

2017 WINNERS

BEST
— OF THE —
BEST
IN INDIANA JOURNALISM

AWARDED BY SPJ INDIANA
April 27, 2018

Breaking news reporting

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

1st Place:

Robert King

“Charlottesville”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: The Indianapolis Star’s well-written and detailed coverage of an Indiana man in the mix at the Charlottesville demonstration is the clear winner in this category. Coupled with dramatic, high-quality video and photography, this story is a complete breaking news package.

2nd Place:

Bill Dolan

“Lake County sheriff found guilty of fraud and bribery; what’s next?”

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Steve Garrison

“Police find guns, knives, liquor bottles at day care where children present.”

The Times Media Company

Breaking news reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Staff

“Inauguration of Donald Trump”

The Herald-Times

Judge’s comments: The Herald-Times coverage of President Trump’s inauguration chronicles this story on multiple fronts, elevating it to a contender in this breaking news category.

2nd Place:

Stu Hirsch, Ken de la Bastide, Christopher Stephens

“Alexandria gas explosion”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Staff

“Crisis on Kirkwood”

The Herald-Times

Investigative Reporting

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

1st Place:

Ryan Martin and Tim Evans

“Code of Silence and the Grundy crew”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: “Code of Silence” was the runaway winner in this category. It was great reporting that explained the reasons for a citywide problem. The second and third-place winners were good beat- or local-driven investigations.

2nd Place:

Marc Chase

“Runaway overtime at Lake County jail excessive, questionable”

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Shaina Cavazos

“Indiana online charter schools”

Chalkbeat

Investigative Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Rebecca Bibbs

“Elwood police controversy”

The Herald Bulletin

Judge’s comments: The Elwood police controversy was a good job of putting into print the thing people in local government are talking about and how it matters.

2nd Place:

Peter Dorfman

“The Plight of Asylum-Seekers”

Bloom Magazine

Non-Deadline Story or Series

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

1st Place:

Mark Alesia, Tim Evans and Marisa Kwiatkowski

“USA Gymnastics investigation”

Indianapolis Star

2nd Place:

IBJ staff

“Innovation Issue examines impact of big data”

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place:

R. Jordan Fischer

“The Night the Sky Caught Fire: The Untold Stories of the Richmond Hill Explosion”

TheIndyChannel.com / WRTV

Non-Deadline Story or Series

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Staff

“Broken Trust”

The Herald Bulletin

Judge’s comments: The Herald Bulletin tackled the subject of sex crimes against children, looking at the prevalence of the crime and what can be done to help the victims. The depth of the series — with sources that included both victims, offenders, police, prosecutors, child advocates and treatment providers — was impressive.

2nd Place:

Tom Schuman

“Recovery Force Series”

BizVoice

3rd Place:

Laura Lane and Abby Tonsing

“This is opioid addiction”

The Herald-Times

Coverage of Government or Politics

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

1st Place:

Brian Slodysko

“U.S. Senate campaign coverage by Brian Slodysko”

The Associated Press

Judge’s comments: Great enterprising coverage of the Senate contenders. Excellent combination of records and human sources to challenge the candidates on their stances, behaviors and finances.

2nd Place:

Tony Cook and Robert King

“The liquor industry in Indiana”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Mark Alesia and Kaitlin Lange

“Mike Pence's infrastructure mess”

Indianapolis Star

Coverage of Government or Politics

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Rob Burgess

“Holcomb doubles Pence's 4-year total of pardons in one day”

Indiana Lawyer

Judge’s comments: Interesting use of records to compare and contrast pardons by recent governors. Insightful analysis into former Governor Mike Pence's apparent hesitation to exercise the pardoning authority for the sake of political convenience.

2nd Place:

Keith Roysdon

“FBI probe in Muncie leads to raids, charges”

The Star Press

3rd Place:

Rebecca Bibbs

“Alexandria government coverage”

The Herald Bulletin

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

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

1st Place:

Fatima Hussein

“Workplace sexual harassment”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: All of these winners -- first, second and third -- looked at unusual topics that would interest all readers. Great job to all three of the awardees: standing out in a sea of consumer reports was not easy.

2nd Place:

Tom Murphy

“Insurer makes patients question ER visit”

The Associated Press

3rd Place:

Rick Callahan

“Rise of ‘hobby farms’ means more growers get maimed, killed”

The Associated Press

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Kurt Christian

“Wired: The race for fiber in Bloomington”

The Herald-Times

Judge’s comments: Readers were well served by Christian's detailed look at the complicated nature of wiring a modern city like Bloomington and how vital it is to a community's economic prospects. The whole package was helped by those break-out pieces using the Beatles and Casablanca to help illustrate this obtuse topic with familiar subjects.

2nd Place:

Keith Roysdon

“Marsh bankruptcy”

The Star Press

3rd Place:

Molly Brush

“Spencer Reimagined”

Bloom Magazine

Education Reporting

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

1st Place:

Stephanie Wang

“Stephanie Wang on the education beat”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: Besides overall excellent coverage of the education beat and great variety, the investigation in to the failed charter was a standout that put this entry over the top. Well told, detailed in the reporting and clear in presentation.

2nd Place:

Dylan Peers McCoy

“Dylan Peers McCoy's education reporting”

Chalkbeat

3rd Place:

Kara Kenney and Jordan Fischer

“Breaking the Bullying Law”

TheIndyChannel.com / WRTV

Education Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Michael Reschke

“Student enrollment; IU sexual assault cases: AD's pay package; For growth, change; class closed....”

The Herald-Times

2nd Place:

Rebecca Bibbs

“No. 1 cheerleader ... Aligning priorities ... Another \$1.8 million? ... Hydroponics ... Character ed”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Sue Loughlin

“Sue Loughlin stories”

Tribune-Star

Criminal Justice Reporting

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

1st Place:

Sara Burnett and Larry Fenn

“Urban killings rise in clusters as many areas grow safer”

The Associated Press

Judge’s comments: Burnett and Fenn examined the two worlds in urban Indianapolis, one that is getting safer even as the homicide rate in the city rises and one that is getting more dangerous. Their entry covered not only the disparities at the root of the violence but also efforts that might help reduce crime. The stories of the residents behind the statistics were compelling.

