



New York News Publishers Association, Inc.

252 Hudson Ave, Albany, New York 12210 – Phone/Fax (518) 449-1667 – www.nynpa.com

July 18, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information, contact:
Margaret McDermott, Advertising & Event Coordinator
(518) 449-1667 ext. 703
mmcdermott@nynpa.com

ALBANY, NY – The New York News Publishers Association has announced the winners of its 2017 Awards for Excellence competition. This year's winners were officially recognized at the Continuing Excellence Banquet Awards on Wednesday, July 18 at the Hearst Media Center in Albany.

The annual contest recognizes journalistic excellence among the association's member newspapers.

Newspapers competed against one another in five circulation classes:
Under 10,000; 10,000-24,999; 25,000-49,999; 50,000-75,000 and Over 75,000.

Contest judges selected winners from 399 entries submitted by 24 New York State daily newspapers. The judges were:

Wendy Zang, Freelance writer, Editor and Communications Consultant at wendyzang.com
Stan Linhorst, Retired Leadership Columnist – *The Post Standard*
Barbara Lombardo, former Executive Editor of *The Saratogian* and *The Record*
Patricia Matson, CNC Production Coordinator, CNC Newspapers
Angi Carter, Journalist/Senior Web Producer/Metrics Specialist, *New Haven Register*

Awards were presented in each of 23 categories:

1. Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

Winning entries demonstrate effective newspaper response to deadline demands; and clarity, thoroughness, balance, and aggressiveness in the coverage of local spot news.

2. Distinguished Live Sports Coverage

Winning entries demonstrate effective newspaper response to deadline demands as related to live sporting events; and clarity, thoroughness, balance, and aggressiveness in the coverage of local live sports.

3. Distinguished Investigative Reporting

Winning entries demonstrate thorough, thoughtful, fair, and resourceful reporting of local stories that reveal corruption or malfeasance or inherent flaws in the functioning of society's institutions; and effectively measure the performance of those institutions against their stated missions.

4. Distinguished Business Reporting

Winning entries demonstrate effective newspaper coverage of business and the economy, skillful investigative reporting and excellence in writing style, editing, display and other pertinent criteria; and deal primarily with how business and economic events relate to individuals and the newspaper's community.

Diane Kennedy
President

Albany—*Times Union*
Amsterdam—*The Recorder*
Auburn—*The Citizen*
Batavia—*The Daily News*
Binghamton—*Press & Sun-Bulletin*
Buffalo—*The Buffalo News*
Canandaigua—*The Daily Messenger*
Catskill—*The Daily Mail*
Cold Spring—*Highlands Current*
Corning—*The Leader*
Cortland—*Cortland Standard*
Dunkirk—*The Observer*
Elmira—*Star-Gazette*
Geneva—*Finger Lakes Times*
Glens Falls—*The Post-Star*
Gloversville—*The Leader-Herald*
Herkimer—*The Times Telegram*
Highland—*Highlands*
Hornell/Wellsville—*The Spectator*
Hudson—*Register-Star*
Ithaca—*The Ithaca Journal*
Jamestown—*The Post-Journal*
Kingston—*Daily Freeman*
Lockport—*Union-Sun & Journal*
Long Island—*Newsday*
Malone—*The Malone Telegram*
Massena—*Courier-Observer/The Advance News*
Middletown—*The Times Herald-Record*
New York City—*The New York Times*
New York City—*The Wall Street Journal*
Niagara Falls—*Niagara Gazette*
Norwich—*The Evening Sun*
Ogdensburg—*Ogdensburg Journal*
Olean—*The Times Herald*
Oneida—*Oneida Daily Dispatch*
Oswego—*The Palladium Times*
Plattsburgh—*Press-Republican*
Poughkeepsie—*Poughkeepsie Journal*
Rochester—*Democrat and Chronicle*
Rochester—*The Daily Record*
Rome—*Daily Sentinel*
Salamanca—*Salamanca Press*
Saranac Lake—*Adirondack Daily Enterprise*
Saratoga Springs—*The Saratogian*
Schenectady—*The Daily Gazette*
Staten Island—*Staten Island Advance*
Syracuse—*The Post-Standard*
Troy—*The Record*
Utica—*Observer-Dispatch*
Watertown—*Watertown Daily Times*
White Plains—*The Journal News*

5. Distinguished Beat Reporting

Winning entries demonstrate sustained and knowledgeable coverage of a particular subject or activity of local interest.

