

2023 WINNERS

**BEST OF INDIANA
JOURNALISM CONTEST**



**Awarded by Indiana Pro Chapter of the
Society of Professional Journalists**

April 2024

STORY OF THE YEAR

Bad Bars

Tony Cook, Alexandria Burris, Dayeon Eom and Ryan Martin

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comment: Bad Bars is the kind of accountability journalism every community needs. The journalist at The Star dug deep to find compelling data documenting how bad bars in our communities contribute to crime and violence which the agency responsible for providing oversight has failed to do its job. The series showed the influence of public officials who have, in essence, been bought off to allow bad bars to remain open. The series is built on compelling data and backed up by powerful storytelling.

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Lee V. Gaines

WFYI

Judge's comment: Lee Gaines did an exemplary job covering a range of issues having an impact on education

and children. Among the most compelling were the series of stories that documented how some of the state's most vulnerable children are isolated and restrained in violation of policy. The lack of meaningful oversight or consequences for breaches of policy had an impact on children and their families. These stories were deeply reported that combined hard facts with compelling human drama.

STUDENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Enterprise Desk
Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comment: The Enterprise Desk of the Indiana Daily Student is deserving for a combination of investigative pieces and compelling journalism that highlighted issues that have an impact on the Indiana University community in Bloomington. The student journalists covered a range of issues with deep reporting and strong storytelling.

FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

Indiana Public Access Counselor's Office

This year's First Amendment Award goes to the Office of the Indiana Public Access Counselor and Luke Britt, who is the state's current and longest serving Public Access Counselor.

Since Gov. Frank O'Bannon created the office by executive order in 1998 and the Indiana General Assembly followed by passing a statute in 1999, approximately 11,000 formal complaints have been filed with the office, resulting in the Public Access Counselor issuing more than 6,000 opinions. Current Access Counselor Luke Britt has issued more than 2,700 of those since Gov. Mike Pence appointed him to the role in 2013. Indiana's. Recent legislation that passed the General Assembly and was signed by Gov. Eric Holcomb limits the authority of the access counselor to interpret the state's Access to Public Records Act and Open Door Law at a time when concerns about government transparency are only increasing.

For his past work and his ongoing efforts in an increasingly difficult environment, and in recognition of the contributions of his predecessors, including the first counselor Anne Mullin O'Connor, we are proud to present this year's First Amendment Award to Luke Britt and the Office of the Indiana Public Access Counselor.

SLAYMAKER SERVICE TO JOURNALISM AWARD

Dan Byron

This year's winner of the Slaymaker Service to Journalism Award is long-time media attorney Dan Byron.

For more than 30 years Dan has been a leader in the fight to gain access for cameras to Indiana's courtrooms. Dan has worked closely with the Indiana Supreme Court, trial court judges and journalists in conducting multiple pilot programs, swaying opinions and helping craft the rules and procedures for allowing journalists to use cameras when covering trials and other court proceedings. With new Indiana Supreme Court rules implemented last year journalists can now tell stories with courtroom audio and video thanks to the work of Dan Byron and others who pleaded our case that it was long past time to change the rules.

"Dan has been a cooperative and tireless partner in advocating for cameras in courts. He has always been willing to listen to concerns, devise pilot projects, and promote quality relationships between media and courts. The 3rd branch of government and the 4th estate owe him a

debt of gratitude!” said Kathryn Dolan, the Indiana Supreme Court’s chief public information officer.

SCOTT UECKER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Ryan Costello, Indiana University

Eva Hallman, Butler University

Taylor Satoski, Indiana University

PROFESSIONAL RADIO RADIO BEST NEWSCAST

1st Place

April 17, 2023 Morning Newscast

Sara Wittmeyer

WFIU/WTIU News

Judge’s comment: The morning newscast from WFIU/WTIU was the most well rounded and included a nice use of sound and voices throughout. I appreciated

hearing from parents at the NRA rally and I liked how the newscast opened with a community talker.

2nd Place

WIBC News at Noon - June 19, 2023

John Herrick, Donnie Burgess, Ryan Hedrick and Matt Bair

WIBC

3rd Place

All Thing Considered, February 28, 2023

Stephanie Wiechmann

Indiana Public Radio

RADIO BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

1st Place

Hall of Fame basketball coach Bobby Knight dies at 83

Pat Beane

WFIU/WTIU News

Judge's comment: The Knight stories did an excellent job of first reporting the news and then summing up his legacy and what he meant to Indiana.

2nd Place

Deadly storms hit south central Indiana
George Hale
WFIU/WTIU News

RADIO SPORTS REPORTING

1st Place

100 years at the Bloomington Speedway
Ethan Sandweiss
WFIU/WTIU News

Judge's comment: Great use of sound in an illuminating look at sport that is key to the community

2nd Place

Coverage of Bobby Knight's death at age 83
Pat Beane

WFIU/WTIU News

RADIO IN-DEPTH REPORTING

1st Place

Schools not held accountable for forcibly isolating and restraining students

Lee V. Gaines

WFYI

2nd Place

Voices of Recovery and Hope

Darian Benson and Brittani Howell

WFYI

3rd Place

What fueled Indiana's slate of anti-LGBTQ+ bills in 2023?

Lauren Chapman

Indiana Public Broadcasting News

RADIO FEATURE STORY

1st Place

Families fight for special education services in Porter
County

Lee V. Gaines and Dylan Peers McCoy

WFYI

2nd Place

The Cost to Bleed: How the 'Tampon Tax' is Worsening
Period Poverty

Brookelyn Lambright

WFHB Community Radio

3rd Place

End-of-life doulas are working to make conversations
about death easier

Sara Wittmeyer

WFIU/WTIU News

RADIO DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL

1st Place

Bring It On! – November 6, 2023: Woke-ism

Clarence Boone, Liz Mitchell and Chantalle LaFontant

WFHB Community Radio

Judge's comment: Compelling conversation throughout the full program -- thought provoking and informative.