2nd Place:

R. Jordan Fischer

“Covering Crime in Indianapolis' Deadliest Year”

TheIndyChannel.com / WRTV

3rd Place:

Adam Wren

“The Confessions of Cleveland Bynum”

Indianapolis Monthly

Criminal Justice Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Laura Lane

“Judge rules ...; Movie moguls & false friends; IU accused of bias...; Lasting damage; Is Messel...” *The Herald-Times*

Judge’s comments: Lane took a detailed look at a variety of criminal justice matters, including allegations of bias against Indiana University in its handling of sexual assault cases and a fraud that caused a screenwriter to lose his life savings. She went beyond a recitation of facts and statistics to examine the impact of crime on victims.

2nd Place:

Douglas Walker

“Criminal justice coverage”

The Star Press

3rd Place:

Kelly Patrick Slone and Ebony Marie Chappel

“No Charges - Prosecutor won’t indict officers in Aaron Bailey shooting”

Indianapolis Recorder

Coverage of Children's Issues

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

1st Place:

Giles Bruce

"Addiction in Northwest Indiana: Effects on infants, youth and teens growing"

The Times Media Company

Judge's comments: Giles Bruce takes the nationwide issue of opioid addiction and focuses in on its impact on children, teens and families. His reporting is both illustrative and informative, elevating him to first place in this category.

2nd Place:

Shaina Cavazos

"Preschool expansion in Indiana"

Chalkbeat

3rd Place:

Amy Wimmer Schwarb

"Play Dates"

NCAA Champion magazine

Coverage of Children's Issues

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Sue Loughlin

"Sue Loughlin stories"

Tribune-Star

Judge's comments: Sue Loughlin's reporting not only details the dark reality of child abuse and neglect, but offers up expert voices and solutions.

2nd Place:

Craig Coley

"New Hope for Families"

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Keshia Smith McEntire

"Growing up, giving back: Local teens take service trip to Nicaragua"

Indianapolis Recorder

Coverage of Minority Issues

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

1st Place:

Brian Burnsed

“All on the Same Team”

NCAA Champion magazine

Judge’s comments: Brian Burnsed's beautiful writing stands out in this category as he gives an intimate look at both fear and acceptance.

2nd Place:

Stephanie Wang

“Stephanie Wang covers minority issues”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Dylan Peers McCoy

“Dylan Peers McCoy's reporting on the newcomer school”

Chalkbeat

Coverage of Minority Issues

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Carmen Siering

“To Be Muslim in Bloomington”

Bloom Magazine

Judge’s comments: Carmen Siering gives a detailed and personal look at life for Bloomington's Muslim families in the winning story in this category.

2nd Place:

Olivia Covington and Dave Stafford

“Minorities still underrepresented, face challenges in careers in the law”

Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place:

Matthew A. Werner

“The Patch Players”

Matthew Werner - Freelance writer

Medical or Science Reporting

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

1st Place:

Giles Bruce

“What is killing so many infants in Indiana?”

The Times Media Company

2nd Place:

John Russell

“John Russell covers health”

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place:

Shari Rudavsky

“Shari Rudavsky covers medical beat”

Indianapolis Star

Medical or Science Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Carmen Siering

“Voices of Recovery”

Bloom Magazine

Judge’s comments: The writing of each of these brief recovery bios is brilliant and varied, with judicious use of quotes that captures the subjects’ personality and makes reading it a pleasure.

2nd Place:

Rebecca Patrick, Tom Schuman, Matt Ottinger

“Medical & Science Reporting”

BizVoice

3rd Place:

Rodney Margison

“‘How Do You Have Fun with Cancer’ And Create a New Paradigm for Chemo?”

Bloom Magazine

Environmental Reporting

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

1st Place:

WBAA / Indiana Public Broadcasting
“Blood, Lead and Soil: A Year in East Chicago”
IPBS.org

Judge’s comments: Indiana Public Broadcasting’s thoroughly reported story on environmental problems in East Chicago, told through a high-quality multimedia presentation, is a standout winner.

2nd Place:

Sarah Bowman
“Sarah Bowman cover the environmental beat”
Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Emily Hopkins
“Emily Hopkins covers the environmental beat”
Indianapolis Star

Environmental Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Christopher Stephens
“Indiana In-Depth Environment”
The Herald Bulletin

Judge’s comments: Christopher Stephens’ impactful and engaging beat reporting for The Herald Bulletin wins this category.

2nd Place:

Erica Quinlan
“School brings ag to the city ”
AgriNews

3rd Place:

Charlee Beasor, Matt Ottinger, Symone C. Skrzycki
“Environmental Reporting”
BizVoice

Features Writing

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

1st Place:

Emma Kate Fittes

“Teen had rare form of cancer”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: The writer did Audrey Lupton the honor of playing her story straight, without violins or fanfare and the result is stunning. This piece is so well crafted, but so simply told, that it leaves the reader feeling both blessed and broken.

2nd Place:

Zak Keefer

“Todd Leary's road back: From IU to prison to feeding the homeless”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Lauren Cross

“A changed community: The East Chicago lead crisis one year later.”

The Times Media Company

Features Writing

Newspapers circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Jonathan Streetman

“A cross between love and science”

The Herald-Times

Judge’s comments: "Love and Science" is an excellent feature with tender, vivid writing and colorful imagery.

2nd Place:

Marilyn Odendahl

“4 lawyers and a businessman walk into a bar ... and begin distilling their own artisan liquor”

Indiana Lawyer

3rd Place:

Keith Roysdon

“‘No money to die’ ”

The Star Press

Features Writing

Magazines and non-daily newspapers

1st Place:

Carmen Siering

“The Story of Melanie and Stormy”

Bloom Magazine

Judge’s comments: Powerful and compelling read highlighting a little known service for the adoption of adult foster children.

