

2018 WINNERS

BEST
— OF THE —
BEST
IN INDIANA JOURNALISM

AWARDED BY SPJ INDIANA
April 27, 2019

SPECIAL HONORS

Indiana Journalist of the Year

Lauren Bavis, Araceli Gomez-Aldana, Jake Harper, Emily Forman
“Side Effects team”
Side Effects Public Media // WFYI

Judge’s comments: “As their editor said, “they were able to translate complicated scientific issues” yet the stories were compelling and easy to follow, interesting, surprising, informative and sometimes sparked outrage and made me want to know more or even get involved. They presented facts backed up by lots of research data, statistics and “translated” them into a well-presented story summarizing their findings so we don’t have to trudge through the mud of dusty data ourselves and take the time to figure out what it all means. They humanize the medical and technical issues by using actual first-person quotes and quote from an official or expert.

The stories succeed in making a potentially dull subject, shiny and interesting, and “made us look”.

Indiana Student Journalist of the Year

Laurel Demkovich
“Laurel Demkovich”
Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “Based on her submitted body of work, Laurel is the type of student all journalism students should strive to be: innovative, committed, and brave. There is no doubt that she will take our honored profession far. Brava, Laurel!”

Indiana Story of the Year

Christian Sheckler, South Bend Tribune & Ken Armstrong, ProPublica
“Elkhart Police Department”
South Bend Tribune

Judge’s comments: “It is difficult to take on any political figure or elected officials and impossible to go up against a corrupt police department and actually get results. There are huge obstacles at every turn in the discovery and investigation and also a significant danger of retribution. Yet these reporters took this bull by the horns, looked it right in the eye and took it down with the strike of a keyboard.”

PROFESSIONAL: PRINT AND DIGITAL

Breaking news reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

John Russell, Lindsey Erdody, Greg Andrews, Lesley Weidenbener
“Hospital complex costing \$1B planned for 96th and Spring Mill”
Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge’s comments: “This team of reporters pulled off a small miracle with this comprehensive, well-sourced, solidly-written story. They launched full-on attack on a potentially dull, one-dimensional subject, and gave it life with local resident interviews, photos, relevant statistics and official comments.

Hospitals, like law enforcement and political offices, are notoriously difficult to get source material from but they managed to “break” the news so hard, in just a 24-hour period, that no other publication could “scoop” up the pieces and put them together again!”

2nd Place:

Doug Ross
“Feds: Bombing case led to child porn charges”
The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

John Russell
“Endocyte's \$2.1B deal with Novartis comes after years of setbacks”
Indianapolis Business Journal

Breaking news reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Staff
“Rob Pitts Is A Hero”
Tribune-Star

2nd Place:

Alex Modesitt, David Hughes
“THPD officer slain, suspect also dead”
Tribune-Star

3rd Place:

Dave Stafford
“Ice Miller attorney faces discipline in Park Tudor sex abuse case”
Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

Investigative Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Scott L. Miley and CNHI News Indiana

“Townships: Antiquity or Necessity?”

The Herald Bulletin

Judge’s comments: “Townships: From the editor’s introduction to the innovative use of polling to the details illustrating a grasp of a complex topic to the politics of the problem to the example of how townships could work, this team took what could have been a dry topic and created a compelling, important project which hit all the right bases.

When I thought I could not be more surprised, they surprised me again. When I thought this would not be a compelling read, they explained why it was important- and kept me reading more. They used polling data that went beyond simple yeas or nays to perfectly illustrate the townships’ irrelevance in the lives of readers. They startled with examples of crimes but went further to humanize one of those who committed a crime.

The explanation of reporting methods and online posting of audit reports lent credibility, as did the editor’s overview letter. The writing was marked by clarity, no small issue given such a dense topic.

Overall, the project exemplified what excellent investigative reporting is about: exposing a problem, offering insight and solutions, and in the process, serving the community and creating a path for change.

Translating a wealth of info and data, it’s easy to slip into rattling off numbers as opposed to clear English. But he makes the numbers clear and puts them in context- there’s not an ounce of fat in the writing.

2nd Place:

Brian Slodysko

“Pence family’s failed gas stations cost taxpayers more than \$20 million”

The Associated Press

Judge’s comments: “Strong reporting and clear writing earned this impressive story an award. The scope of the documents used and the reporter’s understanding and analysis of them gave the story its underlying power.”

3rd Place:

Ann Marie Shambaugh

“Sexual abuse alleged at Panama Mission”

Current Publishing

Judge’s comments: “Reporting and writing this type of story is very difficult: It is hard to get people to talk. And it’s easy for writing to slip into the maudlin. But the reporter clearly muscled through the first challenge and aced the second with excellent writing. A strongly reported, thoughtfully written and important story, well told.”

Investigative Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Laura Lane and Abby Tonsing
"Indiana Center for Recovery"
Herald-Times

Judge's comments: "Laura Lane and Abby Tonsing do an excellent job of using public records to raise questions about for-profit addiction recovery centers in Indiana. It was particularly smart — and effective! — to compare one center's drug testing charges to the probation department's. The disparity was shocking!"

2nd Place:

Kurt Christian, Laura Lane, Abby Tonsing
"Overdose data on city's website"
Herald-Times

Non-Deadline Story or Series

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Hayleigh Colombo
"One City, Worlds Apart - Hayleigh Colombo, IBJ"
Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge's comments: "By combining data and human anecdotes, the reader gets a sense of how tough one must work to climb out of poverty without a helping hand from government or society."

2nd Place:

Staff of TheStatehouseFile.com
"Impact: Laws Hoosiers need to know 2018"
TheStatehouseFile.com

3rd Place:

Giles Bruce
"Where are drug overdose deaths happening in Northwest Indiana?"
The Times Media Company

Non-Deadline Story or Series

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Scott L. Miley
"Townships: Antiquity or Necessity?"
Community Newspaper Holdings

Judge's comments: "This Townships series takes an otherwise esoteric topic and plainly shows the taxpaying reader why they should care about it."

2nd Place:

Lynn Sygiel

“Recent legislations' impact on nonprofits”

Not-for-profit News

Coverage of Government or Politics

Publication circulation 30,000+, news services, digital media

1st Place:

Tony Cook; Kaitlin Lange; Ryan Martin

“Brian Bosma investigation”

The Indianapolis Star

2nd Place:

Bill Dolan and Bob Kasarda

“Jamal Washington”

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Bob Kasarda

“Porter County election fiasco”

The Times Media Company

Coverage of Government or Politics

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Marilyn Odendahl, Olivia Covington and Katie Stancombe

“Curtis Hill sexual misconduct coverage”

Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

2nd Place:

Amy Lavalley

“Mystery extension ties Porter County office planned for move into long-term lease”

Post-Tribune

3rd Place:

Laura Lane

“Disputes over a church parking lot and a fence”

Herald-Times

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

Publication circ. 30,000+, news services, digital media

1st Place:

Sarah Bowman; Emily Hopkins
“Clean coal”
The Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: “A thoughtful look at Indiana’s coal industry as it struggles to remain viable.”