6. Distinguished Editorial Writing

Winning entries demonstrate a genuine concern for local community problems; courage in taking a position regardless of the popular view and/or against the newspaper's own self-interest; originality of viewpoint and style; and other pertinent criteria.

7. Distinguished Feature Writing

Winning entries showcase good writing in non-deadline situations, and may include personality profiles, trend stories, narratives and general features; and demonstrate style, originality and the ability to make readers laugh, cry or feel.

8. Distinguished Sports Writing

Winning entries demonstrate effective coverage of the people, institutions or trends in the local sports community employing thorough, thoughtful, fair, and resourceful reporting as well as quality writing.

9. Distinguished Column Writing

Winning entries demonstrate originality, insight, wit, the capacity to illuminate character, and the capacity to enhance the reader's understanding of persons and events in the community served by the newspaper.

10. Distinguished Sports Column Writing

Winning entries demonstrate originality, insight, wit, the capacity to illuminate character, and the capacity to enhance the reader's understanding of persons and events in local or national sports.

11. Distinguished Headline Writing

Winning entries demonstrate clarity, creativity, and the capacity to distill and capture the essence of the story.

12. Distinguished Community Service

Winning entries demonstrate effort and effect on the part of the local newspaper toward the improvement of the community served, as well as an effort on the newspaper's part to engage the community through both traditional and new media.

13. Distinguished State Government Coverage

Winning entries demonstrate effective newspaper coverage of state government as manifested in service to the community; skillful investigative reporting and excellence in writing style, editing, display, and other pertinent criteria; and deal primarily with an aspect of state government - the legislature, executive branch, a specific state agency, etc. - and how it relates to the community.

14. Distinguished Page Design/Presentation

Winning entries demonstrate strong visual appeal, style and originality; and should enhance the written content, making it easy to understand or navigate.

15. Distinguished News Photography

Winning entries demonstrate news value, timeliness, communicative effectiveness, and skill as shown in composition and technical quality.

16. Distinguished Feature Photography

Winning entries demonstrate imagination in the handling of feature subjects; communicative effectiveness; appeal to reader interest; and skill in composition, technical quality, and cropping.

17. Distinguished Sports Photography

Winning entries sharply capture the drama inherent in human athletic competition and draw the reader's eye to peak action, capturing the moment and communicating it on an emotional level with a high degree of technical skill, composition and quality.

18. Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

Winning entries consist of a series of photographs which appeared on a newspaper's website in a single gallery; and enhance the story to which the gallery is attached, while demonstrating the highest standards of photojournalism.

19. Distinguished Online Blog

Winning entries demonstrate timeliness, originality, insight, reader interaction and the capacity to enhance the reader's understanding of persons and events in the community served by the newspaper.

20. Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

Winning entries demonstrate work that incorporates distinguished journalistic storytelling via media other than the print format; and may consist of web-based interactive graphics and displays, videos, photo galleries and audio slideshows, or any combination of all of these elements.

21. Distinguished News Supplement

Winning entries demonstrate imaginative layout and design; creative use of headlines; solid, staff-written articles; and high-quality photos relating to a breaking news event; and show knowledge of and connection with the newspaper's community, and must contain primarily locally-produced content.

22. Distinguished Sports Supplement

Winning entries demonstrate imaginative layout and design; creative use of headlines; solid, staff-written articles; and high-quality photos relating to a local or national sporting event; and show knowledge of and connection with the newspaper's community, and must contain primarily locally-produced content.

23. Distinguished Feature Supplement

Winning entries demonstrate imaginative layout and design; creative use of headlines; solid, staff-written articles; and high-quality photos relating to a common feature; and show knowledge of and connection with the newspaper's community, and must contain primarily locally-produced content.