2nd Place:

Jeff Vrabel

“The Wurlitzer's Last Waltz”

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Rachel Stark

“Uncommon Conversation”

NCAA Champion magazine

Personality Profile

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

1st Place:

Robert King

“Eva Kor”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: This profile of Eva Kor has such extraordinary writing and imagery. This is honestly the best contest field I ever judged -- and the hardest to pick. But this is a standout, the writing both lively and relatable. Excellent work.

2nd Place:

Amber Stearns

“The Man In The Mascot ”

NUVO

3rd Place:

Anthony Schoettle

“Dan Dakich: going his own way”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Personality Profile

Newspapers circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Laura Lane

“One determined woman”

The Herald-Times

Judge’s comments: All three winners showed how reporting is a necessary element of a good profile.

“One determined woman” also told the readers about Indiana law.

2nd Place:

Carol Kugler

“Survey his years”

The Herald-Times

3rd Place:

Blake Sebring

“Heritage basketball player Katie Graham taking the fight to her abusive past”

Fort Wayne News-Sentinel

Personality Profile

Magazines and non-daily newspapers

1st Place:

Evan West

“Dan Wakefield Needs a Ride”

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge’s comments: I loved this profile on 50 different levels, from the genius of telling the story through Wakefield’s need for a ride to the details chosen, the subtle tone and the great writing. Fabulous work.

2nd Place:

Rachel Stark

“Impact Player”

NCAA Champion magazine

3rd Place:

Brian Burnsed

“Growing Pains”

NCAA Champion magazine

Arts and Entertainment Writing

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

1st Place:

Jeff Vrabel

“Nailed It”

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge’s comments: Jeff Vrabel beautifully focuses a rich dual portrait of a HGTV show and its mother-daughter characters. The writer’s easy-going voice is anchored by a smart reportorial eye, and he explains well the context of the fixer-upper neighborhood. Style points for pulling off the narrative promise and payoff ending.

2nd Place:

Kelly Kendall

“It’s a Mab, Mab, Mab, Mab World”

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Domenica Bongiovanni

“Domenica Bongiovanni covers arts & entertainment”

Indianapolis Star

Arts and Entertainment Writing

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Jennifer Porter Tilley

“Laughing it off; Are you Lotusing; Filming for new movie ...; Carving memories; The Key to Comedy”*The Herald-Times*

Judge’s comments: The research and reporting that went into several of these articles really made this writer stand out from the rest of the field

2nd Place:

Julie Gray

“New Books from IU Press”

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Keshia Smith McEntire

“Black Art Matters”

Indianapolis Recorder

Editorial writing

All publications and digital media

1st Place:

Greg Andrews

“Tightfisted owner tanked Marsh”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge’s comments: Greg Andrews impressed me with his clear and courageous opinions and well-supported arguments. He has a strong grasp of his subject and provides unique, well-written analyses.

2nd Place:

Doug Ross

“State needs to improve day care regulation”

The Times Media Company

3rd Place:

Greg Andrews

“Pension shortfalls taint Sun Capital”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Editorial cartoon

All publications and digital media

1st Place:

Tim Campbell

“Book Of Matches”

Washington Post News Service & Syndicate

2nd Place:

Gary Varvel

“Weinstein: Hollywood’s Horror Movie”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Tim Campbell

“Shinola”

Washington Post News Service & Syndication

Column Writing

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

1st Place:

Jerry Davich

“Three columns by Jerry Davich”

Post-Tribune

Judge’s comments: Jerry Davich's columns combined a compassionate look at life and a riveting insight into social issues. From the joy provided by the simple "peanut man" to the recovering white supremacist to a critical look at ourselves in the election of Donald Trump, this was great story telling as well as thought-provoking social commentary.

2nd Place:

Kelly Hawes

“Kelly Hawes columns”

CNHI News Indiana

3rd Place:

Suzette Hackney

“Best of Suzette Hackney”

Indianapolis Star

Column Writing

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Bob Zaltsberg

“Monday Morning”

The Herald-Times

Judge’s comments: Bob Zaltsberg takes on a complex social issue, clearly identifying competing interests in an area that is under siege. His writing is clear, concise and imaginative, such as calling an encampment "a charmless anti-magnet to the neighborhood."

2nd Place:

Ken de la Bastide

“Ken de la Bastide”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Greg Siering

“Tapped Into Bloomington”

Bloom Magazine

Sports Reporting

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

1st Place:

Michael Marot

“Michael Marot sports reporting”

The Associated Press

2nd Place:

Craig Fehrman

“Off-Court Issues”

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Jon R. LaFollette

““You always gotta be ready to go.” How drivers deal with rain delays at the Indy 500”

Nuvo Newsweekly

Sports Reporting

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Todd Golden

“Tyreke B. Goode: ISU recruit dazzles Tennessee State tournament”

Tribune-Star

2nd Place:

George Bremer, Heather Bremer, Rick Teverbaugh and Christopher Stephens

“Frankton wins state basketball title”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

George Bremer

“Colts season preview”

The Herald Bulletin

Sports Column Writing

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

1st Place:

Gregg Doyel
"Selection of Gregg Doyel columns"
Indianapolis Star

2nd Place:

Bob Kravitz
"Bob Kravitz"
WTHR

3rd Place:

Mike Lopresti
"Mike Lopresti tells stories"
Indianapolis Business Journal

Sports Column Writing

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Blake Sebring
"Blake Sebring Sports columns"
Fort Wayne News-Sentinel

Judge's comments: Nice, human touch that drew me in.