2nd Place:

James Briggs
“Best of James Briggs”
The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

John Russell
“John Russell covers the business of health care”
Indianapolis Business Journal

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Marilyn Odendahl and Olivia Covington
“Rent-to-own contracts blur dreams of homeownership”
Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

Judge’s comments: “Gripping work on the confusion surrounding rent-to-own deals.”

2nd Place:

Katie Stancombe
“Women lawyers find freedom owning law firms”
Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

Education Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Emma Kate Fittes
“IndyStar education reporter, Emma Kate Fittes”
The Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: “Relevant enterprise reporting on issues affecting K-12 education from school safety to unreported bullying. Crisply written, well sourced.”

2nd Place:

Shaina Cavazos
“Shaina Cavazos covers Indiana education”
Chalkbeat

3rd Place:

Dylan Peers McCoy
"Dylan Peers McCoy's education coverage"
Chalkbeat

Education Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Sue Loughlin
"Sue Loughlin education stories"
Tribune-Star

Judge's comments: "The author wrote about two topics of importance in education. Nice range of voices with different opinions on a good enterprise story debating whether teachers should be armed. I wish she would have gotten a student to chime in as well. Interesting story on stopping for school buses. Great graphic and nice job getting data from the state to show what a big issue it is."

2nd Place:

Symone C. Skrzycki, Charlee Beasor, Crickett Gibbons, Tom Schuman
"BizVoice Education Coverage"
BizVoice

3rd Place:

Michael Reschke
"Higher education coverage"
Herald-Times

Criminal Justice Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Tony Rehagen
"Next in Line"
Indianapolis Monthly

Judge's comments: "This narrative had it all – suspense, deep reporting and compelling writing. I couldn't put it down."

2nd Place:

Ryan Martin; James Briggs
"Criminal justice coverage by IndyStar"
The Indianapolis Star

Criminal Justice Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Olivia Covington

“Elkhart wrongful conviction case latest in county’s justice system”

Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

Judge’s comments: “This reporting highlighted the systemic failures in the Elkhart County justice system.”

2nd Place:

Olivia Covington

“Indiana case takes ‘policing for profit’ to US Supreme Court”

Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

3rd Place:

Douglas Walker

“Criminal justice coverage”

The Star Press

Coverage of Children’s Issues

Publication circulation 30,000+, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Stephanie Wang

“Early childhood education coverage”

Chalkbeat Indiana

Judge’s comments: “These stories warranted an award based on mastery of a subject, careful writing and the explanation of pre-k’s role in the community. The color and anecdote woven throughout would have kept me reading whether I was interested in early childhood education or not. The eye for detail was used to good effect, particularly with the children’s behavior. And the detail always served the larger story, melding seamlessly with key numbers. Further, as a reader, I like surprises, and the project delivered: the story connecting pre-k and the workforce was unexpected, for instance, and so were the outreach strategies described in another story. Explored from multiple perspectives, this explanatory series was a community service.”

Coverage of Children’s Issues

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Jerry Goshert, editor

“5-Year-Old Makes Ag Days ‘Worthwhile’”

The Farmer’s Exchange

2nd Place:

Marilyn Odendahl

“Troubles beleaguer Indiana’s child welfare systems”

Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

3rd Place:

Craig Coley

“Krimson Leadership Academy Teaching it’s Cool to Be Smart”

Bloom Magazine

Coverage of Minority Issues

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Ryan Martin, Holly Hays

“Aaron Bailey shooting”

The Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: “This meticulous report into the Aaron Bailey shooting and its aftermath, offers a riveting glimpse into how this incident affects all those who are involved.”

2nd Place:

Stephanie Wang

“Race in education”

Chalkbeat Indiana

3rd Place:

Emily Ketterer, Abrahm Hurt, Brynna Sentel, Erica Irish

“Coverage of hate crimes legislation”

TheStatehouseFile.com

Coverage of Minority Issues

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Tyler Fenwick

“What would homeless do if ‘no sit, no lie’ proposal passes?”

Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper

2nd Place:

Douglas Wissing

“Remembering The Hole”

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Craig Coley

“The Trials LGBTQ+ Groups Face at Monroe County Fair”

Bloom Magazine

Medical or Science Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

John Russell

“John Russell covers medicine and health care”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge’s comments: “John Russell tackles some of the most critical issues in health care with sweep and authority. But what really sets him apart is his ability to write about complex topics in a clear and accessible way. His writing is crisp and engaging, something you don’t always find in health and medicine writing. Kudos!”

2nd Place:

Shari Rudavsky

“Best of Shari Rudavsky”

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Giles Bruce

“Northwest Indiana pain patients say they’re unintentional victims of the opioid epidemic”

The Times Media Company

Medical or Science Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Kylie Veleta

“The Business of Science”

Inside Indiana Business

Judge’s comments: “Kylie Veleta does strong work reporting on the intersection of business and science. She has a knack for distilling complicated topics and bringing companies to life.”

2nd Place:

Rebecca Patrick

“Primary Prescriptions: New Models Emerge for Patient Care”

BizVoice

3rd Place:

Charlee Beasor

“Opioid Epidemic: Indiana Workforce Recovery Assists Employers”

BizVoice

Environmental Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Sarah Bowman

“Best of Sarah Bowman”

The Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: “Bowman has found an interesting mix of local environmental news topics that have national resonance.”

2nd Place:

Sarah Reese and Joyce Russell

“U.S. Steel spill”

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Lauren Cross

“HUD: East Chicago disregarded HUD policies, failed to evaluate, remove contamination for housing pro”

The Times of Northwest Indiana

Environmental Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Enrique Saenz

“Best of IER Reporter Enrique Saenz”

Indiana Environmental Reporter

2nd Place:

Beth Edwards

“Best of IER Reporter Beth Edwards”

Indiana Environmental Reporter

3rd Place:

Susan M. Brackney

“The Fight to Save Our Forests & Wildlife”

Bloom Magazine

Features Writing

Newspapers circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Giles Bruce

“Heroin ravages Region family: Four cousins. All dead from drug overdoses.”

The Times Media Company

Judge’s comments: “this story tackled a broader, timely subject that reached further than one addict’s story and hit the opioid epidemic from several angles. It is easy to get bogged down in the plight of the addict in these kinds of stories but here, the writer sheds light on the effect an addict’s life, and tragic death, has on their family, Especially the parents. the story gives the reader a well-painted color picture of what it feels like to be a parent of an addict and the anguish of being the parent of a dead addict. more importantly, this story brings a new twist to an old problem, by removing the negative and shameful stigma attached to opioid addicts and highlights the fact that addiction is not a choice, it is a disease and should be treated, medically and socially, as such. This story is very powerful and could have a positive impact on families dealing with addiction and could actually make a difference, a journalists ultimate reward and purpose.”

