



LARGE PRINT WINNERS

Newspapers (Circulation 60,000+)

The articles are clear without a lot of unanswered questions remaining. The focus on the dressers and costumers in the "Wicked" and "Tales" articles is an interesting angle on theatrical reporting. While I haven't seen these shows, the reporting makes me feel like I'm there and gets me really excited. The statistics at the end of the "Wicked" article add so much. The writing is well-done without a lot of errors that might otherwise distract from the article. It's very clear this reporter knows a ton about theatre.



This reporting is absolutely gripping, so timely, and so important. The statistics are startling. The legal and educational solutions presented seem like they are providing a valuable public service to the community serving children.





Excellent use of sources and very clear explanations that immediately explain the issue – whether how hard it is to keep someone who might be dangerous in jail to how a street gang was taken down by police. Really crisp, clear and important work.




“


Targeted editorials that skewer egregious behaviors by big money, lobbyists and politicians with a wry twist. Nice job.

”

“The human faces were not lost in these technical stories about a badly congested bridge and efforts to ease the traffic burden. Too often, though, human tolls are discounted. Excellent reporting, use of sources and balance. Nice.”



The range of sources and the first-person accounts of surviving the tornado made this entry a winner.





Great watchdog journalism with appropriate context, good sourcing, reactions. Readable for an outsider.



“This is a powerful, well-designed package of stories that touch on something no one likes to ponder – child sexual assault. The real people, the data and the heart make this a clear winner. Congratulations on a really important investigation that is a public service.”

“


Great, detailed reporting!

”




Not only was the story and writing gripping, the digital presentation was amazing as well!





This was a heartwarming story with great “before” and “now” pictures. It's great when there is a call to action that is achievable for the majority of readers.




“Rob Oller's sports reporting edged out others in a category with strong competition from all entrants. Kudos to Oller for his versatile reporting.”




Each column speaks loudly and to the heart with effective quotes and data.





These editions of *The Columbus Dispatch* show a variety of stories to appeal to diverse readers. The judges especially liked the Page 1 feature that localized national news stories and/or provided a more personal look at an Ohio/Columbus story. Great journalism showed in the writing, photos, design elements and story choice.





Joe Landsberger deserves the Best Graphic Designer award because his of his clean designs that entice readers to not only look at the photos but to read further. Nice work.





Tight call between first and second place; winner decided by the close emotions in Squillante's photos. He got up close in people's lives and that deserves recognition. Plus: a shark.





Engaging storytelling and interesting subjects. These were a pleasure to read.





A comprehensive look at Rick Nash's time with the Blue Jackets as his number was retired by the team. Great photos, diverse design elements, beautiful placement of photos and copy. Simply a beautiful special section.





SMALL PRINT WINNERS

(Circulation Under 60,000)

“The introduction to "When Hanif met Ann" presents a complex and well-reasoned context for the delightful interview/conversation that follows. Features on the actor and musician display a talent for storytelling.”



Fascinating look at Chandler and
lessons learned there.





The reporting from the *Beacon Journal* shows strong storytelling on a range of important education issues.



A large, light gray opening quotation mark.

This look at recent acts of vandalism in parks did a good job showing the extent of the problem and how the city responded.

A large, light gray closing quotation mark.

“

Strong reporting, complemented by quality photos and video, rounds out the winning breaking news entry from the *Springfield News-Sun*.

”

“

This package covered the impact of electric vehicle investment from all angles.

”

“

This deep dive about regionalism
was well-written and interesting.

”



Compelling storytelling!






This is some solid reporting with a great mix of historical context, data, visuals and anecdotal experience!






This entry was an interesting look at how religion influences art and fashion.





This was a great, in-depth look into an issue that affects so many. The wide array of sources and solutions really gave comprehensive picture of the issue.





Inspiring profiles written with care
and craft.



“Great photos, compelling headlines and easily accessible format make this website the perfect way for readers to find content. Well-done.”

“Brilliant writing, thoughtful and important. Unique columns that stay with you. Some stand-out lines:

- "how such fare often serves as absolution"
- "the kind of room that captured the self-deprecating emotional states needed to make real blues. It was a killing floor for the soul, where you left behind every soft thing at the door."