2nd Place:

Justin Kenny
"NASCAR, Indy 500, Prep all-star games"
The News-Sentinel

3rd Place:

Todd Golden
"Todd Golden sports columns"
Tribune-Star

Headline Writing

Magazines and non-daily newspapers

1st Place:

Trista Lutgring, Elisa Gross, Heather Gray, Kristen K. Tucker

“Foodie Headlines”

Tucker Publishing Group

Judge’s comments: The subheads in the photo/graphic demonstrate a terrific effort combined with wit that makes the headline a perfect punchline. Clever work that deserves recognition.

2nd Place:

Symone C. Skrzycki

“BizVoice Headlines”

BizVoice

3rd Place:

Champion magazine staff

“Champion magazine headlines”

NCAA Champion magazine

Headline Writing

All newspapers and digital media

1st Place:

Penny Reid

“Goodbye Yellowwood Road, Greece is the word, A zoom with a view”

The Herald-Times

2nd Place:

WBAA News

“WBAA.org Headlines”

WBAA.org

3rd Place:

Staff

“Statues of no limitations ... Nutrition rules spark food fight ... They were spokes-people”

The Herald Bulletin

Features Photography

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

1st Place:

Jenna Watson

“A final dance with daughter”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: If not for the extraordinary access these pictures would have not been. Clearly the work of a passionate and engaged photographer. No one can see these without feeling for the bride, groom, family.

2nd Place:

Kelly Wilkinson

“Holding the hoop”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Michelle Pemberton

“Magnificent Macaws”

Indianapolis Star

Features Photography

Publication circulation below 30,000

1st Place:

Joseph C. Garza

“Stage selfie”

Tribune-Star

Judge’s comments: What a great moment, seen and captured. No set-up here, just an instant that tells the story.

2nd Place:

Heather Gray, Zach Straw, Kristen K. Tucker

“Evansville Living September/October 2017 Feature — Haunted Evansville”

Tucker Publishing Group

3rd Place:

Jeff Richardson, Stephen Sproull

“To Be Muslim in Bloomington”

Bloom Magazine

News Photography

1st Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“Unite the Right torch rally ”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: Under pressure and in close the picture shows what was happening in our faces.

2nd Place:

John P. Cleary

“Shooting Death”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“Charlottesville mourns”

Indianapolis Star

Sports Photography

1st Place:

Rodney Margison

“Hoosiers Ice Penguins, 79-51”

Bloom Magazine

Judge’s comments: Unique shot of high flying competitors. Perfect peak action.

2nd Place:

Don Knight

“Reversal”

The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Matt Kryger

“To the surface”

Indianapolis Star

Multiple Picture Group

All Publications

1st Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“Growing up westside ”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: A grand commitment to understanding a diverse community; the understanding the photographer shows makes the work meaningful.

2nd Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“She’s a volleyball player with a 3.5 GPA — and a baby”

Indianapolis Star

3rd Place:

Mykal McEldowney

“Inmates and horses”

Indianapolis Star

Newspaper Page One Design

All newspapers

1st Place:

Heather Bremer

“Heather Bremer”

The Herald Bulletin

Judge’s comments: A great variety of whimsy, hierarchy and clean presentation. Super use of color.

2nd Place:

Bill Thornbro

“Aug. 13, Dec. 17, 2017”

The Herald-Times

3rd Place:

Abby Westcott, Abby Westcott, John Hurst

“No Charges, Who Killed Michael Taylor, You are America”

Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper

Magazine Cover Design

All magazines or periodicals

1st Place:

Emilee Stites, Rodney Margison, Kendall Reeves

“Bloom Magazine”

Bloom Magazine

Judge’s comments: Great use of color! Simple, clean work that makes great use of solid photography.

2nd Place:

Todd Urban

“August 2017”

Indianapolis Monthly

3rd Place:

Arnel Reynon and Jamie Schwaberow

“Defending What’s Right”

NCAA Champion magazine

Design Other Than Cover

All print media

1st Place:

Jake Ziolkowski

“It’s a Mab, Mab, Mab, Mab World”

Indianapolis Monthly

Judge’s comments: Excellent mixture between visual and verbal, neither encroaching on the other. Both combined to a third effect.

2nd Place:

Emilee Stites

“Spencer Reimagined”

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Dan Vance

“Karissa McLaughlin Player of the Year”

The News-Sentinel

Graphics and Illustrations

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

1st Place:

Brad Turner

“Private equity pick 'em parlor”

Indianapolis Business Journal

Judge's comments: An engaging solution to a complex message -- with a little humor thrown in.

2nd Place:

Brad Turner

“This will hurt”

Indianapolis Business Journal

3rd Place:

David Plunkert

“No Dumb Luck”

Indianapolis Monthly

Graphics and Illustrations

(Publication circulation below 30,000)

1st Place:

Bill Thornbro

“The Great American Solar Eclipse”

The Herald-Times

Judge's comments: A creative solution to putting lot of information into an awful small space. Best of the entries for organization, restraint and advice.

2nd Place:

Joe Lee

“The Plight of Asylum-Seekers”

Bloom Magazine

3rd Place:

Abby Westcott

“Air Sick”

Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper

Best Journalism Website

1st Place:

Heather Bremer and Staff
"heraldbulletin.com"
The Herald Bulletin

2nd Place:

FOX59 Digital Team
"FOX59.com"
WXIN

3rd Place:

TheStatehouseFile.com
"TheStatehouseFile.com"
TheStatehouseFile.com

Best Online Multimedia

1st Place:

Jason Kelly, Ryan Blaske, Barbara Johnston, John Slott and Shawn Maust
"This England"
Notre Dame Magazine

Judge's comments: The team behind "This England" wins this category for a beautiful presentation that gives a personal and authentic look at these students' opportunity to travel and perform.