2nd Place:

Zak Keefer, reporter

“A life sentence, and a life reformed: How one Colts fan follows from prison”

IndyStar

3rd Place:

Emma Kate Fittes

“Audrey Lupton”

The Indianapolis Star

Features Writing

Newspapers circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Recorder Staff

“The Death of a King 50 Years Later: Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.”

Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper

Judge’s comments: “Great reporting and tracking down people who witnessed history years later. An impressive package.”

2nd Place:

Donald L. Ward

“Leaving a Legacy”

RoundAbout Madison

3rd Place:

Kurt Christian

“28 Way or no way”

Herald-Times

Features Writing

Magazines and non-daily newspapers

1st Place:

Michael Koryta

“Searching the Depths”

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge’s comments: “Michael Koryta's piece "Searching the Depths," demonstrates superb reporting, stellar writing and solid narrative chops that hooks the reader and makes him/her hungry to read on. Bravo.”

2nd Place:

Megan Fernandez

“Destination Hotels”

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Brian Hendrickson

“Game On”

NCAA Champion magazine

Personality Profile

Newspapers circulation above 30,000, wire services and digital media

1st Place:

Sam Stall

“An honest broker who gets things done”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge’s comments: “This story is next to the word "profile" in the Journalism Glossary. It is well-structured, well-written and well-sourced and draws the reader in from the lede. The true sign of a good profile is coming away with the feeling that you know the person and would like to know them better. Stall takes the journey of an 80 year-old property manager, which could be a snore fest, and makes it sexy and intriguing. Basile's biography becomes a colorful mystery tour, peppered with anecdotes from friends, humor and pearls of wisdom, the highlight being his twist on philanthropy that the people whom he gives to are actually doing HIM a favor by allowing him to make a difference.

Solid writing with a sophisticated flair that enhances the subject without distracting from him. A good journalist's voice is softer than a whisper and only loud enough to guide the reader's attention through the elements of the story. Here, Basile is clearly the star of this show and and Stall brings you seamlessly from Act One to the Curtain Call and leaves me wanting an encore, or at least a meet-and-greet with the leading man!”

2nd Place:

Domenica Bongiovanni

“Teacher shot heroin 500 days in a row.”

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Zak Keefer

"He's nearly blind. He's flat broke. But he carries Olympic gold in his pocket"

IndyStar

Personality Profile

Magazines and non-daily newspapers

1st Place:

Rachel Stark

"Home, Where the 'Buff' Roams"

NCAA Champion magazine

Judge's comments: "How do you read a lede that starts with "Buff the Bison needs his protein" and not read on? Many outlets have written about school mascots, but I loved how the writer brought this mascot to life—both the character as well as the person inside and his own road to getting to where he is today. Great job telling a story that could have very easily been just like the rest."

2nd Place:

Lili Wright

"All That Glitters"

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Charlee Beasor

"In the Fast Lane: 'What You See is What you Get'"

BizVoice

Arts and Entertainment Writing

Publication circulation 30,000+, wire services and digital media

1st Place:

Craig Fehrman

"Bad Ink"

Indianapolis Monthly

2nd Place:

Christopher Lloyd

"Chris Lloyd"

The Film Yap

3rd Place:

Domenica Bongiovanni

"Best of Domenica Bongiovanni"

The Indianapolis Star

Arts and Entertainment Writing

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Mark Bennett

“Mark Bennett A&E writing”

Tribune-Star

Judge’s comments: “Bennett chronicles not only individual artistic endeavors, but also the effect art has on the community he covers. His reporting invites readers to actively participate in art classes and events, instead of just presenting an art piece as something that can only be experienced from a distance. Bennett takes the time not only to describe a work of art, but also to explain why it matters to individuals throughout his community. He finds value not just in the artworks, but in the artists and their classmates or audiences.”

2nd Place:

Molly Brush

“Cardinal Stage Act II”

Bloom Magazine

Editorial writing

All publications and digital media

1st Place:

Alicia Morgan

“Continuing the conversation, ending the stigma”

Tribune-Star

Judge’s comments: “With clarity, Alicia Morgan communicates the need to address mental illness. Personal comments - including one from a survivor - and awareness resources enhance the editorial. Well done.”

2nd Place:

Greg Andrews

“Legislative leaders seemed OK to sweep Hill scandal under rug”

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place:

Malcolm Abrams

“That Controversial Picture”

Bloom Magazine

Editorial cartoon

All publications and digital media

1st Place:

Shane Johnson

“Colts season ticket sales”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge’s comments: “A simple and humorous look at the struggles faced by Indianapolis Colts employees after their 2017 struggles. By the way, the repairman may disappear after their recent improved season.”

2nd Place:

Tim Campbell

“TWUMP”

Current Publishing & Washington Post Syndicate

3rd Place:

Arnel Reynon

“No one ever considers the consequences. They always think they'll bounce back.”

NCAA Champion magazine

Column Writing

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Joseph S. Pete

“GOING OVER THE EDGE: Rappelling off the Centier bank tower for the United Way”

Times of Northwest Indiana

Judge’s comments: “This laugh out loud account of one reporter's experience with impending death was a treat to read. Well done!”

2nd Place:

Jerry Davich

“Jerry Davich - three columns”

Post-Tribune/Chicago Tribune Media

3rd Place:

Abdul-Hakim Shabazz

“Tis The Season to Be Offended”

Indy Politics

Column Writing

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Jason Thomas

“Jason Thomas columns”

News and Tribune

Judge’s comments: “Thomas’ musings on the joys and pitfalls of parenting and potty training were charming and delightful to read. More brownies please!”

Sports Reporting

Publication circulation above 30,000, wire services and digital media

1st Place:

Kyle Neddenriep

“Range of stories from Kyle Neddenriep off his high school sports beat”

IndyStar

Judge’s comments: “Kyle Neddenriep shows great enterprise in identifying compelling stories on the high school beat, exploring topics as diverse as the demise of small school football and the challenges facing modern-day coaches. Stories are well-researched and written.”

2nd Place:

Brian Burnsed

“The Breaking Point”

NCAA Champion magazine

3rd Place:

David Woods

“David Woods’ sports reports”

Indianapolis Star

Sports Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Nathan Baird

“Nathan Baird”

Journal & Courier

Judge’s comments: “Nathan’s entries show a combination of strong reporting and writing, with a mix of topics ranging from a Dutch basketball star’s odyssey to a broadcaster’s cancer battle.”

2nd Place:

Todd Golden

“Todd Golden sports stories”

Tribune-Star

3rd Place:

Dean Hockney
"Sports in Kokomo"
Sports Journal of Central Indiana

Headline Writing**1st Place:**

Joseph S. Pete
"Pulitzer winner to talk trash at Purdue University Northwest"
Times of Northwest Indiana

Judge's comments: "These humorous headlines catch the reader's attention and clearly communicate what the articles will be about."