Following is the list of winners:

Under 10,000 Circulation		
<i>Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake</i>		
Breaking News Coverage	40+ inches of snow	Staff
Feature Photography	Bubble show	Chris Knight
Business Reporting	Local radio stations die	Chris Knight, Glynis Hart, Peter Crowley
Sports Photography	Storm heads off Peru	Lou Reuter
Column Writing	The Inseide Dope	Bob Seidenstein
Editorial Writing	Be honorable; the world is watching	Peter Crowley

Under 10,000 Circulation		
<i>Observer, Dunkirk</i>		
Beat Reporting	Building Blocks	Rebecca Cuthbert
Sports Writing	Pitch Count	Jeremy Izzio
<i>The Citizen, Auburn</i>		
Live Sports Coverage	Lakers take title	Justin Ritzel, Kevin Rivoli
Online Blog	Eye on NY	Robert Harding
Multi-Media Presentation	Bread of Life	Kevin Rivoli
News Supplement	Progress 2017: Taking tourism's temperature	Staff
State Government Coverage	The community liaison	Robert Harding
<i>The Cortland Standard</i>		
Feature Supplement	Celebrating 150 Years	Staff
<i>The Daily Messenger, Canandaigua</i>		
Feature Writing	In the line of fire	Julie Sherwood
<i>The Highlands Current, Cold Spring/Beacon</i>		
Headline Writing	\$4.2 Million? Dam!	Chip Rowe
Community Service	Fighting Back: The Opioid Crisis	Staff
News Photography	Main Street Snowstorm	Ross Corsair
Online Photo Gallery	Twin Forts Day	Ross Corsair
<i>The Palladium Times, Oswego</i>		
Page Design/Presentation	June 10 Front Page	Andrew Poole
Investigative Reporting	Oswego landlord charged with sexually harassing women	Benjamin Kail, Matthew Reitz
<i>Wellsville Daily Reporter</i>		
Sports Supplement	Spectator Great 8	Chris Potter, Chris Brooks, Sean Curran, Bill Collmer

10,000 – 24,999 Circulation***Finger Lakes Times, Geneva***

Business Reporting	Place your bets	Alan Brignall, Mike Cutillo, David Shaw, Steve Buchiere, Mike Hibbard
Beat Reporting	Downtown Geneva Beat Coverage	Steve Buchiere
Sports Column Writing	The 700 Level	Pat McDonald
Community Service	Community Giving: Making a Difference	Staff
Sports Photography	State Champion	Spencer Tulis
Online Photo Gallery	The Inauguration of Donald Trump	Spencer Tulis
News Supplement	Tribute to the Gearans	Steve Buchiere, Mike Cutillo, David Shaw, Spencer Tulis
Sports Supplement	Football 2017	Alan Brignall
Feature Supplement	Indulge	Marisa Enzinna, Mary Schoonover, Spencer Tulis, Krista Gleason, Susan Clark Porter

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Breaking News Coverage	Police: Two dead in murder-suicide	Denise Raymo, Cara Chapman, Lois Clermont
Feature Writing	Diamonds - a boy's best friend	Nathan Ovalle

The Post-Star, Glens Falls

Live Sports Coverage	Federation State Basketball Tournament	Sports Staff
Investigative Reporting	Living in fear	David Blow, Kathleen Phalen-Tomaselli
Editorial Writing	Fighting fake news	Ken Tingley
Sports Writing	A basketball bond	Pete Tobey
Column Writing	Ken Tingley Commentary	Ken Tingley
Headline Writing	Cold shoulder to the shoulder	Luke Parsnow
Page Design/Presentation	News and feature page presentations	Angela Valden
Feature Photography	Warm reception	Kathleen Phalen-Tomaselli
Online Blog	Don Lehman's blog	Don Lehman
Multi-Media Presentation	A flight of a lifetime	Adam Colver

The Post Journal, Jamestown

News Photography	Falconer Buildings Destroyed In Blaze	Eric Tichy
------------------	---------------------------------------	------------

