Celebrating
Newspaper Excellence
And the Winners Are...

NEwSPAPERS OF THE YEAR
The Times Union
The Highlands Current

Stuart C. Dormann Award
Editorial Excellence
The Times Union

John J. Evans Award
Advertising Excellence
Dan’s Paper

2023 Writer of the Year
Kirstyn Brendlen
The Brooklyn Paper

2023 Rookie Reporter of the Year
Lauren Feldman
The Nassau Observer

2023 Sports Writer of the Year
Adam Shinder
The Daily Gazette

2023 Photographer of the Year
Ross Corsair
The Highlands Current

Past Presidents’ Award for General Excellence
The Southampton Press-Eastern — First Place, Division 1
The Northport Observer — First Place, Division 2

Best Front Page
Queens Chronicle — First Place, Division 1
The Southampton Press · Western — First Place, Division 2

Best Editorial Page
The Riverdale Press — First Place
The Northport Observer — Second Place
The Village Sun — Third Place

Photographic Excellence
The Southampton Press · Eastern Edition — First Place
The East Hampton Press — Second Place
Sag Harbor Express — Third Place

Overall Design Excellence
The Southampton Press · Western — First Place
The East Hampton Press — Second Place
Sag Harbor Express — Third Place

Advertising Excellence
Dan’s Papers — First Place
Nassau Herald — Second Place
The News-Review — Third Place
Rockville Centre Herald — Honorable Mention
About the 2023 Better Newspaper Contest …

142 newspapers submitted 2,530 entries.
Participating newspapers competed for awards in 70 categories, and for Newspaper of the Year, the Stuart C. Dorman Award for Editorial Excellence and the John J. Evans Award for Advertising Excellence.

379 awards were presented during NYPA's Spring Conference April 26-27, 2024.
The entries were judged by members of the Tennessee Press Association.
The winners were determined based on the following point system:

- EACH First Place AWARD........................................20 points
- EACH Second Place AWARD...................................10 points
- EACH Third Place AWARD......................................5 points

The Top Five — Group or Chain Newspapers

**TOTAL CONTEST POINTS:**

- **Schneps Media Group — 440 points**
  - Schneps Media Group earned 440 total contest points - 14 first-place awards, 10 second-place awards and 12 third-place awards.  First-place awards include Writer of the Year, Advertising Excellence, Best News Story, Best Feature Story and Best Column.

- **Express News Group — 415 points**
  - The Express News Group earned 415 total contest points including 10 first-place awards, 14 second place awards, and 15 third place awards.  First-place awards include Past President's Award for General Excellence, Best Front Page, Photographic Excellence, Design Excellence, Best Feature Story and Best Sports Action Photo.

- **Times Beacon Newspapers — 175 points**
  - Times Beacon Record earned 175 total contest points including six first-place awards, two-second place awards and seven third-place awards.  First place awards include Feature Photo, Sports Action Photo and Classified Advertising.

- **North Shore News Group — 160 points**
  - The North Shore News Group earned 160 total contest points including four first-place awards, six second-place awards and four third-place awards.  They won Best Innovative Ad Project, Past President’s Award for General Excellence, and several photography awards.

- **Herald Community Newspapers — 155 points**
  - The Herald Community Newspapers earned 155 total contest points including four first-place awards, six second-place awards and three third-place awards.  First-place awards include Best Editorial Page, Coverage of Religion, Best Historical or Anniversary Section and Best Special Section Cover.

The Top Five — Single Flag Newspapers

**TOTAL CONTEST POINTS:**

- **The Highlands Current — 185 points**
- **The Times Union — 185 points**
- **Queens Chronicle — 140 points**
- **Dan’s Papers — 125 points**
- **East Hampton Press — 120 points**
- **amNew York Metro — 110 points**

**THE TOP FIVE — TOTAL EDITORIAL POINTS**

- **The Times Union — 150 points**
- **Queens Chronicle — 140 points**
- **The Highlands Current — 125 points**
- **The East Hampton Press — 110 points**
- **The Adirondack Explorer — 90 points**

**THE TOP FIVE — TOTAL ADVERTISING POINTS**

- **Dan’s Paper — 60 points**
- **The Village Times Herald — 50 points**
- **The Highlands Current — 45 points**
- **The Suffolk Times — 45 points**
- **Saratoga Today — 40 points**
- **North Country This Week — 40 points**
Most competitive categories ...

 CATEGORY 32—FEATURE STORY

Congratulations to the first-place winners in the most competitive category in the contest!

Division 1................................................................................................................Denise Civiletti, Riverheadlocal.com
Division 2................................................................................................................Brendan McDonough, The Daily News
Division 3................................................................................................................Michael Turton, The Highlands Current
Division 4...............................................................................................................Ximena Del Cerro, The Brooklyn Paper
Division 5..............................................................................................................Mayra Kaliaora, Bronx Times Reporter and Bronx Times
Division 6...............................................................................................................Peter Boody, The Southampton Press-Western

 CATEGORY 31—NEWS STORY

The quality of the entries in this category was outstanding — congratulations to:

Division 1...........................................................................................................................Lincoln Anderson, Village Sun
Division 2...................................................................................................Gwendolyn Craig, The Adirondack Explorer
Division 3...................................................................................Gabriele Holtermann, Bay News & Brooklyn Graphic
Division 4.....................................................................................................................Phillip Pantuso, The Times Union

 CATEGORY 40—FEATURE PHOTO(S)

The judges had a particularly difficult time with this competitive category — congratulations to:

Division 1..........................................................................................................................Mark Gutman, The Daily News
Division 2............................................................................................................Martin Stone, The Northport Observer
Division 3........................................................................................................Steven Zait, The Times of Middle Country

 CATEGORY 33—BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES

Many fine examples of excellent research and writing — congratulations to:

Division 1:................................................................................................................Emily Sachar, Andrew Checchia, Robin Cherry, The Daily Catch
Division 2:.............................................................................................................Michael Dorgan, Iryna Shkurhan, Ethan Stark-Miller, amNewYork Metro

 CATEGORY 41—SPORTS ACTION PHOTO(S)

Catching the right image at the right time — congratulations to:

Division 1............................................................................................................Steven Zaitz, The Times of Huntington
Division 2............................................................................................................Marianne Barnett, The East Hampton Press
Division 3..............................................................................................................Steven Zaitz, The Times of Huntington

 CATEGORY 36—BEST COLUMN

Providing perspective... making the reader think, understand and care — congratulations to:

Division 1...................................................................................................................Andy Flynn, Lake Placid News
Division 2.....................................................................................................................Robert Scott, Williston Times
Division 3....................................................................................................................ET Rodriguez, Bronx Times Reporter and Bronx Times

 CATEGORY 30—SPOT NEWS COVERAGE

Great coverage of a single news event — congratulations to:

Division 1................................................................................................................Emily Sachar, Victor Feldman, Ruby Rayner-Haselkorn, The Daily Catch
Division 2..................................................................................................................Ken Sturtz, The Palladium Times
Division 3..................................................................................................................Brendan J. Lyons, Lauren Stanforth, Steve Hughes, Times Union
FIRST PLACE:

LAUREN FELDMAN, THE NASSAU OBSERVER

Lauren started with Anton Media Group in December 2022 as the editor for the Nassau Observer. She oversees all editorial in the Nassau Observer, which includes attending events and doing interviews with people who are part of the story. She is also responsible for getting the paper put together for printing, which includes working with the Production Department and the page designer assigned to her paper.

"Being an editor and journalist for community news," she said, "offers me the unique chance to enter the world of my readers, even if only briefly, and learn about what they value, fight for, and believe in. These past 12 months they have shared their stories with me, and I in turn have shared these stories with the community."

Lauren, born and raised on Long Island, graduated from Dickinson College in 2021 with a degree in English and Creative Writing. She earned her master’s degree media and international development in 2022 from the University of East Anglia overseas in the UK.

The judges said: Lauren’s stories were well written and with attention-grabbing ledes and accompanied by plenty of solid photos.

SECOND PLACE:

ALEX KIELAR, SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

As a staff writer at the Sullivan County Democrat, Alex has covered a number of stories, from county and town government to breaking news, sports and feature stories. He also contributed to the Democrat’s 50-plus special sections, including the graduation spread in the paper’s biggest issue of the year.

Since joining the Sullivan County Democrat in March of 2023, I have strived to bring attention to important topics and highlight the stories of the community," he said. "Through my work, I have aimed to provide accurate and objective reporting to inform and engage readers. Along with writing all my articles, I have also learned the ins and outs of getting the best photos possible at every event I have covered. I have always been a writer first, but photography has begun to be an avenue to improve upon through my role."

Alex grew up in Pennsylvania and has been a freelance sportswriter since high school graduation. He covered the Scranton/Wilkes Barre Railriders, the Yankees Triple A team, for the Pinstriped Prospects, a website covering the New York Yankees’ minor league system. He attended Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, where he was involved with the student newspaper and got his first taste of reporting on a small-scale level. Alex would write numerous sports stories and feature pieces and ended his freshman year being appointed an assistant sports editor. After two years at Wilkes, Alex transferred to Lackawanna College's branch campus in Hawley, PA where he graduated with an Associate’s Degree in Sports Management in the Spring of 2021.

The judges said: "Well written, good coverage".

THIRD PLACE:

KRISTEN GUGLIELMO, QUEENS CHRONICLE

Kristen Guglielmo is the editor whose primary responsibilities are covering South Queens and education issues boroughwide for the Queens Chronicle, though her reporting goes well beyond that. She covers everything from government and crime to changing demographics to the performing arts and new books. Kristen pursued her passion for storytelling at CUNY Baruch College, earning a Bachelor of Arts in journalism in December 2019. Prior to her current position, she delved into the world of freelance writing and tutoring, honing her skills and building a strong foundation. In her free time, she enjoys reading and writing contemporary fiction and playing guitar.

The judges said: “Well written with interesting topics”
Excellence Awards

PAST PRESIDENTS’ AWARD
Division 1
First Place
The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition
Southampton
This newspaper is intensely local from the front of the book to the back of the book. Strong headlines that hook readers into stories. Great art, color and content. The Southampton Press reflects the soul of its community. This entry is the best in a highly competitive division. Well done.