2nd Place:

WBAA.org News Staff
"WBAA.org Headlines"
WBAA Public Radio

Sports Column Writing**1st Place:**

Gregg Doyel
"Collection of Gregg Doyel's sports columns"
IndyStar

Judge's comments: "Gregg Doyel shows great range in writing topics as disparate as the Colts' coaching hire, the injury to Purdue's big man and the death of a high school track star. Doyel shows strong opinion, insight and empathy."

2nd Place:

Brian Hendrickson
"Signs of Sportsmanship"
NCAA Champion magazine

3rd Place:

Nathan Baird
"Nathan Baird columns"
Journal & Courier

PROFESSIONAL: PHOTOGRAPHY, DESIGN AND GRAPHICS

News Photography

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

John J. Watkins

"Myles meets Obama"

The Times Media Company

Judge's comments: "1st place image is perfectly timed, capturing the intense connection and eye contact between the boy, his father and the former president."

2nd Place:

Marc Chase

"Kankakee River flooding"

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Joseph S. Pete

"East Chicago steelworker"

Times of Northwest Indiana

News Photography

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Joseph C. Garza

"Cover them in prayer"

Tribune-Star

Judge's comments: "Garza beautifully captured both the family's grief and their strength in this tender, respectful frame."

2nd Place:

Rodney Margison

"National Gun Violence Awareness Day Rally at Courthouse"

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Austen Leake

"Tragic Friday"

Tribune-Star

Sports Photography

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Mykal McEldowney
"Indy 500 winner"
The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comments: "By far my favorite and most challenging category as all three places were great images captured at the right moment. Even the other images in the category were strong but first place stood out for the great capture of the reaction to the angle at which the image was taken from. At an event like the Indy 500 trying to capture a unique image can be tough and this photographer nailed it."

2nd Place:

Matt Kryger
"Lost helmet"
The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Kale Wilk
"Andrean volleyball players celebrate"
The Times Media Company

Sports Photography

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Don Knight
"Frankton sectional celebration"
The Herald Bulletin

Features Photography

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

1st Place:

Kelly Wilkinson
"Portrait of Dewey"
The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comments: "First captures my attention. I've looked at all the images multiple times and Portrait of Dewey draws me in every time. I like the colors and the way second place was shot. And third really does a great job with the images and the details. Each of the top three tells a story but in different ways that make each stand out above the rest."

2nd Place:

John J. Watkins
"Embracing Peace"
The Times Media Company

3rd Place:
Bob Coscarelli
"Frozen in Time"
Indianapolis Monthly

Features Photography

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:
Jeff Danielson
"The Fight to Save Our Forests & Wildlife"
Bloom Magazine

Judge's comments: "This was a great category from top to bottom. I enjoyed judging these. First showed a great mastery of wildlife photography. Second did a great job with the pet portraits that were done in an outside environment and third created great, simple portraits that were pleasing to the eye. This was a very hard to judge category and all entrants should be commended for their work."

2nd Place:
Naama Levy
"Bloomington: A Pet-Friendly Place"
Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:
Jeff Richardson
"25 Couples Who Contribute to Our Community"
Bloom Magazine

Newspaper Page One Design

All newspapers

1st Place:
Jill Doyle
"Jill Doyle - IJB front pages"
Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge's comments: "Great submissions. I feel Jill Doyle's entry clearly tied all of the design elements into a user-friendly piece. Great job by all!"

2nd Place:
Wendy Shapiro
"Wendy Shapiro - IJB covers"
Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place:
Audrey Pelsor
"Audrey Pelsor - IJB cover designs"
Indianapolis Business Journal

Magazine Cover Design

All magazines or periodicals

1st Place:

Todd Urban
"Indianapolis Monthly"
Indianapolis Monthly

Judge's comments: "Magazine covers must be more than pretty. Their noble purpose is to draw in a reader, so all the hard work inside gets noticed. These three winners all prove that the best way to do that is with big art, bigger type, and display text that actually tells a story. Many other entries in this category tried too hard to pack too much imagery and words onto one cover – and more is less when it comes to magazine covers. The best covers are lean, but they're also mean."

2nd Place:

Andy Austin
"Board Games"
Kiwanis International

3rd Place:

Caroline Markley, Jafet Garcia
"Fort Wayne magazine - Early 2018"
Fort Wayne magazine

Design Other Than Cover

All print media

1st Place:

Todd Urban
"The Messy Genius of Jonathan Brooks"
Indianapolis Monthly

Judge's comments: "This page showcased a high level of design proficiency and creativity. The use of the images blends in with the text as a unity. The styled text provides a design touch that's lively and organic. More importantly, the design choices echoes the story itself. The vertical dividers are also made with a "brush". One would hardly notice that but that's because the design didn't want to stand out for its own sake — it's there for the story."

2nd Place:

Emilee Stites
"Saturday Morning at the Farmers' Market"
Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Emilee Stites
"A Magical Fish and the City it Spawned"
Bloom Magazine

Graphics and Illustrations

Publication circulation above 30,000, news services and digital media

2nd Place:

Stephen J. Beard

“Can Cover Crops Save Our Soil?”

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Curt Merlo

“Something's Fishy”

Indianapolis Monthly

Graphics and Illustrations

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Wayne Manns

“Remembering The Hole”

Bloom Magazine

Judge's comments: “The Remembering the Hole package demonstrated great sophistication with how it was laid out. The paintings were appropriate to the theme of the story and were a great way to make up for a lack of photos.”

2nd Place:

Mike Cagle

“The Dog House”

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Brad Turner

“Pleading the 5th Mode”

Indiana Lawyer/IBJ Media

Multiple Picture Group

1st Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“Getting muddy at the Redneck Rave”

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comments: “1) Very thoughtful images and it appears that you really covered many angles. I appreciate the fact that you rode along too. The image you took while riding along that frames the 3-some riding an ATV has amazing use of DOP, framing, rule of thirds and certainly takes the cake among all entries.”

2nd Place:

Stephen Sproull

“Saturday Morning at the Farmers' Market”

Bloom Magazine

Judge's comments: "This is a brilliant set of images. It really captures the essence of a farmer's market. The details are spectacular and the dogs touching noses really stood out. Very solid set made from a simple assignment."

3rd Place:

Mykal McEldowney
"Sugar Ray Seales"
The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comments: Beautiful imagery and access to sugar ray. I like your choice of B&W and that you captured some softer moments w/Sugar Ray. The noise in some of the images is quite helpful too!"

PROFESSIONAL: ONLINE

Best Journalism Website

1st Place:

WTHR News Team
"wthr.com"
WTHR

Judge's comments: "The WTHR website effectively uses bold colors and impactful visuals to highlight the best content. The clear labeling of stories on the homepage makes the site easily skimmable. The article pages incorporates multimedia elements seamlessly into the storytelling, providing an excellent reading experience."