“The visuals in this body of work are impressive, but most laudable is that those visuals serve the content. They start telling the story from the first glance at the pages. "A River Runs Through Us" is a terrific example. It starts with a beautiful graphic of a river filling a cup but then keeps that theme going throughout the several-page spread. In all this work, the graphic work ties all pages together, not just the opening spread. Well-done.”

“

This is an attractive section with
quick, bright writing.

”



Sydney Dawes' portfolio combines an impressive breadth of coverage with strong storytelling.





Easy first-place decision. Six totally different photos in six different situations, all of them solid. And the first two show the hardest thing to capture: humor. All together they show a great kaleidoscope of life.




“The coverage is newsy and nuanced. A story about Kroger's fending off competition from Amazon and coverage of how the professional football team's run for the Super Bowl affects the economy provide depth. This is good, sophisticated work and well-presented.”




TRADE PUBLICATION WINNERS

“Bright colors, interesting use of type face and clean design make this trade publication's covers something that readers will want to pick up.”



A compelling read about an industry I was wholly unfamiliar with. Enjoyed the enthusiasm of the source for his industry.





Very well-written portrait of an intriguing artist with so many different influences. I would have loved to hear more descriptions of her artwork, but I got a wonderful sense of who she is and her influences.






A clean, elegant design with a fine choice of fonts. The sub-page items are well-thought-out, and the “Calendars” section is well-positioned. Of special notice — something much appreciated — is CANVAS’s accessible and well-written “Privacy Policy.” It is something all publications should examine and consider emulating.



“Fascinating, multi-factor account of the very complex story of airless tires, one involving tire material, the physics of replacing air pressure with something that is as forgiving of bumps as air, sourcing those materials, driver handling, and especially how to connect the tire to the rim. Overall, the range of airless tires’ sub-topics was equally informative. Kudos to the editors and reporters for conceptualizing — and delivering — the story package.”



Excellent, well-researched and well-written columns about a timely subject. Good reporting is delivered with fine, stylish writing allied with can-do tips.





TELEVISION WINNERS



It's a topic everyone can relate to. Good mix of experts and "real people" characters helped me learn and feel connected to the story. Well-shot and -produced.



“Duane Pohlman is receiving the Emil Dansker Award for Outstanding Achievement in Journalism because of his commitment to outstanding journalism throughout his career. Pohlman not only has covered a plethora of stories, but he has also embodied what it means to be a strong, ethical journalist, who is a role model for younger professionals in journalism.”


“Tenacious reporting about the death of a woman and her 6-year-old daughter. This reporting is a prime example of holding law enforcement accountable in the way it reacted to 911 calls, plus the reporter looks at domestic violence.”




A comprehensive look at an age-old problem. Enjoyed that the reporting pushed to look at the root cause of the cultural issues.



“This story of Vine Street and how its population has changed through the decades doesn't gloss over that people get angry and make history because they want change. Plus, it's tightly produced and edited and has great music.”



The three stories in this entry look at education through the lens of resilience and mental health. Interesting pieces.





Wow! Eye-opening report. Balanced experts and real people characters as well.



“

Tearjerker! There's a connection with these vets that you can feel deeply.

”



Great variety in entries!





Good variety of coverage.





Found characters to help relay
valuable information!




“


Impressive use of documents and sources to make an international connection to a serious health issue in the community.

”

“This entrant displayed an excellence in delivering information in an authoritative manner that also connects with the audience. He had a great understanding of the stories he shared and was clear and did not stumble. His writing was creative and poise showcased confidence and an air of authority on camera. Excellent work!”



I felt that the host was knowledgeable and asked valid follow-up questions. The conversation felt fast-paced and lively. This entry featured a great show that also had a lot of depth to it.



“Excellent reporting that was gripping and informative with the right amount of emotion. From the pacing to editing and writing this is outstanding work that sheds light on a social ill that has remained under the radar too long.”

“

The shots have a great amount of variation – great use of closes-ups, wides, and mediums. The color is really well-balanced for each scene. I especially appreciated how in the piece with the metal-worker, the light from the forge cast a beautiful orange glow on his face. The focus pulls are excellent. Really beautiful work!

”



RADIO WINNERS



Excellent work following the fallout
around the Dobbs decision and the many
different ways it is playing out in your
state.