2nd Place

January 6, 2023: Policing Womens' Bodies

Hugh Farrell, Mia Beach and Micol Seigel

WFHB Community Radio

3rd Place

Local food sovereignty amidst global challenges

Zyro Roze

WFHB Community Radio

RADIO CONTINUING COVERAGE

1st Place

Muncie deadly party shooting

Stephanie Wiechmann

Indiana Public Radio

2nd Place

State lawmakers target funding for IU's Kinsey Institute

Ethan Sandweiss

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place

Coverage of the ripple effects in Indiana of the UAW strikes

Adam Yahya Rayes and Tony Sandleben
Indiana Public Broadcasting News

RADIO PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1st Place

Accessible Automobiles: A return to the case of Lyft v. Westchester Disabled On the Move

Abe Shapiro

WFHB Community Radio

2nd Place

Cardinal Compass: Muncie ready to welcome the world
Cardinal Compass Staff

Indiana Public Radio

3rd Place

November 24, 2023: Block Cop City

Mia Beach, Hugh Farrell
WFHB Community Radio

RADIO ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN

1st Place
Primary 2023
Newsroom staff
Network Indiana/WIBC

Judge's comment: Comprehensive and informative. Good, clear presentation

PRINT AND DIGITAL DIVISION

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place
IndyStar investigates violence at Indianapolis bars and nightclubs
Tony Cook, Dayeon Eom, Ryan Martin and Alexandria Burris
The Indianapolis Star

2nd Place

Indiana isn't holding schools accountable for forcibly isolating and restraining students

Lee V. Gaines

WFYI

3rd Place

Lost in the Medicaid rolls as the unwinding continues

Farah Yousry, Brittani Howell

WFYI

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Accusations of 'unethical' landlord; evictions mount

Noe Padilla

Journal & Courier

Judge's comment: A thorough and hard-hitting investigation into a slumlord.

2nd Place

Griffith festivals not paying off?

Jim Masters

Post-Tribune

3rd Place

Town council president steps beyond just that role

Jim Masters

Post-Tribune

BREAKING NEWS REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Mass shooting at Evansville Walmart

Houston Harwood, Sarah Loesch, Jon Webb and Macabe Brown

Evansville Courier & Press

Judge's comment: The Evansville Courier & Press reporters demonstrate the essentials of breaking news coverage in their winning entry, looking to live updates, records, interviews and more.

2nd Place

Mr. Basketball an honor for Penn's Markus Burton, a win for South Bend-Mishawaka area

Tom Noie

South Bend Tribune

3rd Place

The Statehouse File live blog: Election Day 2023

Staff

TheStatehouseFile.com

BREAKING NEWS REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

'It's devastating': Tornado kills 3, leaves wide swath of damage in Sullivan

Sue Loughlin

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

Judge's comment: The tornado story painted a vivid picture in words and pictures about this devastating event. The story was in-depth and very well-written. It captured the emotion and the scene.

2nd Place

Richmond toxic plastics fire

Mike Emery, Chris Hardie and Millicent Martin Emery

Western Wayne News

3rd Place

Police chief: Muncie shootings not the act of 'one person targeting this group'

Douglas Walker and David Penticuff

The Star Press

NON-DEADLINE STORY OR SERIES (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Century of Progress Homes from Chicago World's Fair never meant to be lived in but remain preserved

Joseph S. Pete

The Times of Northwest Indiana

Judge's comment: The Century of Progress homes was an interesting and comprehensive read.

2nd Place

Dangerous prison inmate pleads for 'death row' pardon of 50 cats

Jerry Davich

The Times of Northwest Indiana

3rd Place

IBJ's Downtown Issue

Staff

Indianapolis Business Journal

NON-DEADLINE STORY OR SERIES (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Deep Dive: Struggling with Housing Supply, Stability and Subsidies

Steve Hinnefeld

Limestone Post Magazine

Judge's comment: Steve Hinnefeld did a great job tackling the housing issue. The extensive, well-written series covered the issue, how it affects the community (with

information and anecdotes relevant to every reader) and what's being done about it.

2nd Place

“The waiting game: 2 years after end of war in Afghanistan, refugees in Indiana still awaiting asylum”

Alexa Shrake

IBJ Media-Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place

“Shuttered NWI homeless nonprofit put clients at risk with delays, state agency warned”

Amy Lavalley

Post-Tribune

COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS

(Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

A candidate's mysterious donor list

Thomas B. Langhorne

Evansville Courier & Press

2nd Place

Covering government at all levels

Enrique Saenz

Mirror Indy

3rd Place

Coverage of attorney general misconduct case

Tom Davies

State Affairs

COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS

(Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Officials commit to legislation related to tapping Wabash

River aquifer

Noe Padilla

Journal & Courier

Judge's comment: Noe Padilla's reporting is both readable and informative, helping audiences to understand the issues he reports on.

2nd Place

Abortion updates statewide and nationally

Olivia Covington and Alexa Shrake

IBJ Media-Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place

Turich election spotlights exception to self-dealing law

Michelle L. Quinn

Post-Tribune

BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING

(Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Business at all levels

Enrique Saenz

Mirror Indy

Judge's comment: Saenz's package of four complex stories involving basic quality-of-life issues rose to the top in terms of news value and exceptional writing. Well done.

2nd Place

“Cook Group helping to revitalize depressed Indianapolis community”

Barb Berggoetz

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place

“88-year-old White Castle in Whiting, one of Chicago area's first, coming down”

Joseph S. Pete

The Times of Northwest Indiana

BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING

(Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

'What we went through was a crime'

Michelle L. Quinn

Post-Tribune

Judge's comment: This entry does an excellent job telling the heartbreaking stories of tenants who had only 13 hours to leave their homes after their apartment building

was condemned because of mold and updating what happened to them in the year after that.

2nd Place

“Try it, you might like it’: Indy’s Black-owned vegan restaurants are making waves in the community”

Chloe G. McGowan

Indianapolis Recorder

3rd Place

How healthy is Lake Monroe — and how long will it survive?

Michael G. Glab

Limestone Post Magazine

EDUCATION REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Education news across Indiana

Aleksandra Appleton

Chalkbeat Indiana

Judge's comment: Aleksandra Appleton's coverage included a broad range of important topics from across the state. The reporter's writing was clear, effective and interesting. I enjoyed the way their stories were structured as well as the quotes and data to support.

2nd Place

Suburban education reporting

Rachel Fradette

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

Fort Wayne area school coverage

Ashley Sloboda

The Journal Gazette

EDUCATION REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Indiana textbook law

Spencer Durham

Kokomo Tribune

Judge's comment: Appreciate the clear reporting and research in the ongoing reporting for first place.

2nd Place

Tribune-Star education coverage

Sue Loughlin

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

3rd Place

Struggles to hire school speech therapists

Spencer Durham

Kokomo Tribune

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

"Sarah Jo Pender"

Kristine Phillips

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comment: The impressive amount of detail in this account of a woman trying to get her murder conviction

overturned and the prosecutor who now believes she is not guilty of killing her two roommates made this entry stand out.

2nd Place

2023 public safety reporting

Sarah Nelson

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

Indianapolis public safety coverage

Jake Allen

The Indianapolis Star

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

“Slaying of first Muncie police officer killed in the line of duty came 100 years ago”

Douglas Walker

The Star Press

Judge's comment: The vivid description of the fatal shooting of the first Muncie police officer to be killed in the line of duty makes readers feel as if they were there.