Second Place
The East Hampton Press
East Hampton
This paper has a clean look with some nice inside pages that are clearly designated. Newsy from front to back. Quality ads that attract the eye.

Third Place
The Suffolk Times
Mattituck
This newspaper distinguishes itself through its news coverage and clear reporting. Nice layouts and enticing headlines and photos. This is a great newspaper.

PAST PRESIDENTS’ AWARD
Division 2
First Place
The Northport Observer
Northport
Beautiful newspaper with great content. Solid reporting and concise writing rich in human elements. Nicely designed. This newspaper provides a strong editorial voice for its audience. Engaging ads.

Second Place
The Riverdale Press
Riverdale
A strong newspaper with rich and newsy content from front to back. We enjoyed an engaging editorial page and eye-catching front pages.

Third Place
Queens Chronicle
Queens
The Queens Chronicle delivers strong news content that is supported by engaging advertisements. Good use of photos make for an elegantly designed newspaper.

“ROOKIE” REPORTER OF THE YEAR
First Place
The Nassau Observer
Hicksville
Lauren Feldman
Her leads grab the reader’s attention. Solid writing and attentive reporting.

Second Place
Niagara Gazette
Niagara
Nick Sabato
This writer is a very good storyteller. After reading the lead to the Roy Kinyon story I thought I was there in the room. Good job.

Third Place
The Times of Huntington
Huntington
Steven Zaltz
This writer does a good job of putting the reader into the action. And I like that he doesn’t take 20 words to say what he can say in 10. I liked his work very much.

HONORABLE MENTION
Long Beach Herald
Long Beach
Tony Bellissimo
HONORABLE MENTION
Southampton Press
Western

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
First Place
The Highlands Current
Philipsport
Ross Corsair
This 2023 portfolio shows that the photographer can find great photos in a variety of assignments. This is one of the most important skills among newspaper photographers. The judges noted that not one photograph stood out because almost all of them are equal in quality. The judges’ favorite photographs include St. Patrick’s Day parade, notable for how well the young person is framed between two flags and how the red beret and the red in the flag ties the elements of the photograph together; the portrait of the firefighters and that featuring 10 people in one good photograph is a near miraculous feat; and the young ballplayer being encouraged. You can sense every bit of that encouragement. It’s a beautiful moment. His photographs are exceptional in quality and variety. These photographs show off the wonder and moments in a community and that makes for great photojournalism.

Second Place
Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor
Dana Shaw
The first thing the judges noticed about her work is how she is everywhere and shooting everything. The judges, a group of seasoned newspaper photographers, couldn’t believe that one photographer can be at so many assignments and were duly impressed. The judges’ favorite photos include the fire fighter, squirrel leaping onto a chair, and the mail carrier. The photograph of the mail carrier is beautiful in showing how one person can have a big impression in a community. It’s a story in a single photograph, a feat that even the most veteran photographers have difficulty achieving.

Third Place
The East Hampton Star
East Hampton
Durrell Godfrey
This work is charming and charismatic. The judges’ favorite photos include the group slip-and-slide, lifeguards on the beach, and the child playing with rubber ducks in the puddle. What makes the slip-and-slide photo compelling is the ability to see almost every person’s face and expression among a large group of people. The photograph is dripping, pun intended, with excitement.

BEST FRONT PAGE
Division 1
First Place
Queens Chronicle
Queens
Jan Schulman and Joseph Berni
These editors made the best use of graphics and photo illustrations on the cover of any entry in the category. The three cover stories are a good mix of news, breaking news and issues.

Second Place
The Times of Huntington
Huntington
The decision to use sports photos on the cover creates opportunities for compelling photos. The promo package is consistently clean and easy to read.

Third Place
Gay City News
New York
Matt Tracy, Donna Acioto and Leah Mitch
This newspaper has a very clean design. Its headlines, photos and layout worked well together to provide even more impact for story topics.

HONORABLE MENTION
The Brooklyn Paper
Brooklyn
Aidan Graham, Kirstyn Brendlen and Leah Mitch
These covers had strong headlines and unique photos. I think I would enjoy reading this paper each week.

BEST FRONT PAGE
Division 2
First Place
The Southampton Press-Western Edition
Westhampton Beach
The designer gives the reader many entry points to the page and the covers consistently show strong design elements. There is a good mix of news and feature stories and the photo choices are strong, providing impactful photos on the page.

Second Place
Lake Placid News
Lake Placid
Andy Flynn
The front-page designer uses creativity well. The cover of mug shots for Community Day was compelling. The decision to use sports photos makes the page more interesting.

Third Place
The East Hampton Press
East Hampton
This section has a consistently clean design. There are good decisions being made on story selection and the photos make a big impact.
Writer of the Year, 2023
There were 41 entries in this category

**First Place:**

**KIRSTYN BRENDLEN,**
**The Brooklyn Paper**

A New Jersey native and enthusiast, Kirstyn is *Brooklyn Paper*’s digital editor and a reporter covering northern Brooklyn from Greenpoint to Gowanus. She has twice before been named NYPA Writer of the Year. Kirstyn is a New Jersey native and enthusiast.

The judges said: “Great stories. Kirstyn’s style of writing makes you feel a part of each of her stories. Her story spotlighting memory loss was very informative, inspirational and heart-warming. The article titled ‘A fire and a foreclosure’ raises eyebrows about the building going down in flames that was facing financial jeopardy. Very well done job of reporting and writing. In all five articles, Kirstyn demonstrates a nice mix of investigative journalism and thought provoking questions.

**Second Place:**

**MICHAEL WRIGHT,**
**The East Hampton Press**

Michael Wright has been a reporter for the *Press* and *Express* newspapers for 24 years. He currently covers East Hampton Town and Village governments, environmental and historic preservation, the housing crisis and the burgeoning offshore wind industry. He also writes a bi-weekly outdoors column “In The Field” that examines regulations on the fishing industry, the health of fish stocks and the evolving fishing communities on the South Fork.

The judges said: “Very well written and documented stories about local issues facing the community. Michael’s writing and reporting style is no question a reflection of the passion and empathy he has for his readership and community he serves. His writings capture a wide variety of individual stories that are starting to disappear on newsprint across the country. These are the kind of stories Americans love to read about. Great job, Michael.”

**Third Place:**

**ADAM STONE,**
**The Examiner**

Adam Stone founded the Examiner Media newspaper group in 2007, following more than six years of experience as a community news beat reporter. He’s been recognized by the New York Press Association for his columns, editorials, news reporting, and sports features.

In 2022, Stone launched Stone’s Throw, a weekly column that blends in-depth news reporting, first-person opinion writing, deep-dive features, and investigative journalism.

The column focuses on putting local human faces on national issues, exploring topics of broad importance and connecting them to the *Examiner* coverage area in Westchester and Putnam counties in New York’s lower Hudson Valley.

The judges said: “Fantastic investigative reporting. Adam Stone takes a deep, inside look at a tragic story of a local woman stonewalled by a local, corporate giant.”
Excellence Awards

Best Editorial Page

First Place
The Riverdale Press-Riverdale
Gary Larkin and Michael Himman

The editorial section is diverse, eye-catching, and well-balanced in design. Topics are relevant to readers, well-written, and provide a wide variety of topics of interest.

Second Place
The Northport Observer-Northport

The editorial section was well-designed and balanced for user readability. The content was relevant to readership and provided an excellent platform for community engagement.

Third Place
The Village Sun-New York

Lincoln Anderson, Kate Walter, Marcella Durand and Gayle Kirshenbaum

I appreciate the style and overall design of these editorials. The topics were relevant to the community and area and well-written.

Honorable Mention
Williston Times-Williston Park

The typography chosen for these editorials is a bit small and hinders readability, but the layout and design are well-executed. The columns are well-written.

Photographic Excellence

First Place
The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition-Southampton

The judges were highly impressed with the quality and abundance of photography presented throughout the paper. Standout photographs for the July 6 edition include 77th Powwow on A1, sports front on A23, and Garden Ramble on R1. In the Sept. 7 edition, the best photos are High Stepping on A1, 4th of July parade on A21, sports front of A26, R1. The judges found the Sept. 7 A23 sports front to be exceptional. Special mention goes to the creative use of cutout photographs, which can be tricky in terms of maintaining the integrity of a photograph, but the paper did a fine job using cutouts to add visual depth to the pages. The July 6 stories on bees and libraries are the best examples of what this newspaper’s photography accomplishes, and what many news organizations strive for: enthralling a reader’s experience by complementing excellent photography with great design.

Second Place
The East Hampton Press-East Hampton

The judges were impressed by the hard news photography on the front page of the July 20 paper. It is compelling work showing the conflict between protesters and law enforcement. Other great photographs include Soldier Ride Returns on A17 and the triathlon on pages A20, 22, and 23. For the Sept. 21 paper, the Free Life load photo is beautiful even at 53 years old.

Third Place
Sag Harbor Express-Sag Harbor

The judges enjoyed the HarborFrost photos of the Feb. 9 edition, and would have liked to see even more space devoted to the photos! The Class of 2023 photos in the June 29 edition were well-done.

Overall Design Excellence

First Place
The Southampton Press-Western Edition-Westhampton Beach
Sara Mannino Kent

Love the typography and design of this publication. There were many entries that were super well done, but this one is the best. The ad team hit an upper-deck home run with its messaging and design.

Second Place
The East Hampton Press-East Hampton
Sara Mannino Kent

Great use of photos and laid out beautifully across all sections and ads.

Third Place
Sag Harbor Express-Sag Harbor
Sara Mannino Kent

Beautiful sections with inviting pictures. Great layouts. Different where it counts, easy on the eyes, classy.

Advertising Excellence

First Place
Dan’s Papers-Bridgehampton
Stephanie Bittis and Marcos Ramos

Beautiful entries.

Second Place
Nassau Herald-Lawrence

Good special section. Loved the Dance Workshop ad design. The Christmas wrapping paper idea is a good one.