“This is a fantastic adaptation of something inherently visual into a radio story. Moreover, this does a great job weaving in context and raising larger questions behind the spot news.”

“

Nice variety of voices especially in the discount grocery store feature. Good scene tape as well. It's great you got out to all these places in person. You did a good job going local and putting it in a regional/national context. Keep up the good work!

”

“This documentary profiled filmmaker Julia Reichert and her impact throughout the world of independent film-making. It is obvious from the 30-minute look at her life and impact she had on friends, colleagues and other filmmakers that this was a story worth telling.”

“

Great storytelling and detective
work!

”

“

This entry does a great job using unique people, characters, and stories to speak to larger cultural issues that can be of interest to listeners beyond just the local audience.

”



A solid story looking at the change in
high school blood donation drives.
Good reporting.






This entry does a great job starting with a concrete, single example/story and then widening the lens to examine a larger issue.






Great insights and great reporting.





I'm so impressed with the whole idea behind this show. These are exactly the kind of conversations we need to have and to hear. You are modeling for others how this can be done and while this is not hard reporting, per se, it feels like it will do more to reach people.





Great range of coverage, and the reporting is so accessible, informative and important. Really impressed with the presentation, integration of different voices. Very valuable to listeners. Simply excellent.





Wide-ranging sports coverage, which made this entry stand out.





Ideastream offers a well organized,
newsy site.





Clear, versatile, energetic and sharp
presenter.





Crisp writing, clear delivery, good energy, and strong reports.





I've heard very few interviews set up with playback tape that will lead to such a heartfelt reaction from the subject. Very well-researched. I really appreciated the careful selection of pre-recorded questions and comments combined with the more spontaneous listener calls. An excellent conversation!



“

These were well-told and impactful enterprise pieces, showing lots of independence, dogged reporting and respect for diverse communities.

”



DIGITAL MEDIA/FREELANCE WINNERS



Great pictures. Great behind the scenes.
The profiles of the actors were inspiring.
I felt part of the performance.



“

Love the story of how a personal project became a full-blown business model to improve the community and meet a need. Hope he gets his garage some day!

”



Passionate, detailed arguments exposing corruption by Republicans through gerrymandering, dark money, and ballot initiative changes.





Great variety and depth of coverage.






I was pulled into the story of this farm and the urban challenges it faces from the beginning. The journals from the past were an extremely effective touch and not inserted for drama but to capture a way of life. I anxiously waited to see if Forrest would ever return. Nicely done.




“


Highly emotionally charged topics the writer handled well, and with some good digging that shows.

”




This is an important story about how good intentions can be subverted in public policy. Great use of sources, clear explanation of the problem. Well done!





The reporting on this issue is clear,
compelling and important. Very well
done. I also love that you linked two
seemingly unrelated things things in
such a convincing way.



“

Compelling, continuing coverage of a major public issue: the harsh real-world effects of Ohio's abortion rules.

”



Coverage goes well beyond scores and stats, and finds the brutal emotion and motivation of these student athletes.



“Succinct, straight-forward blog about a wide range of topics. These blog entries are very readable, explaining the issues in entertaining ways – yet with a definite point of view.”


“What makes Patrick Orsagos' stories stand out is the incredible amount of time he puts into them. It is obvious that he just doesn't do a one-quick-interview-and-done story. He takes time to tell the story with many interviews, so viewers are left not only understanding the issue but also having an emotional connection to the subjects of the stories.”

“First and second place are a close call but Spasoff's photos capture more emotions, especially the opening shot of Bengals' fans at a bar. Sometimes the best action isn't on the field.”




The reporting is good, and the use of an anecdotal lead to illustrate the problem works well. The reporter does a good job of organizing the material, and it is an important issues to cover.





Some excellent public records request work went into this reporting, and it is an important social justice issue. The reporter also did a good job of including the voices of victims who are trying to get this law passed. Well done.






The coverage is newsy and sometimes ambitious. It is consistently substantial. Well done.



“It is the job of serious journalism to demand answers when they are not forthcoming. *The Lantern* does so forcefully while laying out what is known and what is not known.”



This piece is professional-level work. The writer has multiple sources talking about the coming season, and he got the head coach to say something substantive. These are not easy things to do. He also does a good job of organizing the information and not inserting his opinion. Well done.