2nd Place:

Heather Bremer and staff
"Broken Trust"
The Herald Bulletin

3rd Place:

Justin Mack; Amy Bartner; Stephen Beard
"You've been pronouncing these Indiana words all wrong"
Indianapolis Star

Non-Fiction Book

1st Place:

Dawn Mitchell, Kyle Neddenriep, Zak Keefer
"History of our Hysteria: Indiana High School Basketball"
Indianapolis Star

2nd Place:

Blake Sebring, Angel Knuth, Melody Schmitt Foreman
"On To The Show"
The News-Sentinel

3rd Place:

Heather Bremer and staff.
"High School Hoops"
The Herald Bulletin

Best Newscast

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Lauren Stream, Alex Jud, Phil Cannelongo & the WTHR News Team

“Eyewitness News Nightbeat”

WTHR

2nd Place:

Andrew Scherer, McKinley Bundick and Staff

“The Voice of a Killer”

WTTV

3rd Place:

Maggie Contreras, Julian Grace, Scott Davis

“24-Hour News 8 at 10:00”

WISH TV

Best Newscast

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Daniel Beals

“ABC21 News at 11”

WPTA

Judge’s comments: Great newscast, incredible use of the set.

Breaking News Coverage

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Lauren Lowrey, Kylie Conway, Nina Criscuolo, Kevin Ratermann

“Bridge Collapse”

WISH TV

Judge’s comments: The bridge crash, although slow to add more engaging visuals, was more immediate and did a good job with presenting updated info each hit.

2nd Place:

The WTHR News Team

“The Delphi Murders”

WTHR

Breaking News Coverage

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Staff

“May Flooding”

WANE

Judge’s comments: Good extended coverage. Heightened importance by having a field anchor.

2nd Place:

14 News Team

“Hercules Home Explosion”

WFIE

3rd Place:

Daniel Beals, Rex Smith, Tom Powell, Kameron Robinson

“AMBER Alert Reunion”

WPTA

Investigative Reporting

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Paris Lewbel

“CALL 6: No record Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard took alcohol test after crash in city car”

WRTV

Judge’s comments: Nice presentation of the evidence!

2nd Place:

Bob Segall, Bill Ditton, Cyndee Hebert, Susan Batt

“3,000 Toxic Homes”

WTHR

3rd Place:

Deanna Allbrittin and Anthony Mobley

“Marion VA Abruptly Cuts Prescriptions”

WTTV

Investigative Reporting

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Alyssa Ivanson, Jake Weaver, Rod Hissong, Matt Dice

“Airport Insecurity”

WANE

2nd Place:

Barbara Brosher and Cathy Knapp

“Is Indiana Meeting Its Obligation To Provide Hoosiers A Public Defense? ”

WTIU/WFIU News

Sports Reporting

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Dave Furst

“Dave Furst Sports ”

WRTV

2nd Place:

Rich Nye & WTHR Photojournalists

“Dreaming Big”

WTHR

3rd Place:

Clint Erbacher

“SPORTS REPORTING - SPJ”

WTHR

Sports Reporting

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Adam Shear

“Fort Wayne's NBC Sports”

WPTA

2nd Place:

Nick Ruffolo

“The Evan Hendrickson Story”

WEVV-TV

3rd Place:

Glenn Marini, Ross Kinsey

“Carpool Conversation”

WANE

Feature Story

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Paris Lewbel and Lee Atherton

“Indiana at the Crossroads”

WRTV

Judge's comments: Great storytelling!

2nd Place:

Paris Lewbel and Jason Strong

“The Guardians at the Gates”

WRTV

3rd Place:

Ericka Flye and Brad Forestal

“Chef Oya's The Trap”

WRTV

Feature Story

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Brett Thomas, Ross Kinsey

“A Hall of Fame Life”

WANE

2nd Place:

Barbara Brosher

“Dwindling Number Of Round Barns Sparks Effort To Save Them”

WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Alyssa Ivanson, JR Carmichael

“Firefighter Salute”

WANE

Documentary or Special

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Kara Kenney, Paris Lewbel, Rafael Sanchez, Jason Scheuer

“Delphi Daughters ”

WRTV

2nd Place:

Jim Simmons and Kyle Travers

“A President at the Crossroads”

WFYI

3rd Place:

Trey Friedrichs

“Indiana's Most Wanted”

WISH TV

Documentary or Special

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Brien McElhatten, Jonathan Shelley, Rob Anderson

“Lost and Found: A Soldier's Story”

WPTA

2nd Place:

Barbara Brosher

“Justice For All?”

WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

WFIE News Team

“Day of Darkness”

WFIE

Continuing Coverage

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Bob Segall, Bill Ditton, Steve Rhodes, Cyndee Hebert, Susan Batt

“Legal in Indiana? Investigating the CBD Oil Crackdown”

WTHR

2nd Place:

Aishah Hasnie, Jamie Suiter, and Robb Ressler

“Aishah Hasnie: Investigating Flora”

WXIN

3rd Place:

Allen Carl

“Justice for Abby and Libby”

WISH TV

Continuing Coverage

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Alexis Gray, Jonathan Shelley, Paula Hinton

“Public Hearing, Private Record”

WPTA

2nd Place:

44News Staff

“Aleah Beckerle Coverage”

WEVV-TV

3rd Place:

14 News Team

“Justice for Aleah”

WFIE

Coverage of Government or Politics

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Hilary Powell

“Helping South Bend's Homeless”

WSBT

2nd Place:

44News Staff

“Play For Kate”

WEVV-TV

3rd Place:

WTIU Team

“Bloomington Prepares For First Annexation In Over 10 Years”

WTIU/WFIU News

Business or Consumer Affairs Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Kara Kenney, Paris Lewbel and Rafael Sanchez

“Getting Justice For Consumers”

WRTV

Judge’s comments: Great collection of consumer advocacy represented in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place recipients. Good work overall.