Third Place
The News-Review-Riverhead

Strong classified advertising section. Liked use of white space. Also refreshing to see a publication without agency advertising.

Honorable Mention
Rockville Centre Herald-Rockville Centre

Loved your breast cancer awareness section. Great design and consistency.

Community Leadership

First Place
Shelter Island Reporter-Shelter Island

Julie Lane and Ambrose Clancy

The community’s Medicaid population is small, but never mind! The staff went after a crazy bureaucratic nightmare to probe, report and hammer on government not doing its job for a vulnerable population. This series showed persistence — the consistent pressure and exposure likely was the fuel that heated up bureaucrats’ backends to get prescription service restored to the elderly and low-income. Congratulations on this set of stories which were thoroughly reported and well edited.

Second Place
The Examiner-Mount Kisco
Adam Stone

This writer is a pitbull on steroids! You can’t beat a little “outrage” media coverage to make public officials change their tune ASAP. The power of the press and people is STRONG!

Best News Web Site

First Place
City & State-New York

This website has a clean design with an obvious and well-constructed hierarchy. It loads quickly and is easy to navigate.

Second Place
AmNewYork Metro-New York

This is a creative and dynamic website with a bold design. The inclusion of videos and inline photos in stories adds depth to the reader’s experience.

Third Place
The Ithaca Voice-Ithaca

This website has a very clean design that is simple and easy to navigate.

Investigative/In-Depth Reporting

Division 1
First Place
Niagara Gazette-Niagara
Mark Scher

This series of entries includes reporting that goes well beyond basic reporting. The stories include well-documented facts and good use of the Freedom of Information Act. The series also clearly explain the roles of the Western Regional OTB to the reader, emphasizing the importance of what’s being reported. The stories also include great detail and real reporting effort. It’s clear this reporter went above and beyond to get the facts. Well done.

Division 2
First Place
The Daily Catch-Albany

Joanne Beck

As one reader commented, this truly is fascinating coverage. Readers can tell a great deal of research effort and reporting went into this project. This series is a gem of an investigative piece any community would certainly enjoy. Well done!

Investigative/In-Depth Reporting

Division 1

Second Place
The Batavian-Batavia
Joanne Beck

This entry includes extensive reporting on a local apartment development. The stories include great detail on information the community was likely very interested to learn, including the developments that took place over time. The reporter and the newsroom team clearly dove into this topic, covering it from the early stages and even through the final result. Bravo.

Third Place
The East Hampton Star-East Hampton
Christine Sampson and Christopher Walsh

This entry includes compelling storytelling on top of in-depth investigating. I appreciate the multiple sides of the story covered in this series. Good use of the Freedom of Information Act, as well. Well done.

Honorable Mention
The Brooklyn Paper-Brooklyn

Kirstyn Brendlen

This story includes great detail and extensive reporting with figures, court documents and resident testimonies. Very well done.

Honorable Mention
The Columbia Paper- Ghent

Deborah Lans

This series expertly includes quotes and first-person experiences with figures and data, making for a compelling investigative series. It also includes an introduction to the problem, as well as possible solutions. Very well done.

Honorable Mention
The Daily Catch-Red Hook

Emily Sachar

As one reader commented, this truly is fascinating coverage. Readers can tell a great deal of research effort and reporting went into this project. This series is a gem of an investigative piece any community would certainly enjoy. Well done!

Investigative/In-Depth Reporting

Division 2
First Place
The Daily Catch-Albany

Josh Solomon

This series breaks down a complex issue with clear reporting and considerable research. The series had a quantifiable, real-world impact and demonstrates strong investigative skills. Nice work.
Sports Writer of the Year
There were 14 entries in this category

**First Place:**
**Adam Shinder,**
**The Daily Gazette**
Adam serves as the deputy director of content for The Daily Gazette Co.'s family of newspapers. In that role, beyond his own reporting, Shinder oversees the organization's sports department. Shinder primarily covers high school and college sports, and also plays a crucial role in the pagination of the company's print products. Shinder has worked with the company since 2019.

The judges said: “I think this writer's work shows a lot of attention to detail. The leads are strong and the writer communicates essential information to the readers, explaining the details of the sport.”

**Second Place:**
**Nick Sabato,**
**Niagara Gazette**
In addition to serving as sports editor for the Niagara Gazette, Nick Sabato writes on local issues and covers Niagara University sports and the Buffalo Bills.

The judges said: “This writer is a very good storyteller. After reading the lede to the Roy Kin-yon story I thought I was there in the room. Good job.”

**Third Place:**
**Steven Zaitz,**
**The Times of Huntington**
Steven Zaitz has been a writer and a photographer for the Times Beacon Record family of newspapers since he moved to Suffolk County in 2019. He has covered everything from championship-level high school football, equestrian sports, polar plunges, to holiday craft fairs in the school gym – always endeavoring to find the interesting vantage point in each. As a boy, he consumed all the local New York papers, wrote a column for the high school monthly, and landed the highly coveted job of public address announcer for football and basketball games by junior year.

The judges said: “This writer does a good job of putting the reader into the action. And I like that he doesn’t take 20 words to say what he can say in 10. I liked his work very much.”
Excellence Awards

**Coverage of Local Government**

**Division 1**

**First Place**

**Westmore News**

Port Chester

Jennarane Abel and Jeremiah Hassel

Entries cover diverse current political issues in the community and are presented in a well-written, well-designed platform. Photos provide good supplemental material.

**Second Place**

**THE VILLAGE SUN**

New York

Lincoln Anderson

Articles are well articulated with accompanying photos that bring the story to life. Issues are relevant to the community. Reports are executed in an objective manner that truly empowers the reader to have a dynamic understanding of the issue(s) at hand.

**Third Place**

**Niagara Gazette**

Niagara

Mark Scheer and Rick Pfeiffer

Topics are relevant issues of community concern/interest. Reports are very well-written. Photographs provide a great supplement to the stories.

**Honorable Mention**

**Sag Harbor Express**

Sag Harbor

Stephen J. Kotz

Content is well-written. Reports are interesting and relevant to community issues and concerns.

**Coverage of Education**

**Division 1**

**First Place**

**Putnam County Courier**

Carmel

Eric Gross

There were so many fantastic entries in this category. The paper stood out for maintaining attention to detail while juggling so many stories. Great job.

**Second Place**

**THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT**

Philipsburg

Joey Asher, Jeff Simms, Erin-Leigh Hoffman, and Mackenzie Boric

A great look at a variety of topics. Hot button issues are always great, but I particularly enjoyed the approach to the RHS 50th Class Reunion.

**Third Place**

**THE BROOKLYN PAPER**

Brooklyn

Solid coverage and a brilliant take on the "back to school" story. Well done.

**Honorable Mention**

**East Meadow Herald**

East Meadow

Mallory Wilson

Well-written and well-researched reports. The writer did a great job on the "back to school" story. Well done.

**Second Place**

**THE PHOTO NEWS**

Monroe

Becca Tucker, Molly Colgan and Gail B. Hoffer-Lobli

An in-depth look at complex issues in an appealing way. Very impressive.

**Third Place**

**THE SMITHTOWN NEWS**

SmiThTON

David Ambro

Excellent layout. Reports are executed well for easy readability.

**Coverage of Business, Financial & Economic News**

**Division 2**

**First Place**

**The Spotlight (Delmar)**

Delmar

Dave Abbott and Michael Hallisey

Love the layout and the content! A true guide to entertainment in the community!

**Second Place**

**AmNewYork Metro**

New York

Ben Brachfeld

Great images that really supplement and bring the story to life. The overall design and readability is well-executed, and topics are relevant, interesting, and attention-grabbing.

**Third Place**

**Niagara Gazette**

Niagara

Ariama Long

Entries highlight relevant news for the community in a well-articulated manner. Photos provide good supplemental material to accompany article.

**Coverage of the Arts**

**Division 1**

**First Place**

**The Arts and Business Express**

Saratoga Springs

Benjamin Pomerance

Peter Mastrosimone, Michael Gannon, Naisha Rose, Ariella Kissin and Sophie Krichevsky

Pleasant mix of news, photos, and interesting topics.

**Second Place**

**AmNewYork Metro**

New York

Ben Brachfeld

Excellent layout. Reports are eye-catching and cover a variety of controversial local government topics.

**Third Place**

**THE SUN**

Chester

Ariana Long

A great look at a variety of topics.

**Honorable Mention**

**The Photo News**

Monroe

Becca Tucker, Molly Colgan and Gail B. Hoffer-Lobli

An in-depth look at complex issues in an appealing way. Well done.

**Second Place**

**The Brooklyn Paper**

Brooklyn

Solid coverage and a brilliant take on the "back to school" story. Well done.

**Third Place**

**Smithtown Messenger**

Smithtown

Michael J. Reistetter

Well-written and well-researched reports. The writer did a great job on the "back to school" story. Well done.
Photographer of the Year, 2023

There were 13 entries in this category

FIRST PLACE:
ROSS CORSAIR,
THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT

Ross Corsair, photographer for The Highlands Current, was born and raised overseas, living in Europe, Asia and Africa. He apprenticed in college in New York City as an actor under the two-time Toby winner, Wilford Leach, director of the New York Shakespeare Festival. He has been a cameraman for indie features, shorts, documentaries, nonprofits and television. He has won five daytime Emmys, including one for camerawork. The judges said: “Ross Corsair’s 2023 portfolio shows that the photographer can find great photographs in a variety of assignments. This is one of the most important skills among newspaper photographers. The judges noted that not one photograph stood out because almost all of them are equal in quality. Corsairs’ photographs are exceptional in quality and variety. These photographs show off the wonderful moments in a community and that makes for great photojournalism.”