2nd Place

Life after exoneration

Tyler Fenwick and Alexa Shrake

IBJ Media-Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place

Law and language: When language is a barrier in the criminal justice system

Jade Jackson

Indianapolis Recorder

COVERAGE OF CHILDREN'S ISSUES (All Publications and Digital Media)

1st Place

Parents fight for their children's education

Lee V. Gaines and Dylan Peers McCoy

WFYI

Judge's comment: This is a compelling story. It is a testament of what some dedicated parents will do for their children. It was good to see the 'dollar and cents' of the family's decision. And how that has made a difference in their son's life.

2nd Place

'These are our children!' Activists protest NRA convention in downtown Indianapolis

Jade Jackson

Indianapolis Recorder

3rd Place

Stories of rising Indy youth violence

Jake Allen

The Indianapolis Star

COVERAGE OF RACE AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

(Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Telling It the Way It Was

Carmen Siering
Bloom Magazine

Judge's comment: This was an overall in-depth article that was enjoyable to read. There were great quotes, pictures, and storytelling. I wanted to read on and on.

2nd Place

Wheelchair-bound bus customers waiting hours for rides
Sarah Loesch
Evansville Courier & Press

3rd Place

Bartender Cale Ulery at The Back Door: Creating a Safe and Welcoming Place
Brittany Marshall
Bloom Magazine

COVERAGE OF RACE AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

(Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Hues of Heritage: Exploring Afro-Latino identity, colorism and pride

Jade Jackson
Indianapolis Recorder

Judge's comment: Jade Jackson's articles demonstrate the "rich tapestry of human heritage" in our country. The articles also address the subtle biases and discriminations so many people experience.

2nd Place
Black History Month coverage
Rachel Smith
The Herald-Times

3rd Place
'Si, se puede': The leaps and bounds of immigrant success
Noral Parham
Indianapolis Recorder

MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

“How complicated health care legislation impacts real people”

Kaitlin Lange and Ryan Martin

State Affairs

Judge’s comment: The State Affairs journalists combine in-depth reporting with personal narratives to explore Indiana health care in their winning entry.

2nd Place

IBJ's AI Issue

Staff

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place

Indiana loses \$4.2 billion due to untreated mental illness.

How did we get here?

Elizabeth Gabriel

WFYI

MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

“The Power Struggle in Indiana’s Changing Energy Landscape”

Rebecca Hill

Limestone Post Magazine

Judge’s comment: This in-depth look at Indiana’s electrical grid is clearly written and tells readers everything they need to know about the state’s transition to renewables.

2nd Place

State's subpar life expectancy rate

James Bennett III

Kokomo Tribune

3rd Place

The push for medical marijuana

Daniel Carson

IBJ Media-Indiana Lawyer

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Indiana's energy transition

Ryan Martin
State Affairs

Judge's comment: Ryan's writing is able to make complex topics approachable and reads well all the way through.

2nd Place
Environmental coverage across Indiana
Karl Schneider
The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place
'Too many unknowns': As company forges on with carbon sequestration project, residents mobilize
Leslie Bonilla Muñiz
Indiana Capital Chronicle

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place
Draining the well
Ron Wilkins
Journal & Courier

Judge's comment: Good, clear, concise reporting on an ongoing story for first place.

2nd Place

Bloomington area environmental stories

Carol Kugler

The Herald-Times

3rd Place

Sackett v EPA: One big win for real estate developers, one huge loss in the fight to protect...

Jayden Kennett

Indianapolis Recorder

FEATURES WRITING (Newspapers circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

"A year after South Bend police killed Dante Kittrell, his family still grapples with grief"

Jordan Smith

South Bend Tribune

Judge's comment: Smith managed to take an occurrence that is unfortunately becoming more and more common, and explore it from angles that I feel are often left underdeveloped or overlooked entirely.

2nd Place

Hunter Johnson

Gregg Doyel

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

Region man sailed on rescue mission to Edmund Fitzgerald, which sank 48 years ago

Joseph S. Pete

The Times of Northwest Indiana

FEATURES WRITING (Newspapers circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

The man who fed millions earned the president's respect

Noe Padilla

Journal & Courier

2nd Place

Woman rebounds from tornado injuries

Laura Lane

The Herald-Times

3rd Place

Monroe County's Cemetery Island

Rachel Smith

The Herald-Times

FEATURES WRITING (Magazines and non-daily newspapers)

1st Place

One in a Million

Mary Milz

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge's comment: The winning entry is an absolute stand-out in the category; a shining example of everything feature writing should be, and the author managed to pull it all off without any access to the subject of the story.

2nd Place

'We Are Living in Funny Times'

Michael G. Glab

Limestone Post Magazine

3rd Place

Help Wanted

Megan Fernandez

Indianapolis Monthly

PERSONALITY PROFILE (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

"Playing through pain just part of the process for Clay's Addison Nally"

Tom Noie

South Bend Tribune

Judge's comment: Great storytelling and writing for first place. Wish Nally would have shared more of his story for more quotes and first-hand telling.

2nd Place

Indy marathoner's unlikely, tragic journey to Olympic Trials

David Woods

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

“Caviar King”

Tim Evans

The Indianapolis Star

PERSONALITY PROFILE (Newspapers circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Onward: Dr. Scott Beckman

Leann Burke

Dubois County Free Press

Judge's comment: A doctor's passion for helping others and his positive attitude as he battled leukemia come through in this winning entry.

2nd Place

“Local athlete encourages amputees to keep moving forward”

James Bennett III

Kokomo Tribune

3rd Place

Sally Tuttle

Kim Dunlap

Kokomo Tribune

PERSONALITY PROFILE (Magazines and non-daily newspapers)

1st Place

“Everyday's a Miracle: Remembering William Fitzgerald”

Mason Cassady

The Ryder Magazine

Judge's comment: A well written and touching tribute.

2nd Place

“Eternal Sunflower: Remembering Janiece Jaffe”

Krista Detor

Limestone Post Magazine

3rd Place

Gene Hurley: Law and Order Man

Janet Mandelstam

Bloom Magazine

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITING (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Arts community coverage

Domenica Bongiovanni

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comment: Bongiovanni demonstrates an impressive ability to organize information in the articles, maintaining journalistic values and still creating ethos when relevant.

2nd Place

“Local Imax just one of 30 that can show ‘Oppenheimer’ as director intended”

Mickey Shuey

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place

Preservation of the Past Through the Paranormal

Anna Ortiz

Post-Tribune

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

“Nibble the Rich: Why is the 1 Percent in a Self-Loathing Phase?”

Brian Stout

The Ryder Magazine

Judge’s comment: Brian Stout's skillful writing and engaging take put his review in Ryder Magazine at the top of this category.