2nd Place:

Heather Bremer and staff of The Herald Bulletin.
"The Herald Bulletin"
The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

WANE 15 Staff
"wane.com"
WANE

Best Online Multimedia

2nd Place:

WFIU/WTIU News
"WFIU/WTIU 2018 Election Coverage"
WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Staff of The Herald Bulletin
"24 Hours in Anderson"
The Herald Bulletin

PROFESSIONAL: BOOKS

Non-Fiction Book

1st Place:

Douglas Walker and Keith Roysdon
“Muncie Murder & Mayhem”
The History Press / Arcadia Publishing

2nd Place:

Ray E. Boomhower
“Indiana Originals: Hoosier Heroes & Heroines”
The History Press

3rd Place:

Stephen T. Jackson
“If the River Could Talk”
The Herald Bulletin

PROFESSIONAL: TELEVISION

Best Newscast

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Trey Friedrichs, Scott Davis, Brooke Martin, & Mike Barz
“24-Hour News 8 at 5”
WISH-TV

Judge’s comments: “24 Hour News 8 had a well produced, quick introduction to the story of the day. Brenda Donnelly’s pkg captured the urgency and panic of the situation. In Fox 59’s newscast Lindsey Eaton had a nicely paced pkg with effective use of quick soundbites. Good energy on breaking news.”

2nd Place:

Allison Hammond, Vickie Binkley, Dan Spehler, Tanae Howard
“FOX59 News at 10: Neighboring Crimes”
WXIN

3rd Place:

Vickie Binkley, Danny Rapinchuk, Justin Howell, Staff
“CBS4 This Morning: Battling Dangerous Ice”
WTTV

Best Newscast

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Donovan Klein, Kayla Crandall, Kameron Robinson, Ian Hoover
"Fort Wayne's NBC News"
WPTA TV - Fort Wayne's NBC

2nd Place:

Daniel Beals, Brien McElhatten, Alexis Shear, Jamie Till
"ABC21 News at 11"
WPTA - ABC21

3rd Place:

WANE 15 Staff
"Seeking Justice for April"
WANE

Breaking News Coverage

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Al Carl
"Noblesville School Shooting"
WISH-TV

2nd Place:

Al Carl
"Deputy Killed"
WISH-TV

3rd Place:

WTHR News Team
"Noblesville School Shooting"
WTHR

Breaking News Coverage

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

ABC21 Staff
"Bus Stop Tragedy"
WPTA - ABC21

Judge's comments: "The ABC21 team produced a comprehensive narrative about the crash and its victims, securing a difficult interview with the victims' uncle that elevated the package with its sensitivity."

2nd Place:

Cody Butler
"Man shot inside Clinton Street Kroger"
WFFT-TV

3rd Place:

Heather Good, Austin Fagg
"Police surround apartment after officer shot, killed"
WTHI-TV

Investigative Reporting*Indianapolis market***1st Place:**

Shannon Houser, Greg Wilkerson, Olivia Dangler
"Felon Buys a Gun"
WTTV

2nd Place:

Sandra Chapman, Bill Ditton, Steve Rhodes, & Susan Batt
"Born in Combat"
WTHR

3rd Place:

Bob Segall, Bill Ditton & Cyndee Hebert
"Emergency Inside 911"
WTHR

Investigative Reporting*Outside Indianapolis market***1st Place:**

Alexis Shear, Daniel Beals, Jonathan Shelley
"Digging Deeper: Dying on the Job"
WPTA - ABC21

Judge's comments: "The winning entry shows serious flaws with the way Indiana protects workers and their families when they die in workplace accidents. Bravo for exposing this problem through the plight of a family affected by this."

2nd Place:

Alyssa Ivanson
"15 Finds Out: Organ Arguments"
WANE

3rd Place:

Angelica Robinson
"15 Finds Out: Umbilical Cord Drug Testing"
WANE

Sports Reporting

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Dave Furst
"Dave Furst Sports"
WRTV

Judge's comments: "Entries were selected for excellent sports reporting standards such as sources, stats, and any infographics. Videography and captivating relevant footage were also used to determine placement."

2nd Place:

Charlie Clifford
"Charlie Clifford, Sports Reporter"
WISH-TV

Sports Reporting

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Jason Pear, Producer/Videographer/Editor; Jacob Lindauer, Videographer
"The Weekly Special: Indiana Spotlight: Andrew Peterson's Race for the Gold"
WTIU

Judge's comments: "Absolutely phenomenal entries. Final decision was based upon video sports reporting standards such as a range of reputable sources, stats and any infographics. Captivating, relevant footage and exceptional videography also played a large role in the decision."

2nd Place:

Lindsey Wright
"As Esports Industry Booms, Some Colleges Launch Varsity Teams"
WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Adam Shear
"Adam Shear Reports"
WPTA - Fort Wayne's NBC

Feature Story

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Scott Swan and Steve Rhodes
"Miracle of the Mind"
WTHR

2nd Place:

Brooke Martin, Shawn Pierce, Trey Friedrichs
“WISH Patrol Baby Shower”
WISH-TV

3rd Place:

Mike Sullivan, Austyn Knox
“Wrestler Recovering from Shooting”
WXIN

Feature Story

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Adam Carroll, Producer/Editor; Jacob Lindauer, Videographer; Chris Dodge, Videographer
“The Weekly Special: Expressions: Gabriel Dishaw”
WTIU

Judge’s comments: “One man’s passion is brilliantly displayed in this unique piece. Eye-catching visuals add to the story and holds the viewer’s interest throughout. Well done.”

Documentary or Special

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Ted Green, Producer; Mika Brown, Co-Producer;
Pete Saetre, Co-Producer/Editor; Vincent Manganello, Videographer; & Andy Young,
Videographer
“Eva: A-7063”
WFYI

2nd Place:

Brooke Martin, Shawn Pierce & Trey Friedrichs
“WISH Patrol 2018”
WISH-TV

3rd Place:

STAFF
“WRTV is Working for You.”
WRTV

Documentary or Special

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Samuel Orr, Rob Anderson
“Indiana’s Wild Landscape”
WTIU

2nd Place:

Susanne Schwibs, Justin Crossley, Rob Anderson
“Beautiful by Design: The Indiana University Bloomington Campus”
WTIU

3rd Place:

Donovan Klein, Tom Powell, Linda Jackson, Harry Boeddeker
“Hooked: The Opioid Epidemic Hits Home”
WPTA - Fort Wayne's NBC

Continuing Coverage

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

STAFF
“WRTV--Continuous Coverage-Noblesville School Shooting”
WRTV

2nd Place:

Al Carl
“Noblesville School Shooting”
WISH-TV

3rd Place:

Haley Bull, Robb Ressler
“Contaminated Soil, Contaminated Kids?”
WTTV

Continuing Coverage

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Fort Wayne's NBC News Team
“The April Tinsley Tragedy”
WPTA - Fort Wayne's NBC

Judge's comments: “The April Tinsley Tragedy series was phenomenal. Compelling, emotional and well-done. I applaud the entire news team for their excellent coverage.”