SECOND PLACE:
DANA SHAW,
SAG HARBOR EXPRESS

Originally from Western Pennsylvania, Dana moved to the East End of Long Island in May of 1998 to work as the first full-time photographer at The Southampton Press. In 1999 she was promoted to photo editor. She earned Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Communications at Point Park University in Pittsburgh in 1989, where she met her husband, Joe Shaw. In 1989 she started career in journalism as an assistant editor/reporter/photographer for the weekly newspapers: The Reynoldsdale Star, The Sykesville Post Dispatch and the Brockway Record and worked as reporter for the daily the Punxsutawney Spirit in Punxsutawney (home of the groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil), Penn. While working for those papers she discovered she had a knack for photography. She then went on to the daily paper The Leader Times in Kittanning, PA., where she became their chief photographer. She has been married to Joe for 31 years in August. In her spare time she is a rescue and transport volunteer for the Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center. The judges said: “The first thing we noticed about Dana Shaw’s work is how she is everywhere and shooting everything. The judges, a group of seasoned news photographers, couldn’t believe that one photographer can be at so many assignments and were duly impressed. Our favorite photos include the fire breather, squirrel leaping onto a chair, and the mail carrier. The photograph of the mail carrier is beautiful in showing how one person can have a big impression in a community. It’s a story in a single photograph, a feat that even the most veteran photographers have difficulty achieving.”

THIRD PLACE:
DURELL GODFREY,
THE EAST HAMPTON STAR

Durell Godfrey has worked as a photojournalist for The East Hampton Star for over 20 years. During that time she has photographed just about everything from celebrities to sunsets, sports to ballet performances, horse shows to house tours, political parties to whale watches, and many, many, many parades. If it holds still, she will take a picture of it. If it is moving, she and her camera will keep trying to get the shot. Durell’s photographs -- and her unique and thoughtful way of seeing the world -- serve as a chronicle of life in East Hampton, in 2023 and every year. The judges said: “Durell Godfrey’s work is charming and charismatic. The judges favorite photos include the group slip-and-slide, lifeguards on the beach, and the child playing with rubber ducks in the puddle. What makes the slip-and-slide photo compelling is the ability to see almost every person’s face and expression among a large group of people. The photograph is dripping, pun intended, with excitement.”
Excellent Awards

Special Mention

The Daily Catch
Andrew Checchia, Ruth Oxenberg, Emily Sachar and Victor Feldman

Coverage of Health, Health Care & Science
First Place
Times Union
Albany
Rachel Silverstein
Excellent coverage of an overlooked health issue in the U.S. The writer’s experience in the dental field clearly gave her insight and deep knowledge of the issue. Deeply reported and written with authority that gives the reader confidence.

Second Place
Cortland Standard
Cortland
Margaret Mollot
Personalizing nursing home care deficiencies with one family’s story was done with sensitivity and thorough reporting. This writer knows how to frame health care issues, provide relevant detail and an appropriate number of sources, including records. The homelessness coverage keeps the spotlight on challenges facing service providers and some workable ways to meet this population’s needs. A short, more newsy story on flavored tobacco shows that informative health care issue coverage can be done quickly and in compressed space.

Third Place
Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor
Michael Wright, Desiree Keegan, Kitty Merrill, Michelle Trauring, Cailin Riley and Stephen Kotz
This set of stories was well-reported and mixed with a mix of relevant sources; the package covered a nice range of angles on the pandemic. I especially liked the schools coverage since experience in the dental field clearly gave her insight and deep knowledge of the issue. Deeply reported and written with authority that gives the reader confidence.

Headline Writing
First Place
Queens Chronicle
Queens
Peter C. Mastrostrome, Sophie Krigevsky and Michael Gannon
Editor showed good skill with cover stories with the small space given for headlines. Limited word-play on non-cover stories was good. Using money figures in headline always appeals to readers.

Second Place
The Palladium Times
Oswego
Charles Ellis
Editor made a good decision to use a quote as the headline for a news story. Headlines were consistently informative throughout the section.

Third Place
Bay News & Brooklyn Graphic
Brooklyn
Aidan Graham, Kirstyn Brendlen and Leah Mitchell
Headlines do a solid job of conveying impact of story. Word-play shows strong headline skills.

Honorable Mention
The Villager (NYC)
New York
Leah Mitch, Meaghan McGoldrick, O’Neil and Robert Pozarycki
Headlines are presented in a conversational tone that appeals to a lot of readers. Use of word-play in headlines works well here.

Coverage of Crime, Police, Courts
Division 1
First Place
The Southampton Press-Western Edition
West Hampton Beach
Tom Gagola and Brendan J. O’Reilly
These stories represent great examples of bulldog-like investigation and follow through.

Second Place
City & State
New York
Rebecca C. Lewis and Peter Sterne
The stories are well-researched, well-written and clearly explain a somewhat complex topic.

Third Place
The East Hampton Press
East Hampton
Desiree Keegan, Michelle Trauring, Tom Gagola, Michael Wright and TE McMorran
This entry featured a nice variety of strong topics, deeply reported and well-told.

Honorable Mention
Adirondack Daily Enterprise
Saranac Lake
Lauren Yates and Aaron Mabone

Honorable Mention
The Ithaca Voice
Ithaca
Judy Lucas and Matt Butler

Second Place
The Riverdale Press
Riverdale
Eric Harvey, Stacy Driks and Gary Larkin
This shows overall excellent coverage in a variety of cases. The stories were well written and accompanied by art, making them even more appealing to the reader.

Third Place
Long Island Press
Syosset
Timothy Bolger
These stories show excellent background and investigative work. They were well written and styled in a way that made me want to continue reading to the very end.

Honorable Mention
The West Side Spirit
New York
Keith Kelly

Coverage of Elections/Politics
First Place
Smithtown Messenger
Smithtown
Michael J. Reistetter
Wow. A fantastic look behind the curtains of a national scandal. Very nicely done!

Second Place
The River Reporter
Narrowsburg
Ruby Rayner-Haselkorn and Pamela Chergotis
Excellent coverage. The stories were educational and engaging. Very well done!

Third Place
Times Union
Albany
Wendy Liberatore
Very nice coverage following an election after a scandal. Nicely done!

Honorable Mention
The Village Sun
New York
Lincoln Anderson, Mary Reinholz and Mason Leib
Excellent coverage on a wide range of political topics.

Historical, Anniversary, or Progress Editions
First Place
Nassau Herald
Lawrence
Jeffrey Bessen and Jeffrey Negrin
Quality work all around. Lots of local voices made the content relatable — rabbis, students who traveled to Israel and those who serve in the IDF. Good use of photographs. The timeline was well designed and a nice addition.

Second Place
City & State
New York
Shanell Destrax and Jeff Coltin
This was well done from the powerful and eye-catching cover image to the comprehensive content.

Third Place
Queens Chronicle
Queens
This publication gave me a great sense of the community and covered all the bases. Excellent work!

Coverage of Religion
First Place
Rockville Centre Herald
Rockville Centre
Daniel Offner
This entry demonstrates both depth and variety in its religion coverage. Nice work.

Second Place
Press-Republican
Plattsburgh
Robin Caudell
The reporter demonstrates variety and thorough reporting in this entry. Nice work.

Third Place
Warwick Advertiser
Warwick
Bob Quinn and Mandy Corston
This entry features quality reporting on important topics in its religious community. Nice work.

Sports Feature
Division 1
First Place
Adirondack Daily Enterprise
Saranac Lake
Parker O’Brien
This wonderful feature takes an unforgettable moment in sports history and relates how one of the key figures in the “Miracle on Ice” moment revisited that the historic place that it occurred. The storytelling is so wonderful that, early in the article, it makes you feel as if you were there with this family experiencing what they were experiencing, especially in how that it tells of the children’s reaction as they encountered different things in the hockey arena at Lake Placid. This doesn’t just give us a look through the eyes of Mike Eruzione but also through the eyes of those who are closest to him. It also gives us a glimpse of his human side by painting a wonderful picture of who he is in the present day as “Papa” and what it means to both he and his family now to be living with one that so many people see as a legend. It’s well-sourced and simply a wonderful effort in storytelling. The writer nails it!
**BEST FRONT PAGE, 2023**

**FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 1**

**THE QUEENS CHRONICLE**

Jan Schulman and Joseph Berni

The judges said: "These entries made the best use of graphics and photo illustrations on the cover of any entry in the category. The three cover stories are a good mix of news, breaking news and issues."

**SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 1**

**THE TIMES OF HUNTINGTON**

The judges said: "The decision to use sports photos on the cover creates opportunities for compelling photos. The promos package is consistently clean and easy to read."

**THIRD PLACE — DIVISION 1**

Matt Tracy, Donna Aceto, and Leah Mitch

**GAY CITY NEWS**

The judges said: "This newspaper has a very clean-looking design. Its headlines, photos and design worked well together to provide even more impact of story topics."

**FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 2**

**THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN**

The judges said: "The designer gives the reader many entry points to the page and the covers consistently show strong design elements. There is a good mix of news and feature stories and the photo choices are strong, providing impactful photos on the page."

**SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 2**

Andy Flynn

**LAKE PLACID NEWS**

The judges said: "The front-page designer uses creativity well. The cover of mug shots for Community Day was compelling. The use of photos is outstanding. The reader can follow the design well."

**THIRD PLACE — DIVISION 2**

**THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS**

The judges said: "This section has consistently clean design. There are good decisions being made on story selection and the photos make a big impact."
Excellence Awards

SPORTS Feature
DIVISION 2
FIRST PLACE
THE DAILY STAR
ONONTA
Drew Epstein
What a great story! How many sports fanatics want to go on a trip like this with our family? The reporter allowed those involved to tell their own story and didn’t try to overwrite it. Very well done.

SECOND PLACE
THE DAILY STAR
ONONTA
Nick Richardson
I thought this reporter did a good job of describing what is, probably, the biggest day of McGraw’s life. Sometimes it is difficult to capture those emotions for the reader. Well done.

THIRD PLACE
THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
PHILIPSTOWN
Michael Tartun
I thought I knew this guy from the very first paragraph of the story. The reporter took me back in time and allowed me to experience the things Bozic went through. This is a good job.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
PHILIPSTOWN
Joey Asher
I am really impressed with this reporter’s eye for story ideas. I don’t know that I would have thought about this as a story, but this reporter explained the history of the group and the impact of the work it does, and it was great.

SPORTS Feature
DIVISION 3
FIRST PLACE
DAILY GAZETTE
Schenectady
Mike MacAdam
Effortless storytelling as the writer sets the scene, then uses a variety of voices to recall the events of an emotional day for one school community. The reader is taken back to a moment 41 years ago, and how one memorable game helped begin the healing process after the tragic loss of a classmate.