2nd Place

“Valparaiso University plans to sell core artworks to fund dorm improvements”

Amy Lavalley

Post-Tribune

3rd Place

Bloomington Is a Hub — and Curator — of Live Comedy

Christine Brackenhoff

Limestone Post Magazine

EDITORIAL WRITING (All publications and digital media)

1st Place

“Auction of Newspaper Archive Will Support Local News Fund”

Jill Bond

Limestone Post Magazine

Judge’s comment: Jill Bond's writing about the steps leading up to the auction of the newspaper archive evoked nostalgia and hope. It was easy to read and just the right amount of factual.

2nd Place

Gross misstep by VCSC in handling racial episode

Mark Bennett

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

3rd Place

Historic Black cemetery deserves memorializing

Greg Weaver

Indianapolis Business Journal

COLUMN WRITING (Publication circulation above 10,000,
news services and digital media)

1st Place

Collection of columns by John Krull

John Krull

TheStatehouseFile.com

Judge's comment: John Krull's strong writing draws the reader in as he offers honest and instructive insight.

2nd Place

Indiana is surrounded and it's gonna cost us; and other columns

Michael Leppert

Indiana Capital Chronicle

3rd Place

A letter about mental health for my Cass County kids

Josh Flynn

Logansport Pharos-Tribune

COLUMN WRITING (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Mark Bennett

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

Judge's comment: Mark Bennett's strong writing and heartfelt subjects win this category.

2nd Place

Alicia Morgan

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

3rd Place

Laura Lane

The Herald-Times

SPORTS REPORTING (Publication circulation above 10,000, wire services and digital media)

1st Place

'Tight-knit' New Prairie community rallies after tragedy

Mike Berardino

South Bend Tribune

2nd Place

"South Bend Clay wins 1st game since 2020"

Austin Hough

South Bend Tribune

3rd Place

"Lake Central's 2022-23 season ends with a promise to return"

Sam Beishuizen

The Times of Northwest Indiana

Sports Reporting (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Zach Piatt

Richmond Palladium-Item

Judge's comment: Relentlessly interesting, readable and relatable. Effective and well-written. Stories were thorough and captured the humanity of the story subjects. You could feel the enterprise-ness of them all.

2nd Place

Jim Gordillo

The Herald-Times

3rd Place

Corey Stolzenbach

Dubois County Herald

Sports Column Writing (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

“How the Notre Dame football brand took a hit this season”

Mike Berardino

South Bend Tribune

2nd Place

“South Bend Saint Joseph senior Tyler Brown determined to live life on his terms”

Tom Noie

South Bend Tribune

3rd Place

Column collection

Gregg Doyel

The Indianapolis Star

Sports Column Writing (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Column collection

Mark Bennett

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

2nd Place

Prime paradigm shift: How Deion Sanders is changing the culture in Colorado

Noral Parham

Indianapolis Recorder

3rd Place

Sports columns

Zach Piatt

Richmond Palladium-Item

COVERAGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Coverage of Homelessness

Jordan Smith

South Bend Tribune

Judge's comment: This set of articles deserves widespread recognition and could benefit other cities grappling with similar challenges.

2nd Place

Deep Dive: Housing Crisis

Staff

WFHB News and the Limestone Post

3rd Place

All-Options Pregnancy Resource Center Offers Diapers,
Adoption, Abortion & More

Linda Margison

Bloom Magazine

COVERAGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES (Publication
circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

One Emergency from Catastrophe: Who Struggles with
Food Insecurity?

Christina Avery and Haley Miller

Limestone Post Magazine

*Judge's comment: Clear, comprehensive coverage of
poverty's underbelly.*

2nd Place

Social justice stories

Laura Lane

The Herald-Times

3rd Place

Organization highlights survivor's stories, demands end to police brutality

Garrett Simms

Indianapolis Recorder

ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN COVERAGE (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

South Bend municipal elections 2023

Jordan Smith

South Bend Tribune

2nd Place

Education issues in elections

Staff

Chalkbeat Indiana

3rd Place

Indianapolis 2023 mayoral election

Taylor Wooten

Indianapolis Business Journal

ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN COVERAGE (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Barred but never barred: 'Yes! You Can Vote!'

Jade Jackson

Indianapolis Recorder

Judge's comments: Good research into Indiana's laws regarding voting rights for individuals with felony convictions.

2nd Place

Ballot access for voters and candidates

Daniel Carson, Olivia Covington, Tyler Fenwick and Alexa Shrake

IBJ Media-Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place

Voting Guide for 2023 Local Primaries

Debora Shaw

Limestone Post Magazine

STUDENT PRINT AND DIGITAL

STUDENT BREAKING NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

“Separate peaceful gatherings over Israel-Palestine conflict end in clash on IU’s campus”

Salome Cloteaux, Ruth Cronin and Andrew Miller
Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comment: This is good work in what could have been a volatile situation. The reporters did a good job of talking to people on both sides and of letting readers know early why names were not being used. The context is there, and the events as they unfolded. Well done.

STUDENT NON-DEADLINE NEWS

1st Place

Tenants allege Purdue prof's rentals unsafe
Seth Nelson and Alex Haddon
Purdue Exponent

Judge's comment: The team from The Exponent dig deep to expose the abuses of this landlord who also is an adjunct professor at Purdue. The stories are deeply reported and well written. They provide ample responses from the landlord. This is professional-level work.

2nd Place

“Instances of firearms in residence halls leaves campus community with questions”

Daniel Kehn

Ball State Daily News

3rd Place

What is in IU's Climate Action Plan?

Andrew Miller

Indiana Daily Student

STUDENT FEATURE STORY

1st Place

‘Everybody deserves to get clean’

Natalie Fitzgibbons

Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comment: This was a strong field. There was a lot of good writing. What made Fitzgibbons' work stand out was the extended metaphor of drag racing and drug use, how drag racing replaced drug use for this person. The writing also is more tightly focused than some of the others.

2nd Place

Un negocio familiar

Evan Chandler

Ball Bearings Magazine

3rd Place

“Reliving Wil McPhillips' journey back to the court after being shot”

Daniel Kehn

Ball State Daily News

STUDENT SPORTS REPORTING

1st Place

Shedding Labels: Three Ball State athletes share their struggles with mental health

Kyle Smedley

Ball State Daily News

Judge's comment: This is a great look at a variety of mental health struggles among a variety of student-athletes. A story of this subject matter is generally very difficult to unearth, let alone get people to talk candidly about. Kudos to the reporter for getting the story, earning the sources' trust to tell said story and telling a story that overall is executed very well.

2nd Place

A power renewed: Cinzano's return to Little 500

Will Foley

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place

"Incoming lacrosse coach rejects lack of experience as a hindrance"

Jack Sells

The Franklin

STUDENT EDITORIAL WRITING

1st Place

This can't be the new normal
Staff
Ball State Daily News

Judge's comment: This is a good editorial. It's well written and makes a strong point about guns on campus. I am especially impressed that the editorial board disclosed the potential conflict of interest of one of its members.