25,000 – 49,999 Circulation***Observer-Dispatch, Utica***

Headline Writing	Jail escaping its past	Fran Perritano
Feature Photography	Salute	Sarah Condon
Sports Photography	Face-plant	Alex Cooper
<i>Poughkeepsie Journal</i>		
Live Sports Coverage	Walkway Marathon	A.J. Martelli, Alex Wagner, Tania Savayan
Business Reporting	Inside look at restaurant inspections	Geoffrey Wilson
Editorial Writing	City of Poughkeepsie buses	John Penney
Feature Writing	City looks to arts as engine of prosperity	John Barry
Sports Writing	Sidelined: Men outnumber women in coaching roles	A.J. Martelli
Multi-Media Presentation	Hudson Valley Forward: Gig Economy	Staff
Feature Supplement	Enjoy!	Staff
Community Service	Hudson Valley Forward	Staff
Sports Column Writing	Stephen Haynes Entry	Stephen Haynes
<i>Staten Island Advance</i>		
Investigative Reporting	The Untreated	Kristin Dalton, Frank Donnelly, Kyle Lawson, Shira Stoll, Mira Wassef
Beat Reporting	The Court Beat	Frank Donnelly
News Photography	Stand-off	Bill Lyons
Column Writing	Tom Wrobleski	Tom Wrobleski

50,000 – 75,000 Circulation***The Post Standard, Syracuse***

Headline Writing	Welcome to Pupstate NY	Mark Libbon
Sports Supplement	1,000 for Boeheim	Staff
Feature Writing	He once ate out of garbage cans and sold drugs, now he's feeding Syracuse's homeless	Marnie Eisenstadt
Editorial Writing	Ben Walsh for Syracuse mayor	Marie Morelli
Sports Photography	Diving for a two-point conversion	Dennis Nett
State Government Coverage	NY's failed program of economic development grants	Tim Knauss
Live Sports Coverage	Syracuse shocks Clemson	Staff
Beat Reporting	Watchdog government reporting by Tim Knauss	Tim Knauss
Page Design/Presentation	1,000 ways to win	Dusty Altena
Sports Writing	Allen Griffin is back in 'place he loves' 13 years after Jim Boeheim told him no	Mike Waters

Times Union, Albany

Feature Supplement	Upstate	Staff
News Photography	Fire ravages Cohoes street	Skip Dickstein, Lori Van Buren
News Supplement	Women@Work	Staff
Breaking News Coverage	Heart of Cohoes burns	Staff
Community Service	Capital Region Gives	Staff
Investigative Reporting	Heavy hand of the law	Brendan J. Lyons
Online Photo Gallery	Eclipse-watching across the Capital Region	Paul Buckowski, Will Waldron, Lori Van Buren
Column Writing	Chris Churchill	Chris Churchill

Times-Herald-Record, Middletown

Online Blog	The Fray - Politics in the Hudson Valley	Chris McKenna
Multi-Media Presentation	The Newburgh Water Crisis	Leonard Sparks, Erik Gliedman
Business Reporting	Legoland Questions Loom Large	Daniel Axelrod, Richard Bayne

The Daily Gazette, Schenectady

Sports Column Writing	Mike MacAdam column: A Seat in the Bleachers	Mike MacAdam
Feature Photography	Spouting knowledge	Marc Schultz

75,000 and Over Circulation***Newsday, Long Island***

Breaking News Coverage	Islanders New Arena	Jim Baumbach, Robert Brodsky
Feature Photography	Fighting Parkinsons	J. Conrad Williams
Sports Photography	Safe at Home	Thomas Ferrara
Investigative Reporting	Separate and Unequal	Matt Clark

The Buffalo News

Live Sports Coverage	Snow globe coverage	Staff
News Photography	The Funeral of Officer Craig E. Lehner	Staff
Page Design/Presentation	The Survivors	Vince Chiaramonte, Mark Mulville, Cathaleen Curtiss
Sports Writing	Curveball	Bucky Gleason
Column Writing	Columns by Sean Kirst	Sean Kirst
Sports Column Writing	Columns by Mike Harrington	Mike Harrington
Sports Supplement	Sabres/NHL Preview	Staff

Democrat & Chronicle, Rochester

Online Photo Gallery	Snow game	Jamie Germano
Feature Writing	Dangerous Embrace	Lauren Peace
Business Reporting	Big Breaks for Business	Joseph Spector, Sean Lahman, Jeff Platsky, Brian Sharp, Jorge Fitz-Gibbon
Beat Reporting	Jon Campbell	Jon Campbell
State Government Coverage	Albany Bureau	Joseph Spector, Jon Campbell
Multi-Media Presentation	School quality index	Justin Murphy
Community Service	Little girl lost	Meaghan McDermott