SECOND PLACE
THE SMITHTOWN NEWS
SMITHTOWN
Anthony LiFebri
This writer does a very nice job of mixing the facts on how the DH rule came about with first-hand memories of its early stages, as well as honoring the significance of the Yankees’ first player to fill that role. Really nicely written story.

THIRD PLACE
DAILY GAZETTE
Schenectady
Kyle Adams
This is an example of a writer thinking outside the box and finding a unique angle on how sports can bring a group of people together to be more than just teammates. The meals that link the soccer team together into an extended family makes for a great feature angle and the writer allows those involved to tell their story.

HONORABLE MENTION
BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND BRONX TIMES
Bronx
Camille Botello

SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM
PROJECT
FIRST PLACE
ADIRONDACK EXPLORER
Saranac Lake
Tim Rowland
Wow. This entry is outstanding. Of course, affordable housing is a near-crisis just about everywhere, but wow. To read about what we typically think of as an “urban issue” in this part of the country was so, so informative. The package of reporting, concise, yet descriptive writing and killer design supported by photos and top-notch graphics made these stories easy to read and understand. It is crystal clear that this newspaper is passionate about their place. I thoroughly enjoyed the work in this project. The sourcing and data give me some great ideas on how to push coverage of this issue in our city.

SECOND PLACE
NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS
New York
Leonardo Reyes
This was an eye-opener; excellent, excellent reporting, writing and presentation of a simmering issue that has implications for today. Superior sourcing; not sure another outlet could have reached into the community as this outlet did to expose the struggle. Very impressive effort.

THIRD PLACE
THE EXAMINER
Mount Kisco
Adam Stone
When this guy digs in, watch out. I bet the bureaucrats have to keep an eye on this one. A really nice piece. The writer allows those involved to tell their story.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE DAILY CATCH
Red Hook
Emily Sachar
Good use of community input and information gathering to paint a more complete picture of the flood- ing that occurred.

SPORTS COVERAGE
FIRST PLACE
THE SMITHTOWN NEWS
SMITHTOWN
Anthony LiFebri
This section felt like a true local sports section, highlighting prep sports with informative stories, good-size action photos and a really great blend of both male and female athletes.

SECOND PLACE
AMHERST BEE
Williamsville
Patrick Nagy
From a clever presentation of its girls’ basketball all-star team (cleverly named All-Bee team) — complete with features on each player and a story explaining how the team was selected — to the day-to-day meat and potatoes coverage of local events this section served up a nice variety of coverage.

THIRD PLACE
THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION
SOUTHAMPTON
Drew Budd
A really impressive mixture of outdoor events — why pickle ball continues to grow, features on sailing — plus coverage of more traditional sports — a local prep basketball team making the state Final Four — and even youth league coverage gave this section an impressive balance.

SPOT NEWS COVERAGE
DIVISION 1
FIRST PLACE
THE DAILY CATCH
Red Hook
Emily Sachar, Victor Feldman and Ruby Rayner-Haselkorn
Comprehensive coverage of the barn that caught fire and the parties impacted by the loss. Impressive multimedia approach, making the work more interactive than a stand-alone article.

SECOND PLACE
NIAGARA GAZETTE
Niagara
Mark Scheer and Rick Pfeiffer
The Niagara Gazette does a meticulous job of covering different sides of the same story. For an event that garnered national coverage, the publication dives deeper than many others did.

THIRD PLACE
RIVERHEADLOCAL.COM
Riverhead
Denise Civitelli
It was interesting to see not only the initial occurrence story, but a follow-up with the women who were impacted by the fire.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE DAILY CATCH
Red Hook
Emily Sachar
Good use of community input and information gathering to paint a more complete picture of the flood- ing that occurred.

SPOT NEWS COVERAGE
DIVISION 2
FIRST PLACE
THE PALLADIUM TIMES
Oswego
Ken Sturzt
This piece offers descriptive detail to let readers know what went on in the courtroom, as well as providing necessary context to catch new readers up to speed on the case.
Community Leadership Award

**First Place**
**Shelter Island Reporter**  
**Julie Lane and Ambrose Clancy**

The judges said: “This community’s Medicaid population is small, but never mind! The Shelter Island Reporter staff went after a crazy bureaucratic nightmare to probe, report and hammer on government not doing its job for a vulnerable population.”

**Second Place**
**The Examiner**
**Adam Stone**

The judges said: “Adam Stone is a pitbull on steroids!”

**Third Place**
**Port Times Record**

The judges said: “You can’t beat a little ‘outrage’ media coverage to make public officials change their tune ASAP. The power of the press and people is STRONG!”

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**Best News Website**

**First Place**
**City & State**

The judges said: “The City and State website has a clean design with an obvious and well-constructed hierarchy. It loads quickly and is easy to navigate.”

**Second Place**
**AmNY Metro**

The judges said: “Amny.com is a creative and dynamic website with a bold design. The inclusion of videos and inline photos in stories adds depth to the reader’s experience.”

**Third Place**
**The Ithaca Voice**

The judges said: “The Ithaca Voice website has a very clean design that is simple and easy to navigate.”
**Excellence Awards**

**NEWS STORY**

**Division 1**

**First Place**

**THE VILLAGE SUN**

**New York**

Lincoln Anderson

Exhaustively researched and never uninteresting, this is not your average neighbor dispute story.

**Second Place**

**RiverheadLocal.com**

**Riverhead**

Alex Lewis

Engagingly written using information pried out by public records request. Nicely done.

**Third Place**

**RiverheadLocal.com**

**Riverhead**

Alex Lewis

This is news coverage that tells readers what's really going on in town. Good job.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**The Brooklyn Paper**

**Brooklyn**

Kirstyn Brendlen and Lloyd Mitchell

The photos and narrative of the story display the damage and destruction e-bike batteries can cause.

**SPOT NEWS COVERAGE**

**Division 3**

**First Place**

**Times Union**

**Albany**

Brendan J. Lyons, Lauren Stanforth and Steve Hughes

Visuals used in this story help fully capture the essence of what happened from all angles.

**Second Place**

**New York Metro**

**New York**

Dean Moses and Christian Murray

Compelling photos with an attention-grabbing lede, leading readers wanting to learn more about what unfolded.

**Third Place**

**Roslyn Times**

**Roslyn**

Robert Pelaez, Cameryn Oakes and Michael Lewis

Strong images help create a strong feeling of empathy for the teens and the community that were impacted by the event.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**Norwood News**

**Bronx**

Sile Moloney

The story sheds light on an incident involving Native American travelers. It is a story that might oftentimes get overlooked, but the language in the article makes it apparent that the story has a significant relevance and impact to readers in the broader community involved.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**The Freeman’s Journal**

**Cooperstown**

Wiley Nelson

Great use of quotes to reinforce the setup paragraph. Very poignant quote to end the article. Nice use of a sub-head to break up the text; even on a short-form piece it works very well.

**NEWS STORY**

**Division 2**

**First Place**

**Adirondack Explorer**

**Saranac Lake**

Gwendolyn Craig

A community issue affecting folks right where they live. Very well sourced, including that there is no solution — yet.

**Second Place**

**The Daily News**

**Batavia**

Mallory Diefenbach

Comprehensive look at the state of hospitals, with good participation from local readers in the field. Story explains what is going on in this vital industry.

**Third Place**

**The East Hampton Press**

**East Hampton**

Desirée Keegan

This reporting pushed to the edge of available knowledge. I'd like to read the next one. Very reader-oriented, with plenty of input. I'd like to read more as this plays out.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**The Suffolk Times**

**Mattituck**

Melissa Azofeifa, Ana Borruto, Chris Francescani, Nicholas Grasso and Steve Wick

Solid multiple stories, led by the follow-up report on the double fatality in the Southold community. Reporters turned in an impressive effort to explain who this couple was and what they had been going through.

**NEWS STORY**

**Division 3**

**First Place**

**Bay News & Brooklyn Graphic**

**Brooklyn**

Gabrielle Holtemann

Really well-written feature on a beloved institution. Quote at the end was a perfect wrap to the story. Well done!

**Second Place**

**Bronx Times Reporter and Bronx Times**

**Bronx**

Camille Botello

Great lede to draw in the reader. Great use of quotes to reinforce the setup paragraph. Very poignant quote to end the article. Nice use of a sub-head to break up the text; even on a short-form piece it works very well.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**The Brooklyn Paper**

**Brooklyn**

Isabel Song Beer

I really like that the writer leaves the question for the reader at the end of the piece as a way to spark curiosity in the reader, promoting independent thought.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**Press-Republican**

**Plattsburgh**

Ben Rowe

Really strong lede on very timely subject matter. Very good way to take complex material and disseminate it into relatable material. Well done.

**NEWS STORY**

**Division 4**

**First Place**

**Times Union**

**Albany**

Philip Pantuso

A well-written, well-chronicled tragic story, gripping the reader’s emotions all the more by detailing the family’s struggles with rehabilitative care — having to travel halfway across the United States to seek appropriate treatment.

**Second Place**

**North Country This Week**

**Potsdam**

Jimmy Lawton

Nice job with lede paragraphs, which articulate the contrasts of willingness of the victim to help the very person who ends up killing her — as readers eventually find out — randomly. Then comes a well-timed chronicling of Elizabeth Howell’s main pursuits, her spirit of giving and her stellar reputation. Humanizing the victim in a nutshell with attributes, without burying them later in the story, further contrasts the senselessness of her being killed.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**Lake Placid News**

**Lake Placid**

Lauren Yates

Outstanding and interesting piece on a local icon; this is truly local journalism you will not find anywhere else. Great job.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**The Ithaca Voice**

**Ithaca**

Matt Butler

Excellent attention to detail while keeping the narrative alive and well through the turns of the tale. True crime and pure journalism personified. Excellent work!