2nd Place:

Terra Brantley, JR Carmichael
“Distracted & Dangerous: It's Personal”
WANE

3rd Place:

WTIU News
“Continuing Coverage of The Impact of Tariffs In Indiana”
WFIU/WTIU News

Coverage of Government or Politics

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Matt Smith

“Matt Smith Covers Politics”

WTTV

2nd Place:

Kara Kenney, Paris Lewbel, Brad Forestal & Tony Grant

“Pothole Wait Times, Veteran License Plate Scandal, Cops Go To Hawaii, and 911 Please Hold”

WRTV

3rd Place:

Hilary Powell

“Behind Political Headlines in Michiana”

WSBT (CBS)

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Kara Kenne, Brad Forestal, Jason Ronimous & Dave Franklin

“Contractor Crook, Personal Info Found on Computers and Paving Scammers”

WRTV

Judge’s comments: “Excellent reporting on issues that are impacting the community, with thorough investigation with records, experts and multiple parties impacted. Even better, it was all done in a tangible way to the viewer so they can fully understand the legal issues at hand. Great job inserting humor where appropriate, as well!”

2nd Place:

Hilary Powell

“Answering the Call Across Michiana”

WSBT (CBS)

3rd Place:

Stephanie Zepelin

“Trade-in Troubles”

WISH-TV

Education Coverage

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Frank Mickens, Jamie Suiter

“Where is Recess”

WTTV

2nd Place:

WTIU News

“How Students, Schools Participated In The National Walkout”

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Gabby Gonzalez, Shaun Murphy

“Guns in Schools”

WXIN

Criminal Justice Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Barbara Brosher

“Do Indiana's Civil Forfeiture Laws Violate The State Constitution?”

WFIU/WTIU News

Judge's comments: “Civil foreclosures; great lede, use of sources, good storytelling, great stats, awesome research, comprehensive reporting”

2nd Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Public Safety Cell Network Aims To Improve Emergency Communication”

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Kara Kenney, Paris Lewbel, Brad Forestal, Frank Young

“Do DUI Checkpoints Work, Officer Under Investigation, Falling Body Cameras”

WRTV

Coverage of Children's Issues

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Gabby Gonzalez, Alexis McAdams, Matt Smith

“DCS Ignores the Signs”

WXIN

Judge's comments: “Heart wrenching results of systemic neglect and abuse are highlighted in this piece by the team at WXIN. Their dogged persistence did not cease even when presented with familiar calls for reform by government officials.”

2nd Place:

Barbara Brosher

“Program Gives Kids In Juvenile Detention Lesson In Legal Rights”

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Kara Kenney, Paris Lewbel, Brad Forestal & Jason Strong
“Teen Rapists Go Unpunished and Victims Left Unprotected, FBI Says School Shooting Was Preventable”
WRTV

Coverage of Minority Issues

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Tanae Howard, Allen Keefner
“Black Hair, Let's Care”
WXIN

Judge's comments: “This reporter presents a thoughtful, comprehensive and long overdue discussion on natural hair. Viewers are left informed on a subject that affects many.”

2nd Place:

Hilary Powell
“From Indiana to Korea”
WSBT (CBS)

3rd Place:

Barbara Brosher
“Indiana Counties Look For Solutions To Horseshoe Damage On Roads”
WFIU/WTIU News

Medical or Science Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Barbara Brosher
“VA To Offer Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy For Some Veterans With PTSD”
WFIU/WTIU News

Judge's comments: “VA story: great storytelling, research, sources, objective reporting, nice photojournalism, well-rounded work.”

2nd Place:

Kyle Travers, Producer; Bram Sable-Smith, Reporter;
Chris Elberfeld, Vinnie Manganello, and Andy Young, Videographers
“The High Cost of Insulin”
Side Effects Public Media and WFYI

3rd Place:

Tyler Lake
“Brown County Health Clinic Embraces New Care Model”
WFIU/WTIU News

Environmental Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Opponents Of Bobcat Hunting, Controversial Proposals Call For More Information”

WFIU/WTIU News

Judge’s comments: “Wright’s reporting on the topic of bobcat hunting is exhaustive, weighing all the arguments amongst the various stakeholders in equal measure. The result is an interesting, nuanced package about a topic that often gets reduced to stereotypes on both sides of the issue.”

2nd Place:

Tyler Lake

“Engineers Seek 'Dark Sky' Designation for Hoosier National Forest”

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Experts: The Growing Anti-Plastic Straw Movement Is About More Than Straws”

WFIU/WTIU News

General News or Sports Videography

1st Place:

Jason Thompson

“Jason Thompson, Sports Photojournalist”

WISH-TV

2nd Place:

Frank R Young III, Erin Lisch, Meredith Barack

“RTV6 General News Videography SPJ Awards Entry | 2018”

RTV6

3rd Place:

Trevor Peters and Ryan Delaney

“Logo Loopholes”

WLF1-TV 18

Features News Videography

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Brad Forestal

“SPJ Forestal Feature News videography”

WRTV

Judge’s comments: “All of the entrants showed a lot of passion and thoughtfulness in their pieces, but the SPJ Forestal FN Videography Composite edged them out with the quality of the storytelling. You could tell Brad was moving the camera all over the place and getting unique

angles and every clever edit helped advance each piece to become a memorable one. He had very nice shot composition, shot variety, great pacing, good natural moments, and fun characters in each story.”

2nd Place:

David Novak
“Scenes of Indiana”
WTTV

3rd Place:

Frank R Young III, Paris Lewbel, Meredith Barack
“RTV6 Feature News Videography SPJ Awards Entry | 2018”
RTV6

Features News Videography

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Zach Groth
“Zach Groth (ABC21) Feature Videography”
WPTA - ABC21 Fort Wayne

Judge’s comments: “Groth has a refreshing take on activities that could be considered sports, hobbies or games, depending on the viewer. Groth's profiles of these players smartly includes their ambitions to reach a national stage, elevating these stories beyond the local communities where they were filmed.”

2nd Place:

Ross Kinsey
“Ross Kinsey”
WANE

PROFESSIONAL: RADIO

Radio Breaking News Coverage

1st Place:

WIBC Newsroom
"The Murder of Deputy Jacob Pickett"
WIBC

2nd Place:

Isaiah Seibert
"Derailment, Explosion Force Evacuation"
WNIN-FM

Radio Best Newscast

1st Place:

Kayla Blakeslee
"Potential Kidnapping Newscast"
Federated Media - WOWO 1190AM/107.5FM

Judge's comments: "WOWO Kayla Blakeslee: The 911 audio was compelling and the 2-way after the newscast added to the coverage."