STUDENT COLUMN WRITING

1st Place

“Guns Drawn in Spite of Tragedy: Society falls into complacency until it happens again”

Meghan Sawitzke

Ball State Daily News

Judge's comment: Good columns combine personal stories with important issues to make a point. Sawitzke writes about some painful memories to hammer home her position on gun control. The opening grabs readers, and the writing retains them. Well done.

2nd Place

Music helped me cope

Kate Farr

Ball State Daily News

3rd Place

Football columns

Daniel Flick

Indiana Daily Student

STUDENT NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

Delaware County Elections

Kate Farr

Ball State Daily News

Judge's comment: The goal of good news photography is to capture emotion, and Kate Farr did it in this election win image. Well done.

2nd Place

Anderson Powwow

Rylan Capper

Ball State Daily News

3rd Place

Tree lighting rings in Christmas at Valpo Eliot Aust

The Torch

STUDENT SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

Clayton Coll

Daniel Kehn

Ball State Daily News

Judge's comment: Sports provide a great opportunity to catch emotion, and both winners in this category do a great job of that. The Ball State photo has sharper color and better composition, but both capture the intensity involved in sports.

2nd Place

IU Men's soccer team knocked out of NCAA tournament

Jacob Spudich

Indiana Daily Student

STUDENT FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

The North 41 at Valpo Vibes

Eliot Aust

The Torch

Judge's comment: The lighting and composition in this image are striking. This is professional work, and this photographer has a bright future ahead.

2nd Place

Bruce Copple and Misty

Olivia Bianco

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place

Un negocio familiar

J. Doudt

Ball Bearings

STUDENT PAGE ONE OR COVER DESIGN

1st Place

IDS front pages

Lexi Lindenmayer

Indiana Daily Student

2nd Place

Daily Student Page Ones

Cailin O'Malley

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place

'No one really expects it'

Amber Pietz

Ball State Daily News

STUDENT BEST DESIGN OTHER THAN PAGE ONE OR COVER

1st Place

Involuntary Nomads

Meghan Holt

Ball Bearings Magazine

Judge's comment: The spread on gentrification makes smart use of graphic design to organize the story and to provide the maps needed to understand the information in

*the story. It is a terrific synergy of text and visuals.
Congratulations on the good work.*

2nd Place

In the Shadows of Hollywood

Meghan Holt

Ball Bearings Magazine

3rd Place

Oct. 11 Opinion Page

Hannah Hadley

The Reflector

STUDENT GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATION

1st Place

Hoops Insider Senior Salutes

Eliot Aust

The Torch

Judge's comment: The Senior Salutes from Valparaiso are well done. The look is consistent yet each one is unique to the player being highlighted. It's well-thought-out and effective.

2nd Place

Portrayals of the Strange

Meghan Holt

Ball Bearings Magazine

3rd Place

UIndy Dining Hall Restaurant Map Guide

Breanna Emmett

The Reflector

STUDENT INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1st Place

“Thousands of Native American remains, a legacy of offensive research and the effort to move forward”

Carson TerBush

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comment: TerBush is a talented journalist able to report, crunch data and create appealing visuals to explain the data. Her stories show a great amount of work and good instincts at putting it all together.

2nd Place

“Tenants raise concerns about property management company”

Elissa Maudlin

Ball State Daily News

3rd Place

“Catastrophic’: The difficulty of addressing severe car crashes in Bloomington”

Carson TerBush

Indiana Daily Student

STUDENT COVERAGE OF RACE AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

1st Place

A falling star

Alex Haddon

Purdue Exponent

Judge’s comment: The Exponent does a thorough job of exploring the failings of Indiana’s jail system when it comes to mentally ill people and the lack of resources that make jail one of the best options. Good job.

2nd Place

“IU student pushes for change in viral TikTok after harassment”

Christy Avery

Indiana Daily Student

3rd Place

In the Shadows of Hollywood

Daniela Morales

Ball Bearings Magazine

STUDENT BEST JOURNALISM WEBSITE

1st Place

IDSnews.com

Staff

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comment: The Indiana Daily Student clearly has ample resources, and it uses them wisely with daily updates and coverage of the campus and community. We are particularly impressed with the Black Voices feature that brings attention to voices of color and ensures those issues are covered. Everything on this site is high quality,

and the design of the site is consistent with attention to detail.

2nd Place

The Reflector Online

Staff

The Reflector

3rd Place

ballbearingsmag.com

Staff

Ball Bearings Magazine

STUDENT BEST PODCAST

1st Place

Payoff Podcast

Will Foley, Matt Press and Matt Sebree

Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comment: The podcasters are knowledgeable, but they could stand to tighten up the pace.

STUDENT BEST NEWSLETTER

1st Place

The Rundown

Elyssa Merrill

The Reflector

Judge's comment: The Rundown is a fun, personable newsletter. Well done.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND DESIGN

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

The Big Picture: Destruction

Jeremy Hogan

Bloom Magazine

Judge's comment: This was the strongest collection of photos from any of the categories. Lots of powerful images.

2nd Place

Evictions

Mykal McEldowney

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

Coach Nell

Mykal McEldowney

The Indianapolis Star

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Homeless Memorial Vigil Crowd Tears

Rich Janzaruk

The Herald-Times

2nd Place

Sullivan tornado hug

Joseph C. Garza

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

3rd Place

Storm Damage Wolf Mountain Livingstone Pace

Rich Janzaruk

The Herald-Times

SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Gridiron

Grace Hollars

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comment: This photo instantly caught my attention. The composition of the field, stadium, face, helmet and other players is perfect.

2nd Place

Will Levis leap

Robert Scheer
The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place
The "shoe block"
MaCabe Brown
Evansville Courier & Press

SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation below
10,000)

1st Place
Catch and Celebration
Bobby Goddin
The Herald-Times

*Judge's comment: The contrasting moment of celebration
with the actual catch makes for a great pair.*

2nd Place
Vaulting over the sun
Bobby Goddin
The Herald-Times

3rd Place

Holmes Kisses The Trophy

Rich Janzaruk

The Herald-Times

FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

The Big Picture: Future Firefighter?

Jeremy Hogan

Bloom Magazine

Judge's comment: This manages to be both a quiet, sweet moment, while also having some light tension with the explosion of water that seems likely any second.

2nd Place

The Big Picture: First Day of School

Jeremy Hogan

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place

Mickey Deputy

Mykal McEldowney
The Indianapolis Star

FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY (Publication circulation
below 10,000)

1st Place
IU Graduation Hands Look
Rich Janzaruk
The Herald-Times

*Judge's comment: This is a nice, fun moment in the midst
of a chaotic event.*

2nd Place
Early Learning Program Riggins Bubbles
Rich Janzaruk
The Herald-Times

3rd Place
Loogootee Pride Festival Group Picture
Rich Janzaruk
The Herald-Times

MULTIPLE PICTURE GROUP (Publication circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place

Finding Faith

Tony Valainis

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge's comment: Gorgeous photos with consistent quality and a wonderful mix of images.