**Third Place**

**Shelter Island Reporter**

**Shelter Island**

David Brush

Very clever idea, written with an understated and appropriately used sense of humor throughout. Humanizing the officers and the jail itself is a unique perspective to take, and I genuinely hope readers responded positively to this article.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**Cove-Oyster Bay Record**

**Glen Cove**

Jennifer Cork

This is a precious and genuine idea that was executed beautifully. I will likely be ‘borrowing’ this concept.
DIVISION 1
FIRST PLACE
NIAGARA GAZETTE
MARK SCHEER
WESTERN REGIONAL OTB
The judges said: “This series of entries includes reporting that goes well beyond basic reporting. The stories include well-documented facts and good use of the Freedom of Information Act. The stories also clearly explain the roles of the Western Regional OTB to the reader, emphasizing the importance of what’s being reported. The stories also include great detail and real reporting effort. It’s clear this reporter went above and beyond to get the facts. Well done.”

SECOND PLACE
THE BATAVIAN
JOANNE BECK
ELLIOTT STATION DEVELOPMENT
The judges said: “This entry includes extensive reporting on a local apartment development. The stories include great detail on information the community was likely very interested to learn, including the developments that took place over time. The reporter and The Batavian team clearly dove into this topic, covering it from the early stages and even through to the final result. Bravo.”

THIRD PLACE
THE EAST HAMPTON STAR
CHRISTINE SAMPSON AND CHRISTOPHER WALSH
MAIDSTONE GUN CLUB
The judges said: “This entry includes compelling storytelling on top of in-depth investigating. I appreciate the multiple sides of the story covered in this series. Good use of the Freedom of Information Act, as well. Well done.”

DIVISION 2
FIRST PLACE
TIMES UNION
JOSH SOLOMON
DocGo
The judges said: “This entry breaks down a complex issue with clear reporting and considerable research. The series had a quantifiable, real-world impact and demonstrates strong investigative skills. Nice work.”

SECOND PLACE
DAN’S PAPERS
TIMOTHY BOLGER
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY
The judges said: “This entry did a nice job shining light on an ongoing and previously unreported issue in this community. The results of the reporting illustrate its clear impact. Great work.”

THIRD PLACE
THE QUEENS CHRONICLE
SOPHIE KRICHEVSKY
VOTING INTEGRITY
The judges said: “This entry employs strong investigative skills and use of records to shine light on a topic of great importance to any community: Voting integrity. Nice work.”
Excellence Awards

FEATURE STORY
Division 5
FIRST PLACE
Bronx Times Reporter and
Bronx Times
BRONX
Mayra Kalaora
Feel good story all the way around.
SECOND PLACE
The Smithtown News
SUFFOLK
David Ambro
This is one talented writer - all of his submissions were award-winning.
THIRD PLACE
Bay News & Brooklyn Graphic
BROOKLYN
Jada Camille
Fabulous photos accompany uplifting holiday story.
HONORABLE MENTION
Bay News & Brooklyn Graphic
BROOKLYN
Adam Daly

FEATURE STORY
Division 6
FIRST PLACE
The Southampton Press-Western Edition
SARATOGA
Peter Boody
Excellent research, reporting, writing, packaging. Nice work.
SECOND PLACE
The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition
SARATOGA
Annette Hinkle
Great approach, great writing, interesting piece.
THIRD PLACE
The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition
SARATOGA
Cailin Riley
An inspiring story - well-organized, well-written, nice package, including photos.
BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES
Division 1
FIRST PLACE
AmNewYork Metro
NEW YORK
Michael Dorgan, Iryna Shkurhan and Ethan Stark-Miller
An eye-opening series that examines not only the bureaucratic struggles migrants must navigate, but also the harrowing experiences they endure in their quest for a better life.
SECOND PLACE
Long Island Press
SYOSSET
Timothy Bolger and Michael Malaszczyk
This was a well-researched and informative series of articles on sometimes nameless and faceless victims. Kudos to you all for telling their stories.
THIRD PLACE
Long Island Press
SYOSSET
Timothy Bolger, Claude Solnik and James Bernstein
The reporters have produced a revealing series examining external threats from hackers as well as internal ones due to incompetence or corruption. I suspect there will be many stories similar to Suffolk County’s in the coming years.
HONORABLE MENTION
The Brooklyn Paper
BROOKLYN
HONORABLE MENTION
The Chronicle (Goshen)
GOSHEN

BEST OBITUARIES
FIRST PLACE
RiverheadLocal.com
RIVERHEAD
Alek Lewis
Really enjoyed reading about Jelly the otter.
SECOND PLACE
The Red Hook Star-Review
BROOKLYN
Joe Enright and Nathan Weiser
Was a good read that definitely kept my attention!
THIRD PLACE
Sullivan County Democrat
CALLICOON
Fred Stabbert III
Such an inspirational story.
HONORABLE MENTION
Port Times-Record
PORT Jefferson
Raymond Janis and Nasrin Zahed
Judli seems like someone you would like to meet.
ELECTIONS
Division 2
FIRST PLACE
Adirondack Explorer
SARANAC LAKE
Tracy Ormsbee
Each entry clearly andcolorfully lays out a problem, discusses it and offers suggestions or poses questions without seeming preachy.
SECOND PLACE
Sag Harbor Express
SAG HARBOR
All three entries take subjects — a change in air flight path, the pay of sports officials, recognition of the Montaukett Nation — that may not be familiar to the general populace and explain the larger effects they have. The sports officials and Montaukett editorials are the strongest of the three.
THIRD PLACE
Shelter Island Reporter
SHELTER ISLAND
Ambrose Clancy
All three editorials — with interesting introductions — call readers to see a segment of the population they might ordinarily overlook: local baymen, those plagued by addictions, and the young and old in poverty. While the baymen editorial suggests action through a vote on a local bill, the other two urge personal action by individuals on behalf of their fellow man.
EDITORIALS
Division 2
FIRST PLACE
Times Union
ALBANY
Akum Norder
Entry features excellent combination of a name-in-the-news connection to local history and two editorials examining local issues. The latter two editorials are not just reheashes of a problem but offer suggestions for change, as similar editorials should.
Best Solutions Journalism Project, 2023

FIRST PLACE

TAKING STOCK OF HOUSING
THE ADIRONDACK EXPLORER

The judges said: “Wow. This entry is outstanding. Of course, affordable housing is a near-crisis just about everywhere, but wow. To read about what we typically think of as an “urban issue” in this part of the country was so, so informative. The package of reporting, concise, yet descriptive writing and killer design supported by photos and top-notch graphics made these stories easy to read and understand. It is crystal clear that this outlet, Tom Rowland and staff are passionate about their place. I thoroughly enjoyed Rowland’s work in this project. The sourcing and data give me some great ideas on how to push coverage of this issue in our city.”

SECOND PLACE

NEW AMSTERDAM NEWS

The judges said: “This was an eye-opener; excellent, excellent reporting, writing and presentation of a simmering issue that has implications for today. Superior sourcing; not sure another outlet could have reached into the community as this outlet did to expose the struggle. Very impressive effort. This was an eye-opener; excellent, excellent reporting, writing and presentation of a simmering issue that has implications for today. Superior sourcing; not sure another outlet could have reached into the community as this outlet did to expose the struggle. Very impressive effort.”

THIRD PLACE

THE EXAMINER

The judges said: “When Adam Stone digs in, watch out. I bet the bureaucrats have to keep an extra pair of clean underwear at the office when his paper hits.”

Best Graphic Illustration, 2023

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT

The judges said: “The Highlands Current made a bold decision to empower artist Deb Lucke to bring a completely unconventional form of visual journalism to their publication, and the result is an eye-dominating piece of delightful, emotional storytelling. Beautiful work.”

SECOND PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR

The judges said: “Artist Scott Bluedorn’s beautiful, quirky and eye-catching lead image sets the perfect tone for this fun, nostalgic and useful piece of journalism from the East Hampton Star Magazine. Bluedorn’s dreamy, whimsical style is a perfect fit for capturing the rich history of the region by showcasing some of the most prominent creators behind the town that launched a thousand novels.”

THIRD PLACE

THE RIVER REPORTER

The judges said: “Illustrator Amanda Reed’s cute, metaphorical artwork serves as a great eye-catching device for an extremely useful and vitally important piece of community service journalism. The River Reporter’s spread is a wonderful example of how newspapers can provide its readers with so many tools to live a better life — especially for where to find help in the worst crisis situations. While not as stylistically flashy as some entries, the raw usefulness of a piece like this elevates it above the rest. (..And Reed’s “Swiss Army Knife” illustration from a separate entry gets the honorable mention)”
Excellence Awards

SECOND PLACE

New York
Robert Pazarycki

The best three of seven editorials by the same writer in four entries are a good mix of problems from major (a bridge that could fall to relatively minor potential of information to media). All three are handled well, with the third subject (e-bike battery fires) offering timely suggestions for users.

THIRD PLACE

Nassau Herald
Lawrence

Jeffrey Bessen, Michael Himman and Mark Nolan

Variety of editorials concern topics in which most readers are interested (education, elections and transportation). One endorses project-based learning in schools, a second makes the case for a change in election laws, and a third speaks truth to power in calling for the possibility of collapsing a governmental board. All three presented clearly and well-written.

BEST COLUMN

Division 2

FIRST PLACE

Williston Times
Williston Park
Robert Scott

Well-written columns. Persuasive, informative and provide some solutions rather than only complaining. Good job.

SECOND PLACE

Williston Times
Williston Park
Tom Ferraro

Well-written columns. Entertaining and engaging.

THIRD PLACE

Williston Times
Williston Park
George Martin

Well-written columns that are informative and interesting.

BEST FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AWARD

FIRST PLACE

The Examiner
Mount Kisco
Adam Stone

This was fascinating series about how public records requests might take some time to get, but they yield a treasure trove of information, in this case, invaluable to patients caught up in a health care company’s questionable billing practices. It changed the conversation on this type of behavior. The stories revealed by the records shed light on a terrible situation.

SECOND PLACE

Cortland Standard
Cortland

The publication identified public access issues due to the pandemic and not only reported on it, but held a public records training that helped agencies that paid attention do better. This is quality community engagement.