2nd Place:

WNIN Staff
"June 12, 2018 PM Newscast"
WNIN-FM

3rd Place:

Stan Jastrzebski, Emilie Syberg, Charlotte Tuggle
"WBAA 7 a.m. Newscast, January 25th, 2018"
WBAA Public Radio

Radio Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Lindsey Wright and Becca Costello
"Hoosier Experts Offer Opportunities to Learn Safe Caving Practices"
WFIU/WTIU News

Judge's comments: "Nice use of sound in all three pieces. Cave story was informative and well voiced."

2nd Place:

Lindsey Wright
"As Esports Industry Booms, Some Colleges Launch Varsity Teams"
WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Indiana University Crew Follows NFL's Lead in Implementing Field Safety Practices”

WFIU/WTIU News

Radio In-Depth Reporting

1st Place:

Emilie Syberg

“As Feds Bail Out Farmers, Food Banks Brace for Extra Food”

WBAA Public Radio

2nd Place:

Charlotte Tuggle

“Train Trouble”

WBAA Public Radio

3rd Place:

Barbara Brosher

“Program Gives Kids In Juvenile Detention Lesson In Legal Rights”

WFIU/WTIU News

Radio Feature Story

1st Place:

Drew Daudelin

“The Dreams and Aspirations Behind A Youth-Led Bike Shop In Indianapolis”

WFYI

Judge’s comments: “The youth featured in this piece, along with the adults who help them, offer a hopeful worldview while demonstrating the results of hard work and self-sufficiency. This is a great example of the importance of hyper local reporting. Well done!”

2nd Place:

Sarah Vaughan

“Prosecutors, Paramedics Training to Recognize Domestic Violence Strangulation”

WFHB Community Radio

3rd Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Program Helps Prepare Students with Disabilities for Employment”

WFIU/WTIU News

Radio Documentary or Special

1st Place:

Chris Davis

“Opioids in Indiana: There Is Hope”

WIBC

2nd Place:

Jill Ditmire

“Curious Mix / The Speech that Kept the City Calm; Hoosier Jazz Icons; An Ode to Cinnamon Toast”

WFYI Indianapolis

3rd Place:

Doug Storm, Rob Schoon, Wes Martin

“Interchange – The Red Scare Next Door: Anti-Communism in Evansville, Indiana”

WFHB Community Radio

Radio Continuing Coverage

1st Place:

Eric Weddle

“Can Gary Schools Be Saved By A State Takeover?”

WFYI Indianapolis

2nd Place:

WIBC Newsroom

“Noblesville Strong: A School Shooting at Home”

WIBC

Radio Public Affairs

1st Place:

John Krull, Jill Sheridan

“No Limits / Indianapolis' LGBT History”

WFYI Indianapolis

Judge's comments: “There were many wonderful moments in the entries submitted in this field. What set the winner apart was the deep history and context. This is the kind of programming that connects people to their communities. The host asked informed, sensitive questions. The resulting conversation was a fascinating listen that explained why Pride events continue to be important. Well done.”

2nd Place:

John Krull, Jill Sheridan

“No Limits / Gun violence Responses”

WFYI Indianapolis

3rd Place:

Stan Jastrzebski

“Election Mini-Golf”

WBAA Public Radio

STUDENT: PRINT AND DIGITAL

Breaking News Reporting

1st Place:

Jack Evans

"Father dies after rescuing daughter from sinking car"

Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: "The winner in this category goes beyond what they got from a police report and tells a devastating story. It's hard to write this type of piece, that seamlessly blends the news of a death with information about who someone was, but this student did it well."

2nd Place:

Jesse Naranjo

"The KKK organized a cookout in Madison. A few hundred protesters weren't having it."

Indiana Daily Student

Non-Deadline News

1st Place:

Peter Talbot

"Confronting truth: Marion, Indiana struggles to face history of 1930 lynching"

Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: "Peter Talbot's excellently constructed in-depth piece evokes an emotional history that doesn't shy away from the painful truth of racism's lasting legacies."

2nd Place:

Lydia Gerike

"E-scooters captivated IU students. But more than 75 have been hurt so far."

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place:

Samantha Kupiainen

"Along Came Maria"

Ball Bearings

Feature Story

1st Place:

Katie Grieze

"Thank You, God, For Making Me Gay and Catholic"

Ball Bearings

Judge's comments: "Great job of 'showing' not 'telling', good story line that draws reader in and makes them want to know more. Succeeds in accomplishing a journalist's biggest challenge - taking a potentially boring, statistical subject and humanizing it to make it approachable and interesting. Good color, nice details and works as a feature because it's not limited to a one-person or family and is not a 'one-source' story, a factor that brought it to First Place over the close second. Bold choice to start lede with questions. I always love a story that ties up in a bow at the end with the same ribbon it began with."

2nd Place:

Naomi Farahan

“Venezuelan family awaits asylum in Bloomington”

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place:

Hannah Boufford

“Justice for Merlin”

Indiana Daily Student

Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Jordan Guskey

“A new hope”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “A great display of multimedia journalism, “a new hope” is a beautiful piece of longform journalism, utilizing multiple sources and different storytelling techniques. It was miles apart from the other contenders in this category.”

2nd Place:

Zach Piatt

“Band of brothers”

The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Riley Eubanks

“Sliding into Tradition”

Ball Bearings

Editorial Writing

1st Place:

Shayla Cabalan

“LGBT media: Vital to youth”

The Reflector

Judge’s comments: “Shayla’s clean prose and inviting voice give the reader an emotional hook that keeps us reading--key to writing a thought-provoking and successful editorial piece. Kudos!”

2nd Place:

The Franklin staff

“‘Love over hate’: What we can learn from the Capital Gazette shooting”

The Franklin

3rd Place:

Staff

“OUR VIEW: We need to support, save student newsrooms”

The Ball State Daily News

Editorial Cartoon

1st Place:

Ethan Gerling

"In Case of Inequality, Break Glass"

The Reflector

Judge's comments: "In Case of Inequality ... is a hands-down winner. The hugely significant meaning is transparent. Bravo. Life Shaming also took a different twist to a relative newly discussed topic. The eye is drawn to the center of the ring and gradually focuses on the crowd that is ripe for a reason(s) to attack those characters in the center of the circle. Great meanings. The third-place entry was also well done."

2nd Place:

Ethan Gerling

"Like Shaming"

The Reflector

3rd Place:

Ethan Gerling

"Police Need New Glasses"

The Reflector

Column Writing

1st Place:

Ben Portnoy

"IDS Sports Column"

Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: "This column tackles hugely important topics facing the sports industry in nuanced and competent ways. It merges personal experience, historical context and current events into interesting perspectives that stick with the reader."