2nd Place

"Indiana high school girls compete for state wrestling championship glory"

Mykal McEldowney

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

Mickey Deputy

Mykal McEldowney

The Indianapolis Star

MULTIPLE PICTURE GROUP (Publication circulation below 10,000)

1st Place

Fly-In Fun

Joshua Smith

Western Wayne News

Judge's comment: The winning story was a nice collection that left me wanting to see more.

2nd Place

“Saving the Deam Wilderness and Hoosier National Forest”

Steven Higgs

Limestone Post Magazine

NEWSPAPER PAGE ONE DESIGN (All newspapers)

1st Place

Tribune-Star Page One design

Alicia Morgan

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

Judge's comment: The Tribune-Star pages harness strong photos and bold headlines to create eye-catching designs that tell a story.

2nd Place

IBJ covers

Sarah Ellis

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place

Softer side of Knight

Max Gersh

The Indianapolis Star

MAGAZINE COVER DESIGN (All magazines or periodicals)

1st Place

The Spaces Between

Stephanie Watters Flores

The Ryder Magazine

Judge's comment: Ryder Magazine makes a smart choice to let the statue shine and showcase symmetry and balance.

2nd Place

Evansville Living

Kristen K. Tucker, Laura Mathis, Jodi Keen and Zach Straw

Tucker Publishing Group

3rd Place

Terre Haute Living covers

Alicia Morgan and Marissa Schmitter

Terre Haute Tribune-Star

DESIGN OTHER THAN COVER (All print media)

1st Place

Unexplained Indiana

Maura Broderson

Indianapolis Monthly

2nd Place

In the spotlight
Sarah Ellis
Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place
Dragon Slayer
Max Gersh
The Indianapolis Star

GRAPHICS AND ILLUSTRATIONS (Publication
circulation above 10,000, news services and digital media)

1st Place
Docs seek to be set free
Brad Turner
Indianapolis Business Journal

*Judge's comment: Really nice way of showing the medical
business constraints on the abilities to be doctors. Nice
way to draw readers into the story. I love the concept of
the cages trying to be tied to medical practice (with the
snakes medical symbol on the top). Really great concept.*

2nd Place

Through the years
Audrey Pelsor
Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place
Indiana tech in food production
Sarah Ellis
Indianapolis Business Journal

GRAPHICS AND ILLUSTRATIONS (Publication
circulation below 10,000)

1st Place
“Controversy arises as 'I Am Jesus Christ' tackles religion
in gaming”
Eryn Forrest
Indianapolis Recorder
*Judge’s comment: This is a fantastic illustration. It's very
clear to me based on only the illustration and the headline
what is going on here. I can tell immediately that Jesus is
a character in a video game. I love the 8-bit style here. It's
delightful.*

BOOKS

NON-FICTION BOOK

1st Place

Indianapolis Graverobbing: A Syndicate of Death

Chris Flook

Ball State University/Star Press

Judge's comment: Both fascinating entries, but the level of detail in spite of the age of the subject gave the winning entry an edge over the second.

2nd Place

Cold Case Muncie

Douglas Walker and Keith Roysdon

ONLINE AND MULTIMEDIA

BEST JOURNALISM WEBSITE

1st Place

Indiana Capital Chronicle

Niki Kelly, Whitney Downard, Casey Smith and Leslie

Bonilla Muñiz

Indiana Capital Chronicle

Judge's comment: The first place website is easier to navigate, has a cleaner design, and a wider variety of news coverage with more direct impact on readers. I can find news of interest easily thanks to the clearly labeled drop-down menus and direct headlines.

2nd Place

WTHITV.com

Chris Essex, Natalie Seals and Everett Lau

WTHI-TV

3rd Place

WNDU.COM

Staff

WNDU

BEST ONLINE MULTIMEDIA

1st Place

“First to Act: The inside story of how Indiana essentially outlawed abortion”

Visuals staff

The Indianapolis Star

Judge's comment: Beautiful documentary work by the IndyStar claims first and second in this category. WFIU's "Paper Cuts" combines video, audio and graphics to tell an important story.

2nd Place

More than a Race

Jenna Watson

The Indianapolis Star

3rd Place

"Paper Cuts: When private equity firms control local newspapers"

Staff

WFIU/WTIU News

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

1st Place

Depending on WTHR 13

News Team

WTHR

2nd Place

“Devastating consequences of Medicaid unwinding for people with disabilities”

Farah Yousry and Kendall Antron

WFYI

3rd Place

Richmond warehouse fire

Staff

WRTV

BEST NEWSLETTER

1st Place

Axios Indianapolis

Arika Herron and James Briggs

Axios

Judge’s comment: Axios wins this category with an informative yet easily readable newsletter.

2nd Place

The Rundown

Peter Blanchard, Taylor Wooten and Greg Weaver
Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place

Fast Break

Niki Kelly, Whitney Downard, Casey Smith and Leslie
Bonilla Muñiz
Indiana Capital Chronicle

BEST PODCAST

1st Place

Cultural Manifesto

Kyle Long

WFYI

Judge's comment: Cultural Manifesto had wonderful archival audio, interviews, sound quality, and a consistently interesting theme that went along with the main focus of the show. Rush to Kill was a close second due to its strong investigative work and excellent use of archival audio.

2nd Place

Rush to Kill

George Hale, Cathy Knapp and Sara Wittmeyer

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place

WFYI News Now

Kendall Antron, Darian Benson, Abriana Herron and Drew

Daudelin

WFYI

TELEVISION

BEST NEWSCAST (Indianapolis market)

1st Place

13News at 11

13News Team

WTHR

Judge's comment: Newscast felt urgent with strong, informative coverage of a huge story.

2nd Place

FOX59 News at Ten: Violence in Indianapolis
Allison Hammond, George Schantz and FOX59 Staff
WXIN

3rd Place
News 8 at 10pm
Brady Gibson, Chris Claffey, Phil Sanchez and Anthony
Calhoun
WISH-TV

BEST NEWSCAST (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place
Indiana Newsdesk
WTIU News
WFIU/WTIU News

*Judge's comment: Strong storytelling combined with
informative reporting on tornadoes.*

2nd Place
WSBT 22
Staff
WSBT

3rd Place
First at Five
Staff
WANE 15

BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE (Indianapolis Market)

1st Place
Two IMPD officers shot
Maggie Connelly and Phil Sanchez
WISH-TV

Judge's comment: Moving video of officers being rushed to the hospital in the back of a pickup pulls viewers into the story from the top

BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place
Evansville Walmart Shooting
14 News Staff
WFIE

Judge's comment: The newsroom quickly responded and continued to follow this story with one of their main anchors in the field.