THIRD PLACE

The Northport Observer
Northport
David Ambro

This was an important investigation into allegations of workforce abusive behavior. Requesting records and staying relentless paid off over the months as the truth emerged about the official.

BEST DISTINGUISHED COVERAGE OF DIVERSITY

FIRST PLACE

Dan’s Papers
Bridgehampton

This innovative way of using a platform to tell stories by Shinnecock Voices is fresh and relevant, taking on topics of climate, conservation and gentrification. Bravo for amplifying underrepresented voices!

SECOND PLACE

Dan’s Papers
Bridgehampton
David Taylor

The author’s own experience as an LGBTQ+ writer lends understanding, authority and empathy to his writing. The profiles are rich, inviting and interesting.

THIRD PLACE

New York Amsterdam News
New York

This historical perspective of the stories for, with and about the underrepresented communities shows a deep investment in amplifying diverse voices and stories of consequence that invite empathy from the reader.

FEATURE PHOTO(S)

Division 1

FIRST PLACE

The Northport Observer
Northport
Martin Stone

This photo brought a smile to my face as soon as I saw it! Not only is the creature adorable, but the photographer’s timing was excellent. It was truly worthy of the huge front-page placement and worthy of first place.

SECOND PLACE

The Highlands Current
Phoenicia
Ross Corsair

Santa’s expression is priceless! This photo captures the moment, and his timing was perfect. Well done!

THIRD PLACE

The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition
Southampton
Dana Shaw

I love the action, especially the young lady in the middle! This truly captures the excitement of the competition.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

FIRST PLACE

Port Times-Record
Port Jefferson
Kyle Horne

Creative cartoon depicting local government’s attempts to address flooding.

SECOND PLACE

Shelter Island Reporter
Shelter Island
Peter Waldner

Funny cartoon, creative idea.

THIRD PLACE

Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor
Peter Waldner

Creative and humorous cartoon depicting the current state of online dependence. Good cartoon.
**Best Special Section Advertising**

**First Place**  
**Dan’s Paper**  
**Brienne Doskoez**  
The judges said: “Very consistent in content, layout, design, color usage and information.”

**Second Place**  
**Saratoga Today**  
**Chris Bushee and Kacie Cotter-Harrigan**  
The judges said: “I enjoyed this entry. Made me want to visit Saratoga. Good design, info, layout, etc.”

**Third Place**  
**The Smithtown News**  
The judges said: “First thing that came to mind when I opened the special section - “This is pretty.” Love the color combinations and the design throughout. Good entry.”

**Best Audience Development Promotion**

**First Place**  
**The Batavian**  
**Howard Owens, Lisa Ace, Joanne Beck, Kara Richenberg**  
The judges said: “This promotion was a cute and fun way to show pride in the community and the newspaper while inviting young people to show their creativity by drawing eagles in an art competition.”

**Second Place**  
**The Highlands Current**  
**Teresa Lagerman, Emily Hare**  
The judges said: “The ice cream promotion was colorful, useful and delicious. The map showing people how to reach the businesses showed a genuine desire by the publication to create deep community connections in a very delicious way.”

**Third Place**  
**The Batavian**  
**Howard Owens, Lisa Ace**  
The judges said: “This presentation made this judge think about Dick Tracy comic strips for their color, boldness, and terse but effective dialogue. The message was quite clear, attractive and interesting.”
Excellence Awards

HONORABLE MENTION
THE EAST HAMPTON STAR
EAST HAMPTON
Durell Godfrey
This is a very eye-catching photo, and an excellent job at framing the subject.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
PHILIPSTOWN
Ross Corsair
This is the kind of photo that immediately grabs your attention! It’s outstanding. All four of this photographer’s entries were excellent.

FEATURE PHOTO(S)
Division 3

FIRST PLACE
THE TIMES OF MIDDLETOWN
SAYVILLE
Benjamin Patton
This package has a variety of images with great expression in the subjects faces. I can simply look at the photos and tell these people were cold, but had a warmth in their hearts for this special cause.

SECOND PLACE
SHEER ISLAND REPORTER
SHOULDBURY
Lori Van Buren
This is a really good photo. The timing of catching the swimmer at the top of the stroke is excellent. Kudos to the photographer.

THIRD PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Jim Franco
This is a very eye-catching photo, and an excellent job at framing the subject!

SPORTS ACTION PHOTO(S)
Division 2

FIRST PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Renee Lauck
Really nice job. Perfect timing for a good picture of a sport that is not easy to shoot.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Lori Van Buren
Hands-down the best photo in this category. Skillful use of light to capture athletes exercising in the early morning. Trees and the green grass along the pathway provide a beautiful frame for the runners in the primary (and best) photo. Cropping put the runners in the perfect place to catch the viewer’s eye. Outstanding job!

SECOND PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Will Waldron
It can just image standing at the edge of the field checking on the livestock in the snow and something startling these starlings from where they were eating. This photographer did a great job of capturing the birds in action.

THIRD PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Brett Quigley
The photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Steve Zaitz
This photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.

SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO(S)
Division 1

FIRST PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Lori Van Buren
This is a very interesting entry and the photographer’s entries were excellent. This package has a variety of images with great expression in the subjects faces. I can simply look at the photos and tell these people were cold, but had a warmth in their hearts for this special cause.

SECOND PLACE
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Will Waldron
While looking at all the entries side-by-side, my eyes kept coming back to this photo. It has great color and is well composed.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE TIMES UNION
ALBANY
Renea Lauck
The photographer’s use of the leaves in the tree turned what could have been a bland photo into one with an interesting perspective.

ART PHOTO
Division 2

FIRST PLACE
THE ROCKAWAY TIMES
ROCKAWAY
Deirdre Meehan
This photographer must have had some patience to capture this image and a great eye for the composition.

SECOND PLACE
THE ROCKAWAY TIMES
ROCKAWAY
Will Waldron
This photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE ROCKAWAY TIMES
ROCKAWAY
Jeremy Garretson
This photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.

PICTURE STORY
Division 1

FIRST PLACE
THE ROCKAWAY TIMES
ROCKAWAY
Deirdre Meehan
Tell story while setting mood, excellent variety of photos.

SECOND PLACE
THE ROCKAWAY TIMES
ROCKAWAY
Will Waldron
Great faces and emotion. Shows the joy and thrill it is meant to portray.
First Place
Division 1
Pierce Strudler
*The Highlands Current*

The judges said: “Clean and simple layout with clear message, while still attracting the eye.”

Second Place
Division 1
Pierce Strudler
*The Highlands Current*

The judges said: “This is a nice ‘small size’ ad. The color scheme is nice.”

Third Place
Division 1
Pierce Strudler
*The Highlands Current*

The judges said: “This is a very clean ad. The graphic used screams fresh fish.”

First Place
Division 2
Kayla Hartigan
*The Photo News*

The judges said: “Great use of relevant color choices, along with sound judgment on fonts make this an outstanding ad.”

Second Place
Division 2
Yvonne Farley
*The Williston Times*

The judges said: “The colors used, as well as the fonts and graphic, makes the image jump off the page. Well done!”

Third Place
Division 2
Debbie Morgan
*North Country This Week*

The judges said: “The entire feel of this ad is exactly what I’d expect the proprietor wants to convey.”
Excellence Awards

Third Place
The Village Sun
New York
Q. Sakamaki
Way to get in the middle of the action!
Honorable Mention
The Southhampton Press-Western Edition
Westhampton Beach
Dana Shaw
Good photos.

Spot News Photos
Division 2
First Place
The Brooklyn Paper
Brooklyn
Lloyd Mitchell
Great shot.
Second Place
Press-Republican
Plattsburgh
Ben Rowe
The timing of this photo is spot on.

Honorable Mention
The Brooklyn Paper
Brooklyn
Lloyd Mitchell
Excellent fire coverage.

spot news photos
Division 3
First Place
AmNewYork Metro
New York
Deann Moses
These photos are captivating and entice me to want to read the story.
Second Place
Queens Chronicle
Oceanside
Ariella Kissin
The cause being covered is front and center in the photo.

Honorable Mention
Gay City News
New York
Donna Aceto
Very compelling photos.

Graphic Illustration
First Place
The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Deb Luuke
The paper made a bold decision to empower the artists to bring a completely unconventional form of visual journalism to their publication, and the result is an eye-dominating piece of delightful, emotional storytelling. Beautiful work.

Second Place
The East Hampton Star
East Hampton
Scott Blueford
The artist’s beautiful, quirky and eye-catching lead image sets the perfect tone for this fun, nostalgic and useful piece of journalism. The dreamy, whimsical style is a perfect fit for capturing the rich history of the region by showcasing some of the most prominent creators behind the town that launched a thousand novels.

Third Place
The River Reporter
Narrowsburg
Amanda Reed
The illustrator’s cute, metaphorical artwork serves as a great eye-catching device for an extremely useful and vitally important piece of community service journalism. The paper’s spread is a wonderful example of how newspapers can provide a lead image with so many tools to live a better life — especially for where to find help in the worst crisis situations. While not as stylistically flashy as some entries, the raw usefulness of a piece like this elevates it above the rest. (…And the “Swiss Army Knife” illustration from a separate entry gets the honorable mention!)

Best Special Section Cover
Division 1
First Place
The Southhampton Press-Western Edition
Westhampton Beach
Bryan Boyhan and Lori Hawkins
The “herding bees” cover is nothing short of impressive. The image jumps off the page and demands your attention. The use of a black-and-white portrait juxtaposed with full-color imagery and text is a time-honored technique for building emphasis and interest, and this implementation is expertly done. You’d have no choice but to stop in your tracks and pick up this book based on the art alone. I love how the creators showed restraint in the use of headlines — this approach strengthens the impact of the wonderfully bizarre image and pulls all the attention to the bold sans serif centered at bottom. It’s a beautiful hierarchy for a gorgeous cover. Keep up this great work!

Second Place
AmNewYork Metro
New York
Deann Moses
Visually compelling photos
Honorable Mention
Gay City News
New York
Donna Aceto

Third Place
Putnam County Courier
Carmel
Sheil Smith Cunningham and Douglas Cunningham
For a “field guide” cover, it doesn’t get better than an image like this. Intriguing, inviting and beautiful, the Field Guide cover stands out as a feel-good piece of art that perfectly represents the beauty of the region.