2nd Place:

Riley Eubanks

"Mr. West Goes to Washington"

Ball Bearings

3rd Place:

Carolina Puga Mendoza

"Reality Check"

The Franklin

News Photography

1st Place:

Matt Begala
"Trump in Indiana"
Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: "The best photography isn't just about capturing a moment or showing off technical proficiency. It's about faces. Donald Trump is the most photographed man on the planet these days, which means it's a big challenge to find an angle that's interesting. This one clears that high bar. Second and third places did an admirable job covering events that limit access, but they faced stiff competition from a powerful image of the president."

2nd Place:

Kyle McGinnis
"Stevonce in Drag"
The Reflector

3rd Place:

Jayden Kennett
"Protesters march at Indiana Statehouse"
The Reflector

Sports Photography

1st Place:

Paige Grider
"Ball State vs. Eastern Michigan"
The Ball State Daily News

Judge's comments: "First place stood out with a clean impactful image capturing peak sports action."

2nd Place:

Staff
"2018 Little 500"
Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place:

Jacob Walton
"Football Catch"
The Reflector

Features Photography

1st Place:

Stephanie Amador
"The Meaning of Heritage"
Ball Bearings

2nd Place:

Quinn Fitzgerald
“Last Look: Sorority Bid Day”
The Franklin

3rd Place:

Paige Grider
“Ball State vs. Eastern Michigan”
The Ball State Daily News

Page One or Cover Design

1st Place:

Staff
“Indiana Daily Student”
Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “All three finalists took design risks that paid off. But the first-place winner took the most diverse risks, and it best incorporated typography into its design. Bold design is more than just big images and big type. That type – and the actual words – need to support and clarify the images. Second and third could have done that a little better.”

2nd Place:

Emily Wright
“17 Minutes”
The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Stephanie Amador, Annelise Hanshaw
“We Demand Change”
Ball Bearings

Best Design Other Than Page One or Cover

1st Place:

Staff
“Indiana Daily Student”
Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “The choice between first and second places was razor thin. It was difficult because these entries did very different things very well. The Indiana Daily Student designs were intricate yet balanced, while the Ball Bearings design is a simple but dramatic punch in the face. Both are perfect for their subject matter, so it was only because of IDS had to juggle more elements deftly that it nudges out Ball Bearings.”

2nd Place:

Annelise Hanshaw
“We Demand Change”
Ball Bearings

3rd Place:

Shelby Mullis, Carolina Puga Mendoza, Hope Shrum
“A Journey Toward Greatness”
The Franklin

Graphics or Illustration**1st Place:**

Emily Sabens
“Non-Traditional Schools”
Ball Bearings

Judge’s comments: “This graphic does a good job of incorporating imagery and text to give readers a quick understanding of the subject. it’s easy to just scroll through and get all the info at a glance, and get more details by actually reading the text.”

2nd Place:

Johana Rosendo and Zoë Berg
“Explore Indy”
The Reflector

3rd Place:

Ethan Gerling
“What is consent?”
The Reflector

Investigative Reporting**1st Place:**

Laurel Demkovich
“Eminent domain”
Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “This story took something as simple as a sign on the side of the road that people drive by every day and gave readers a deep understanding of the community, history and intricacies that lead to its creation. It’s an unexpectedly deep dive that will stay with readers far beyond the last few graf’s.”

STUDENT: TELEVISION

Best Newscast

1st Place:

Seth Tocco, Tanner Holbrook, Cameron DeBlasio & Emily Poe
“Election Night 2018”
NewsLink Indiana

2nd Place:

Producer: Liz Szewczyk; Associate Producer: Tylor Brummett;
Associate Producer: Celia Lavoie; & Associate Producer: Tanner Holbrook
“Waking up with Cardinal WX”
Ball State University

News Reporting

1st Place:

Esther Bower
“Midwest Student Exchange Program”
NewsLink Indiana

2nd Place:

Tanner Holbrook
“Domestic Violence Survivor”
NewsLink Indiana

3rd Place:

Brittney Ermon
“Fighting Addiction Through Physical Fitness”
NewsLink Indiana

Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Michael Tilka
“Austin Starr”
IU Student Television

2nd Place:

Auston Matricardi, Murphy Wheeler
“Logan Sowers”
IU Student Television

3rd Place:

Auston Matricardi, Austin Ghirardelli
“IU Soccer Postseason”
Indiana University Student Television

Features Reporting

1st Place:

Sam Ahrens, Logan Dubbs, Zach Roy & Jack Kizer
"Family Legacy: Cody Rudy"
Ball State University

Judge's comments: "This visually pleasing and heartwarming entry does a splendid job of showing how one student tackles adversity and wins."

Videography

1st Place:

Connor Nichols
"Connor Nichols - Reel"
Ball State University

Judge's comments: "This entry features exhilarating imagery combined with perfectly timed music. The result is stunning. Well done!"

STUDENT: RADIO

Best Newscast

1st Place:

Shayla Cabalan
“WICR Radio Information Update at 5:00”
WICR-FM HD Radio / University of Indianapolis

2nd Place:

Noah Alatza
“January 10 Newscast”
95.7 The Spin

3rd Place:

Rachel Lowhorn
“November 11 News”
95.7 The Spin

News Reporting

1st Place:

Zoe Diggins
“Zoe Diggins”
Indiana Public Radio

Judge’s comments: “In terms of content and production, 1st and 2nd place could almost be flipped except that Diggins provided additional examples of her work which is what tipped the scale in her favor.”

2nd Place:

Chloe Weber
“Live Shooter Training”
WBAA Public Radio

3rd Place:

Noah Alatza
“New U.S.I. President”
95.7 The Spin

Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Abby Carpenter, Ally Low, Mary Grace Cusumano, Shelby Schoen
“Cascade leaves the WIC”
WGRE

Features Reporting

1st Place:

Emma Atkinson

“Many young Ugandan women fear pregnancy more than HIV”

IU Media School

2nd Place:

Emma Atkinson

“Daviness County Schools Adopt Alternative Methods To Curb Disciplinary Issues”

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place:

Carly Rosenberger

“Homeless Art Show”

WBAA Public Radio

Best Journalism Website

1st Place:

Staff

“Ball Bearings”

Ball Bearings

2nd Place:

Brooke Kemp, Ryan Shank, Michael Himes, Emily Wright

“Living Form: The man behind the masks”

The Ball State Daily News

Best Online Multimedia

1st Place:

Taylor Telford, Sara Miller, Eman Mozaffar

“Broken”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “Superb competition in this multimedia category. The first place winners demonstrated exceptional skills in writing and editing, videography, photography, illustration, context and caring.”

2nd Place:

Laurel Demkovich, Emily Berryman, Hannah Boufford

“Pride of Paoli”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: “Excellent storytelling based on expert interviewing. The graphics, video and photography are dynamic.”

3rd Place:

Merritt McLaughlin, Tt Shinkan, Maya Montague

“Diary of a Derby Mom”

Ball Bearings

Judge’s comments: “The Derby Mom and other ladies in the rink are a one-of-a-kind club. Good visuals led this multimedia project.”