2nd Place
Police Chase
News Staff
WNDU

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (Indianapolis market)

1st Place
Cheating Inside the Fire House
Bob Segall, Ryan Thedwall and Susan Batt
WTHR

2nd Place
Attorney Shortage
Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal
WRTV

3rd Place
A Mother's Unanswered Questions
Emily Longnecker and Josh Blankenship

WTHR

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place

Who's Jessica?

Jordan Yaney and Brian Cissell

WFIE

2nd Place

“21 Investigates: Deadly Problems in the Criminal Justice System”

Julian Teekaram and Tom Powell

WPTA

SPORTS REPORTING (Indianapolis market)

1st Place

Rich Nye Sports Reporting

Rich Nye, Russ Govert and WTHR Photojournalists

WTHR

2nd Place

What Drivers Do For Fun

Dave Calabro and Josh Blankenship

WTHR

3rd Place

The Zone Banner

Anthony Calhoun

WISH-TV

SPORTS REPORTING (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place

Zach Groth

WPTA

2nd Place

Max Parker

WFIE

3rd Place

Mitch Carter and Bernado Malone

WFIE

SERIOUS FEATURE STORY (Indianapolis market)

1st Place

Composing a Masterpiece Life Emily Longnecker and
Steve Rhodes

WTHR-TV

2nd Place

Father and son racing in honor of fallen Elwood Officer
Noah Shahnnavaz

Nicole Griffin and Joe Lynch

WRTV

3rd Place

The Circus Reimagined

Rich Nye

WTHR

SERIOUS FEATURE STORY (Outside Indianapolis
market)

1st Place

Miracle on Ice

Tricia Sloma and Caleb Steensma
WNDU

2nd Place
King'Nazir's Last Ride
Jordan Yaney and Josh Lucca
WFIE

3rd Place
Billboard ban would be a big loss for Bloomington man
Cali Lichter
WFIU/WTIU News

DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL (Indianapolis market)

1st Place
WRTV Presents: The Michael Taylor Story
Staff
WRTV

Judge's comment: The Michael Taylor story is historical, but also shows the resilience of the community. The archival material was so well incorporated with the present-day interviews and stand-ups from the journalists.

2nd Place

Honoring the Fallen

Brady Gibson, Phil Sanchez, Alexis Rogers and Kody Fisher

WISH-TV

3rd Place

WRTV Presents: Forgotten at Fox Hollow

WRTV Staff

WRTV

DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place

14 News 70th Anniversary

Jeff Lyons and Brian Cissell

WFIE

2nd Place

Fleeing to Flyover Country

Lisa Renze, Phil Hoffman, Terry Heifetz and Ben Yonker

WIPB

3rd Place

Indiana University Women's Basketball: Rising to the Top

Pat Beane and WTIU News

WFIU/WTIU News

CONTINUING COVERAGE (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

22 Investigates: Praxis

Erica Finke and Ian Sindell

WSBT

2nd Place

Deputy Killed In the Line of Duty

Staff

WRTV

3rd Place

Final Call: Remembering Master Trooper James Bailey

Kayla Stewart, Tylor Brummett and Amir Abbas

WPTA

**COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS (All
Indiana Stations)**

1st Place

Driver Data for Sale

Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal

WRTV

Judge's comment: The reporting in Driver Data for Sale is clearly continuous. It was really interesting how they followed up on the story over several months, and the reporting seemed to lead to changes in legislation that helped keep the community's data safe. The technical aspects of the video were also really interesting.

2nd Place

Fort Wayne city government coverage

Ethan Dahlen

WANE-TV

3rd Place

13 Investigates: Government Watchdog

13 Investigates Team
WTHR

BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING
(Indianapolis Market)

1st Place
The Ambulance Ride
Bob Segall & the 13 Investigates Team
WTHR

Judge's comment: We appreciate the connection to one of the victims. It drives home the feeling that this could happen to anyone -- and it's not fair.

BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING
(Outside Indianapolis Market)

1st Place
15 Finds Out: Max Out of Pocket
Dirk Rowley
WANE 15

Judge's comment: Strong character, conversational storytelling, and helpful content

2nd Place

Can You Spot the Difference?

Jordan Yaney

WFIE

3rd Place

“Digital coupons leave seniors and low-income shoppers behind”

Sara Wittmeyer and Devan Ridgway

WFIU/WTIU News

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (Indianapolis Market)

1st Place

A Mother's Mission

Emily Longnecker, Matt Whisner and Ryan Thedwall

WTHR-TV

2nd Place

Chief Justice says we must avoid 'justice by geography'

Richard Essex and Brady Gibson
WISH-TV

3rd Place

“Billed for Crime Scene Cleanup and Active Shooter
Mistake”

Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal
WRTV

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (Outside Indianapolis
Market)

1st Place

The Waiting Game

Steve Mehling

WFIE

*Judge’s comment: Steve Mehling's work explaining both
the impacts and the causes of lengthy mental health
evaluation wait times stands out as strong criminal justice
reporting.*

2nd Place

“Pedestrian Hit, Fatal Officer Shooting Video Released,
Safety Alert Awareness”

Alyssa Ivanson, Jeff Wiehe and Jamie Duffy

WANE 15

3rd Place

Policing In The 21st Century

Mitch Carter and Brian Cissell

WFIE

COVERAGE OF RACE AND DIVERSITY ISSUES (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

Community Corrections Caught on Tape

Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal

WRTV

Judge’s comment: This team did a fantastic job uncovering the truth with a claim that can often be difficult to authenticate. From the beginning, they stuck to facts and evidence that backed up what the main subject was saying. Despite obstacles, they remained vigilant in their pursuit of the truth and access to information that the public needs to know.

2nd Place

Making History in Indiana

WRTV Staff

WRTV

3rd Place

Meeting Indy's cultural Leaders

13News Team

WTHR

**GENERAL NEWS OR SPORTS VIDEOGRAPHY (All
Indiana Stations)**

1st Place

The National Model Aviation Museum

Saddam Abbas Al-Zubaidi

Indiana Public Media WTIU

2nd Place

Sports videography

Zach Groth

WPTA

FEATURES NEWS VIDEOGRAPHY (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

A Timeless Medium: A Century of 16mm

Saddam Abbas Al-Zubaidi

Indiana Public Media WTIU

2nd Place

Don Schoenfeld Photojournalist

Don Schoenfeld

WNDU

3rd Place

Brian Cissell Feature News Videography

Brian Cissell

WFIE

COVERAGE OF CHILDREN'S ISSUES (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

The Trap

Cierra Putman and Ryan Thedwall
WTHR

Judge's comment: The reporters interviewed a variety of people impacted by the issue and those working to solve the problem. The resources they provided sounded like concrete solutions. It's an important issue to be aware of.

