

Is This Seat Taken?

High Line Award for Best Remake

The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion Remastered

Chumley's Speakeasy Award for Best Hidden Gem

News Tower

NYC GWB Award for Best DLC

Lies of P: Overture

Knickerbocker Award for Best Games Journalism

People Make Games

Andrew Yoon Legend Award Recipient

The Pokémon Company

In addition to the game awards, NYVGCC was honored with a proclamation from the New York City Council and received special remarks from Nintendo of America

President and COO **Devon Pritchard** and former Andrew Yoon Legend winner and Head of Microsoft Gaming, **Phil Spencer**, in honor of its 15th anniversary.

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About New York Videogame Critics Circle

Based in Manhattan, the New York Videogame Critics Circle is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit multicultural organization comprised of 40 of the finest videogame critics, writers, reporters and bloggers in the nation. Members of the NYVGCC give back to their communities by providing scholarships, mentoring and community outreach to NYC schools students. The New York Videogame Critics Circle sees great benefit in advocating for those who are less fortunate.

For more information, contact:

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Link to Assets:

[New York Game Awards Press Kit](#)