2nd Place:

13 Investigates Team

“13 Investigates Consumer Concerns”

WTHR

3rd Place:

Jill Glavan, Jamie Suiter, Jake Ressler, and Shaun Murphy

“CBS4 Problem Solvers”

WTTV

Education Coverage

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Kara Kenney, Brad Forestal, Jordan Fischer and Lee Atherton

“Breaking the Bullying Law”

WRTV

2nd Place:

Lauren Lowrey, Kevin Ratermann

“Lunch Shaming”

WISH TV

3rd Place:

WTIU Team

“Schools In Disrepair As Terre Haute, Vigo County Weigh Budgets”

WTIU/WFIU News

Criminal Justice Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Sandra Chapman, Steve Rhodes, Bill Ditton, Cyndee Hebert, Susan Batt

“The Attack Zone”

WTHR

Judge’s comments: Great storytelling! This could have been a tough story to tell with all of the dates and accusation, but the news team did a great job making it easy to understand for the viewer.

2nd Place:

Alyssa Ivanson, Matt Dice

“Hidden Predators”

WANE

3rd Place:

Rich Van Wyk, Bob Segall & the WTHR Team

“Justice Delayed”

WTHR

Coverage of Children’s Issues

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Kara Kenney and Brad Forestal

“The Cost of Having Children in Indiana”

WRTV

2nd Place:

Emily Longnecker, Jennie Runevitch, John Duong

“Changing Their World”

WTHR

3rd Place:

Liz Adeola, Lee Atherton and Tony Grant

“Liz Adeola Composite ”

WRTV

Coverage of Minority Issues

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Terra Brantley, Ross Kinsey

“Freedom Schools”

WANE

2nd Place:

Lindsey Wright

“Indiana Center Helps The Blind Take Back Control Of Their Lives”

WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Veronica Ortega

“Dr. Vagner celebrates 100 years”

WSBT

Medical or Science Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Sandra Chapman & the 13 Investigates Team

“Saving Derrian”

WTHR

2nd Place:

Fanchon Stinger, Shaun Murphy

“Infant Addicts”

WXIN

3rd Place:

Kyle Travers, Aric Hartvig, Vinnie Manganello and Carmel Wroth

“On the Front Lines of a Drug Crisis”

WFYI

Environmental Reporting

Any Indiana station

1st Place:

Becca Costello

“In Debate Over Logging In State Forests, Both Sides Claim Science”

WTIU/WFIU News

2nd Place:

Brett Thomas, Ross Kinsey

“Raptor Rehab”

WANE

3rd Place:

Becca Costello

“Lake Lemon Conservancy Considers Ways To Mitigate Sediment Runoff”

WTIU/WFIU News

Best Videography

Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Vinnie Manganello

“Excerpts from "Waves of Fortune" - Vinnie Manganello”

WFYI

Judge's comments: Waves of Fortune by Vinnie Manganello has wonderful sweeping wide shot and beautifully artistic close ups. That helps tell the story and keep the audience visually stimulated.

2nd Place:

Brad Forestal

“Brad Forestal / Videography 2017”

WRTV

3rd Place:

Bryan Boyd

“Excerpts from "When Kids Wrote the Headlines”

WFYI

Best Videography

Outside Indianapolis market

1st Place:

Brien McElhatten

“Brien McElhatten Video Compilation”

WPTA TV

Judge’s comments: Brien McElhatten has visually beautiful way to show the story that is being told, from the wide landscape shots to tight close-ups every shot has a purpose.

2nd Place:

Ross Kinsey

“Ross Kinsey”

WANE

3rd Place:

Chris Dodge, Jacob Lindauer, Jason Pear, Aut Phanthavong and Ron Prickel

“James Whitcomb Riley: Hoosier Poet”

WTIU

Radio Best Newscast

1st Place:

Sara Wittmeyer
“WFIU May 24, 2017 morning newscast”
WTIU/WFIU News

Judge’s comments: Nice delivery, good use of sound by reporters, fully packaged content.

2nd Place:

Jill Ditmire
“November 24, 2017 Newscast”
WFYI

3rd Place:

Taylor Bennett
“June 28, 2017 Newscast”
WFYI

Radio Breaking News Coverage

1st Place:

John Gibson, Paola Marizan, Steve Burger
“Police Shoot Suspect at Federal Building”
WNIN

Judge’s comments: Radio story was solid. Despite the disturbing video of shooting, it was appropriate. Warnings also appropriate. Great use of social media content.

2nd Place:

Barbara Brosher
“Severe Weather Causes Damage In Southern Indiana”
WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Barbara Brosher
“Judge Sentences Kyle Parker To 60 Years In Toddler’s Death”
WTIU/WFIU News

Radio Documentary or Special

1st Place:

WTIU and WFIU staff.

“Cannabidiol, Kids & Politics”

WTIU/WFIU News

2nd Place:

WBAA/Indiana Public Broadcasting

“Blood, Lead and Soil: A Year in East Chicago”

WBAA Public Radio

3rd Place:

Chris Davis, CJ Miller, Kurt Darling, Ashley Fowler

“Indiana's Team: 50 Years With the Indiana Pacers”

WIBC

Radio Feature Story

1st Place:

Drew Daudelin

“To Address The Need For Reentry Programs, These Prisoners Made Their Own”

WFYI

2nd Place:

Michael Puente, Alex Keefe

“Evacuation Order Has Some Indiana Residents Scrambling For Housing”

WBEZ

3rd Place:

Melissa Davis

“Portraits Of Our City”

WFYI

Radio In-Depth Reporting

1st Place:

WNIN and Side Effects Public Media staff
“A Scar on the System - The Case of Albert Fink”
WNIN

2nd Place:

WFIU Team
“Indiana Jails Struggle To Combat Overcrowding”
WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Stan Jastrzebski and Azra Ceylan
“Common Pipe Repair Method Releases Dangerous Chemicals”
WBAA Public Radio

Radio Continuing Coverage

1st Place:

WBAA Public Radio
“State Street ”
WBAA Public Radio

2nd Place:

Michael Puente, Alex Keefe
“Lead Crisis in East Chicago ”
WBEZ

3rd Place:

Emily Forman
“Pregnant and Addicted”
Side Effects Public Media

Radio Public Affairs

1st Place:

Angelo Bautista, Sara Wittmeyer, Bob Zaltsberg
 “Dreamers And The Elimination Of DACA”
 WTIU/WFIU News

Judge’s comments: The best public affair shows employee knowledgeable hosts, who gather articulate guests with differing opinions and allow listeners to ask questions about interesting and topical local or national issues. Noon Edition on the DACA dilemma by WTIU/WFIU program did that to perfection.