2nd Place
A Place to Call Home
Tricia Sloma and Caleb Steensma
WNDU

3rd Place
"New standards for treating childhood obesity published, but advocates call for more"
Bente Bouthier
WFIU/WTIU News

COVERAGE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

Crossing Borders: Migrants in the Midwest

Erika Jimenez George Mallet, Don Schoenfeld, Carli Luca
and Tim Ceravolo

WNDU

Judge's comment: "Crossing Borders" was really interesting because it was a multi-part series that showed how people are experiencing the immigration crisis. The coverage humanized the migrants, and I thought it was excellent that they had reports in both English and Spanish to make the coverage more accessible.

2nd Place

"Fort Wayne mom fights back as her disabled adopted son
faces deportation"

Briana Byus

WFFT

3rd Place

"Uncertainty lingers around Indiana's abortion ban as
litigation continues"

Bente Bouthier

WFIU/WTIU News

EDUCATION COVERAGE (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

School Officer in Trouble

Cierra Putman and the 13 Investigates Team

WTHR

2nd Place

Schools Not Using Narcan and Open Door Law Violation

Kara Kenney, Brad Forestal and Joe Lynch

WRTV

3rd Place

Teaching The Next Generation: Black Wall Street

Alia Blackburn, Jacob Karb and Sterling Hicks

WXIN/WTTV

ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN COVERAGE (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

Decision 2023: The Community Issues

Lauren Kostiuk, Mike Potter and 13News Photojournalists

WTHR

Judge's comment: Decision 2023: The Community Issues had the most innovative coverage due to the incorporation of interviews and b-roll of the local community issues and on-location interviews with the candidates. It was unique, innovative, and very informative. The coverage and editing was also very dynamic and well-done.

2nd Place

2023 Bloomington Democratic Mayoral Debate

WTIU News

WFIU/WTIU News

3rd Place

Campaign 2023: Race for Terre Haute mayor

Caitlin Hunt

WTHI

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

“Aquaculture beneficial for farmers and environment, yet growth stagnates domestically”

Clayton Baumgarth

WFIU/WTIU News

*Judge’s comment: Interesting solution to a scary problem.
Great characters and visuals.*

2nd Place

“Lack of data leaves Indiana doctors unprepared for tick diseases”

Rebecca Thiele and Alan Mbathi

Indiana Public Broadcasting News

3rd Place

Toxic Water, Toxic Air in Indiana Schools

Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal

WRTV

MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (All Indiana Stations)

1st Place

Fighting with Faith: ALS Journey

Alyssa Ivanson
WANE 15

2nd Place
Collection of medical coverage
Kaitlyn Kendall
WRTV

3rd Place
“Dealers mix fentanyl with horse tranquilizer, adding more risk to deadly drug”
Ethan Sandweiss
WFIU/WTIU News

LIGHT FEATURE STORY (Outside Indianapolis market)

1st Place
A Timeless Medium: A Century of 16mm
Saddam Abbas Al-Zubaidi
Indiana Public Media WTIU

Judge's comment: This story is visually stunning and captivating. I enjoyed learning about the history of film and

felt that the journalist took time to flesh out the story and make it personal for viewers, allowing them to visualize their own family in the footage while learning about the history of film.

2nd Place

Giving Gallops

Taylor King and JR Carmichael

WANE-TV

3rd Place

Renovating the Ritz

Rondrell Moore and Jaren West

WTHI-TV

LIGHT FEATURE STORY (Indianapolis market)

1st Place

The Flying Golf Carts

Chuck Lofton, Steve Rhodes and Megan Simpson

WTHR

2nd Place

Backyard Glass

Chuck Lofton, Steve Rhodes and Megan Simpson

WTHR

3rd Place

Lemonade for a cause

Kaitlyn Kendall

WRTV

DAILY ASSIGNMENT REPORTING (Indianapolis Market)

1st Place

Hard to Imagine

Karen Campbell and Adam Pyle

WTHR

2nd Place

The Beat Goes On

Karen Campbell and Scott Allen

WTHR

3rd Place

Nightmare on Fletcher Avenue

Amber Grigley and Joe Lynch

WRTV

DAILY ASSIGNMENT REPORTING (Outside Indianapolis Market)

1st Place

Champion Charles

Alyssa Ivanson

WANE 15

2nd Place

Lessons From Owen

Alyssa Ivanson

WANE 15

3rd Place

"Are we gonna die?" Neighbors share reactions to 11-hour Kendallville standoff

Briana Byus

WFFT

STUDENT BROADCAST

Student Television News Reporting

1st Place

Cleanup to begin at site of Richmond fire

Alex Almanza

Ball State University

Judge's comment: Follow-up shows reporter's strong community connection. Confident delivery and solid writing skills. Made me care.

2nd Place

Sullivan tornado

Elizabeth DeSantis

IU NewsNet

3rd Place

Domestic violence incident turns deadly

Ashton Hackman

IU NewsNet

STUDENT TELEVISION SPORTS REPORTING

1st Place

Cardinal Chaos
Andy Newman
Ball State University

Judge's comment: Way to write to your visuals and sound, while staying conversational. Fun community sports story

2nd Place
Dingers for Daryll
Andy Newman
Ball State University

3rd Place
Flying with New Feathers
Andy Newman
Ball State University

STUDENT TELEVISION VIDEOGRAPHY

1st Place
Beyond Silence
JP Susantio, Thane Syswerda and Nate Conkel
Taylor University

Judge's comment: Beautifully captured the emotion of people hearing for the first time

STUDENT RADIO BEST NEWSCAST

1st Place

Cole Barnett

Cole Barnett

95.7 The Spin/University of Southern Indiana

Judge's comment: Good incorporation of interviews and soundbytes throughout the broadcast.

2nd Place

95.7 The Spin Morning Newscast

Mailee Toennies

95.7 The Spin/University of Southern Indiana

STUDENT RADIO NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

Election Night 2023

Caden Colford, Landon Coons, Jace Hodge and Graham Scher

WICR 88.7

Judge's comment: Comprehensive coverage. Although a bit clumsy in the delivery to begin with, but as the updates continued through the evening, reporting improved.

STUDENT RADIO SPORTS REPORTING

1st Place

USI Men's Golf Invitational Preview

Isaac Heldt

95.7 The Spin/University of Southern Indiana

Judge's comment: Great golf focused report - good pace, informative and nicely presented in a concise manner.

2nd Place

November 17th Sportscast

Matthew Kolb

95.7 The Spin/University of Southern Indiana

3rd Place

Coach Keevers Interview

Caden Colford

WICR 88.7