2nd Place:

William Hosea, Cornelius Wright, Jim Thrasher, Clarence Boone
 “Bring It On: A Historical Perspective of Confederate Monuments and National Debate”
 WFHB

3rd Place:

John Krull, Shannon Cagel
 “No Limits / Sexual Harassment”
 WFYI

Radio Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Lindsey Wright
 “DNR: Stay Away From Low-Head Dams At Any Cost”
 WTIU/WFIU News

Judge’s comments: I was impressed with Lindsey's use of natural sound in this story. The sound of water, interviewing someone next to the dam and the description of how someone could be saved made took this story over the top. It was also an important public service reminder for anyone kayaking on the state's rivers.

2nd Place:

Barb Anguiano
 “Elkhart Grand Prix Comes Roaring Back”
 WVPE

3rd Place:

Lindsey Wright
 “Ringling Ends Its Run, But The Circus Is Alive And Well In Indiana”
 WTIU/WFIU News

Student Breaking News Reporting

1st Place:

Eric Andrews and Katherine Yeager
"Police apprehend robbery suspects in Upland"
The Echo

Judge's comments: All of the top three finishers exhibited good use of multiple sources, but the robbery article also made good use of social media to find residents who were near the scene and affected by it.

2nd Place:

Casey Smith and Allie Kirkman
"Humans vs. Zombies player sparks gun scare on campus"
The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Casey Smith and Max Lewis
"Ball State student's apartment searched by FBI, Homeland Security following Goodwill incident"
The Ball State Daily News

Student Non-Deadline News

1st Place:

Sarah Verschoor
"A series of small accidents"
Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: The narrative about the cavers is gripping. Excellent work.

2nd Place:

Riley Eubanks
"The Controversy and Reality of Vaccinations"
Ball Bearings

3rd Place:

Maia Gibson
"Daniel Daudu remembered"
The Reflector

Student Investigative Reporting

1st Place:

Carley Lanich

“The system”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: The Indiana Daily Student four-part series on the system to deal with sexual assault allegations is thorough and interesting. It’s impressive work for a single reporter.

2nd Place:

Brynn Mechem, Max Lewis, Casey Smith and Emily Wright

“Faculty with felonies: where’s the line?”

The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Indiana University Media School

“Camp fever: Injuries, illnesses missing from Indiana state records”

Indiana University Media School

Student Feature Story

1st Place:

Taylor Telford

“The third life of Darryl Pinkins”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: Good feature writing requires a way with words. Excellent feature writing requires great reporting, and these selections exhibit both solid reporting and a way with words. Nice work.

2nd Place:

Samantha Stevenson

“The Human Experience”

Ball Bearings

3rd Place:

Anne Halliwell

“A SEDIMENTAL JOURNEY”

Indiana University Media School

Student Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Jordan Guskey
"Winning his trust"
Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: The look at a new coach's history with athlete discipline is an original and well reported approach. The writing is good, but it is driven by a strong focus and good research.

2nd Place:

Sarah Bahr
"Sarah Bahr Rose Bowl Coverage"
IUPUI Sports Capital Journalism Program

3rd Place:

Elizabeth Wyman
"A greater role: Gueye's game"
The Ball State Daily News

Student Editorial Writing

1st Place:

Daily News Editorial Board
"OUR VIEW: With a new president, Ball State must become transparent"
The Ball State Daily News

Judge's comments: Transparency is a crucial issue in journalism, and the first- and second-place pieces here take interesting and important perspectives on it.

2nd Place:

Daily News Editorial Board
"OUR VIEW: The university needs to be a place where all people can voice thier beliefs"
The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

The Reflector Staff
"The Fourth Estate will not be silenced"
The Reflector

Student Editorial Cartoon

1st Place:

Andy Carr and Hanna McClard

“Hacked Gamer”

The Reflector

Judge’s comments: The “Hacked Gamer” cartoon is both well-drawn and clever. It brings politics to a level that college readers can appreciate.

2nd Place:

Andy Carr

“U.S. South battered and bruised”

The Reflector

3rd Place:

Christine Beckmann

“Paper towels for you...”

DePauw University

Student Column Writing

1st Place:

Nicole Hernandez, Erica Irish and Thomas Maxwell

“The Franklin column writing”

The Franklin

2nd Place:

Audrey Bowers

“Adult-ish”

The Ball State Daily News

Student News Photography

1st Place:

Grace Hollars

“Pro-Trump March 2017”

The Ball State Daily News

Judge’s comments: All three placed entries had good composition, but the Pro-Trump march helped communicate emotion better than the others.

2nd Place:

Zoë Berg

“A silent walk for dreamers photo”

The Reflector

3rd Place:

Reagan Allen

“LaFollette Complex demolition project ”

The Ball State Daily News

Student Sports Photography

1st Place:

Noble Guyon

“IU Men's Soccer loses NCAA Championship”

Indiana Daily Student

Judge’s comments: Great sports photos show not only action, but also emotion and effort. The IU photos excel on all counts, though the runners-up were very good.

2nd Place:

Kaiti Sullivan

“Coed swimming and diving vs. Grand Valley State 2017”

The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Kaiti Sullivan and Terence K. Lightning Jr.

“Gymnastics Red vs. White Intersquad 2017”

The Ball State Daily News

Student Features Photography

1st Place:

Noble Guyon
"Something in the night"
Indiana Daily Student

Judge's comments: The photos of the bat were beautiful, the way IDS uses them contributes to the artistry. Each photo helps to tell a story and illustrate the subject matter well.

2nd Place:

Grace Hollars
"Justin Moore Concert"
The Ball State Daily News

3rd Place:

Erica Irish
"Feature: Struggling through faith"
The Franklin

Student Page One or Cover Design

1st Place:

Megan Hall
"The Human Experience"
Ball Bearings

Judge's comments: The Human Experience tells a story in addition to grabbing readers' attention. It is beautiful and creative.

2nd Place:

Ashley Shuler
"The Franklin A1"
The Franklin

3rd Place:

Emily Wright
"Family Weekend cover"
The Ball State Daily News

Student Best Design Other Than Page One or Cover

1st Place:

Andy Carr and Erik Cliburn
“Fountain Square Music Festival”
The Reflector

Judge’s comments: The Fountain Square Music Festival makes good use of an echo effect between the font and the graphic elements. It also uses the bottom of the page well.

2nd Place:

Lydia Olsen
“The Divide in Access”
Ball Bearings

3rd Place:

Leigh Durphey
“The Franklin news and feature spreads”
The Franklin

Student Graphics or Illustration

1st Place:

Naomi Noyes
“Taylor presidential inauguration special edition ”
The Echo

Judge’s comments: The portrait of the new president was striking with a good use of color.

2nd Place:

Juliana Rohrmoser
“Football season recap”
The Reflector

3rd Place:

Becca Robb
“Trash talk”
The Echo

Student Television Best Newscast

1st Place:

Tony Sandleben, Mallory Weil, Evan Like, Ryan McClain
“NewsLink Indiana November 27, 2017”
NewsLink Indiana

Student Television News Reporting

1st Place:

Sophia Saliby
“Brown County Acquires Sonar, Water Rescue Equipment Through Grant”
WTIU/WFIU News

2nd Place:

Sophia Saliby
“IU Researchers Develop Beetle With Working Third Eye”
WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Esther Bower
“Salvation Army opening new ways of fun fundraising”
NewsLink Indiana

Student Television Features Reporting

1st Place:

Tyler Bradfield, Connor Nichols, Zach Roy
“FINAO: The Reggie McGee Story”
Ball State Sports Link

2nd Place:

Sophia Saliby
“Volunteers Work To Extend Indiana’s Longest Hiking Trail”
WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Gentry Stayton, Phylisia Donaldson, Erin Stanis and the Connections Live staff
“Connections Live”
Ball State University

Student Television Videography

1st Place:

Zach Roy

"Zach Roy Videography"

Ball State University

Student Radio Best Newscast

1st Place:

Christie York
"January 5 Newscast"
University of Southern Indiana

2nd Place:

Emily Mills
"WICR Radio News Update at 5:00"
University of Indianapolis

3rd Place:

Noah Alatza
"January 21 Newscast"
University of Southern Indiana

Student Radio News Reporting

1st Place:

Sophia Saliby
"Ind. Medicinal Cannabis Law Begins, But No Access Yet"
WTIU/WFIU News

2nd Place:

Christie York
"Beckerle Investigation Series"
University of Southern Indiana

3rd Place:

Sophia Saliby
"Brown County Acquires Sonar, Water Rescue Equipment Through Grant"
WTIU/WFIU News

Student Radio Sports Reporting

1st Place:

Chris Shoulders

“Indianapolis Colts Training Camp - Day 3”

University of Indianapolis

Judge’s comments: Chris did a good job of focusing on the the big story of that day...a fight on the field and then how the players reacted to it. He also did a good job of giving the secondary stories sports fans would want to know about including how the team would do without Andrew Luck.

2nd Place:

Christie York

“USI Basketball Success Stories”

University of Southern Indiana

Student Radio Features Reporting

1st Place:

Sophia Saliby

“Program Gives People With Disabilities Rare Chance To Pilot Planes”

WTIU/WFIU News

2nd Place:

Sophia Saliby

“Lincoln’s Indiana Legacy: Historians Preserve His Boyhood Years”

WTIU/WFIU News

3rd Place:

Sophia Saliby

“Volunteers Work To Extend Indiana’s Longest Hiking Trail”

WTIU/WFIU News

Student Best Journalism Website

1st Place:

Ball Bearings Staff
"Ball Bearings"
Ball Bearings

Judge's comments: The integration of multimedia into the Ball Bearings site is smooth and provides multimedia the attention it deserves without turning the entire site over to the flashy stuff.

2nd Place:

Staff
"Idsnews.com"
Indiana Daily Student

Student Best Online Multimedia

1st Place:

Emily Sabens
"Bigger Bodies"
Ball Bearings

Judge's comments: The two top selections are both excellent and innovative, but the body building piece incorporates more multimedia. Especially impressive are the graphics that break down the diet and workout.

2nd Place:

Carley Lanich, Nicole McPheeters, Emily Miles, Eman Mozaffar
"The system"
Indiana Daily Student

Indiana Journalist of the Year

1st Place:

Mark Alesia

“Indianapolis Star Investigative Reporter Mark Alesia”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: Mark Alesia wins this category with his impressive investigative portfolio.

Indiana Student Journalist of the Year

1st Place:

Casey Smith

“Indiana Student Journalist of the Year: Casey Smith”

The Ball State Daily News

Judge’s comments: Appreciated the diversity of work and ability to produce journalistic works in a variety of formats. Impressed by leadership skills and working as reporter and editor. Congratulations.

Indiana Story of the Year

1st Place:

Tim Evans & Ryan Martin

“Code of Silence”

Indianapolis Star

Judge’s comments: The Indianapolis Star reporters earn the story of the year award for their investigation revealing a glaring gap protecting witnesses to crime, and deadly way that deficit was being exploited. Their stories highlighted a clear public safety problem and prompted needed reform.