Best Special Section Cover
Division 2
First Place
Nassau Herald
Lawrence
Jeffrey A. Negrin
Good editorial design is a mix of visual metaphor, eye-catching imagery and strategic typography, and this cover expertly nails all three elements with ease. The use of a stark grey background was such a great decision for keeping the colorful main image large and in-charge. The use of the puzzle device for mental health, and using a script typeface for emphasis was a bold move. The designer showed great restraint in the use of headline lines — a very smart decision to keep things balanced and clean, and to make sure nothing competes with the lead design element at the top right. It’s stylish, emotional and smart. Excellent work.

Second Place
New York Amsterdam News
New York
Amanda Ullot
This is a striking cover. Using a piece of art like this was such a bold move — it invokes so much emotion and perfectly captures the intensity of the story. The typography is loud, gritty and tough, which makes for a violent, shaky and eye-catching composition, especially with the use of reds, which should be commended. It grabs you, shakes you, and demands that you pick it up — which is paramount in cover design. Excellent work.

Third Place
AmNewYork Metro
New York
Luis Matos
Bold, kinetic, uplifting and just plain fun. This cover takes a top spot with its quirky, cute and action-packed illustration. It would be easy to dismiss this as novelty, but the composition demands attention and just works with its bright colors and extended personality. It invokes a stylish vibe that could be seen as an unconventional choice, but it should be celebrated as an accurate visual representation of the cultural identity of its readership. So fun!

Third Place
The Village Sun
New York
Milo Hess
Excellent and somewhat disturbing pics. Strong layout.

Picture Story
Division 2
First Place
Queens Chronicle
Queens
Walter Karling
The cause being covered is front and center in the photo.
Honorable Mention
Williston Times
Williston Park
Ray Schneider
Beautiful, ethereal photos

Honorable Mention
The East Hampton Press
East Hampton
Ron Esposito
Excellent large pic and supporting pics!

Honorable Mention
The Village Sun
New York
Milo Hess
Excellent and somewhat disturbing pics. Strong layout.

Third Place
Sullivan County Democrat
Calliope
Excellent pics to tell story. Good variety of subjects, angles, composition.

Third Place
The Village (NYC)
New York
Dean Moses
Great faces, action and energy. All tell story.

Honorable Mention
The Village (NYC)
New York
Dean Moses
Excellent pics and variety. Pic could tell story without text.

Honorable Mention
The Smithtown News
Smithtown
Joseph Sperber
Great faces.

Spot News Photos
Division 1
First Place
Shelter Island Reporter
Shelter Island
Adam Bundy
You can feel the excitement in the photo
Second Place
The Columbia Paper
Ghent
David Lee
Great composition.
**Best Large Space Ad**

**FIRST PLACE**
**DIVISION 1**
**THE SUFFOLK TIMES**
The judges said: *Love all of these ads!*

**SECOND PLACE**
**DIVISION 1**
**SAG HARBOR EXPRESS**
The judges said: *“Great colors, nicely arranged!”*

**THIRD PLACE**
**DIVISION 1**
**SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION**
The judges said: *“Love this look!”*

**SECOND PLACE**
**DIVISION 2**
**KELLY SCHOONBECK**
**SARATOGA TODAY**
The judges said: *“Great ad!”*

**FIRST PLACE**
**DIVISION 2**
**ELIZABETH ALONI**
**DAN’S PAPERS**
The judges said: *“Love this!”*

**THIRD PLACE**
**DIVISION 2**
**DEBBIE MORGAN**
**NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK**
The judges said: *“Beautiful!”*
Excellence Awards

**BEST REAL ESTATE/HOME SECTION**

**FIRST PLACE**
Adirondack Daily Enterprise
Saranac Lake
Lindsay Munn, Andy Flynn and Victoria Marcone
A beautiful cover with nice art throughout. The layout is clean and appealing and the magazine overall has a good "feel" to it. And I greatly enjoyed the features.

**SECOND PLACE**
Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor
Brendan J. O'Reilly
A very nice design with eye-catching pages that draw the reader in for a wealth of content.

**THIRD PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Lovely publication that includes necessary advertiser information and services.

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION: ADVERTISING**

**FIRST PLACE**
Dan's Papers
Bridgehampton
Brienne Deskoetz
Very consistent in content, layout, design, color usage and information. Like the idea of adding a notes page.

**SECOND PLACE**
Saratoga Today
Saratoga Springs
Chris Bushee and Kacie Cotter-Harrigan
I enjoyed this entry. Made me want to visit. Good design, info, layout, etc.

**THIRD PLACE**
The Smithtown News
Smithtown
First thing that came to mind when I opened the special section - "This is pretty." Love the color combinations and the design throughout. Good entry.

**HONORABLE MENTION**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Loved this entry and the idea of a salute to women from all walks of life. Just enough info on each woman. Good layout and presentation.

**BEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN**

**FIRST PLACE**
Warwick Advertiser
Warwick
Kayla Harrigan and Christina Scotti
If the saying, "a photo is worth a thousand words", it may be cause of ads like this. The branding is consistent and clean and the photos truly speak exactly to what a diner should expect upon visiting this restaurant.

**SECOND PLACE**
The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Pierce Stradler
This is a nice "small size" ad. The color scheme is nice.

**THIRD PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Beth Keller Mason
Very professionally paginated, beautiful work on this keepsake.

**BEST LARGE SPACE AD**

**DIVISION 1**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Suffolk Times
Mattituck
Love all of these ads!

**SECOND PLACE**
Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor
Great colors, nicely arranged!

**THIRD PLACE**
The Southhampton Press-Eastern Edition
Southhampton
Love this look!

**HONORABLE MENTION**
The River Reporter
Narrowsburg
Amanda Reed

**DIVISION 2**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Photo News
Monroe
Kayla Harrigan
Great use of relevant color choices, along with sound judgment of fonts make this an outstanding ad.

**SECOND PLACE**
Williston Times
Williston Park
Yvonne Farley
The colors used, as well as the fonts and graphic, makes the image jump off the page. Well done!

**THIRD PLACE**
North Country This Week
Potsdam
Debbie Morgan
The entire feel of this ad is exactly what I'd expect the proprietor wants to convey.

**BEST SMALL SPACE AD**

**DIVISION 1**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Nicely paginated, great look

**SECOND PLACE**
The Suffolk Times
Mattituck
Beautiful work on this keepsake.

**THIRD PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
HONORABLE MENTION

**DIVISION 2**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Photo News
Monroe
Debbie Morgan and Amanda Hitterman
Well done!

**SECOND PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
HONORABLE MENTION

**BEST MULTI-ADVERTISER PAGES**

**FIRST PLACE**
North Country This Week
Potsdam
Debbie Morgan and Amanda Hitterman
Well done!

**SECOND PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
HONORABLE MENTION

**BEST LARGE SPACE AD**

**DIVISION 1**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Suffolk Times
Mattituck
Great colors, nicely arranged!

**SECOND PLACE**
The Southhampton Press-Eastern Edition
Southhampton
Love this look!

**THIRD PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Love this entry.

**HONORABLE MENTION**
The Photo News
Monroe
Christina Scotti

**DIVISION 2**

**FIRST PLACE**
The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Pierce Stradler
Beautiful!

**SECOND PLACE**
The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Debbie Morgan

**HONORABLE MENTION**
The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Pierce Stradler
Clean and simple layout with clear message, while still attracting the eye.
Best Art Photo, 2023

**First Place — Division 1**

**Shelter Island Reporter**

The judges said: “When Mother Nature gives us the perfect ‘painting’ of light, it’s up to us photographers to capture it to the best of our abilities. Bundy did just that with his choice of perspective which draws the viewers in and makes them want to walk down the pier to see inside that boat.”

**First Place — Division 2**

**Deirdre Meehan**

**The Rockaway Times**

The judges said: “This photographer must have had some patience to capture this image and a great eye for the composition.”

**Second Place**

**Will Waldron**

**The Times Union**

The judges said: “It can just imagine standing at the edge of the field checking on the livestock in the snow and something startling these starlings from where they were eating. This photographer did a great job of capturing the birds in action.”

**Third Place**

**Jeremy Garretson**

**The Suffolk Times**

The judges said: “This photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.”

**First Place — Division 2**

**Shelter Island Reporter**

The judges said: “When Mother Nature gives us the perfect ‘painting’ of light, it’s up to us photographers to capture it to the best of our abilities. Bundy did just that with his choice of perspective which draws the viewers in and makes them want to walk down the pier to see inside that boat.”

**Second Place**

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The judges said: “It can just imagine standing at the edge of the field checking on the livestock in the snow and something startling these starlings from where they were eating. This photographer did a great job of capturing the birds in action.”

**Third Place**

**Jeremy Garretson**

**The Suffolk Times**

The judges said: “This photographer used the horizon line to his advantage, with great color provided by Mother Nature.”
Excellence Awards

**Best House Ad/Ad Campaign**

**Division 2**

**First Place**

The Suffolk Times
Mattituck
Lovely - simply lovely.

**Second Place**

The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Teresa Lagerman
Cute Halloween ad.

**Third Place**

Williston Times
Williston Park
Yvonne Farley and Sue Tabakin
Best of Nassau County - always a winning concept.

**Honorable Mention**

Sag Harbor Express
Sag Harbor

**Innovative Ad Project**

**First Place**

The Smithtown News
Smithtown
Powerful partnership with disabilities organization results in a powerful win/win. Great concept and execution.

**Second Place**

North Country This Week
Potsdam
Amanda Hitterman, Debbie Morgan, John Basham and Bill Shumway
Lovely, creative concept. Exceptionally clean layouts.

**Third Place**

The Village Times Herald
Setauket
People of the Year - a winner for the community - a money-maker for the newspaper - way to go!

**Honorable Mention**

Graville Sentinel
Graville
Jane Cossey, Deb Brousseau, Renee McKittrick and Julie Fedler

**Classified Advertising**

**First Place**

The Village Times Herald
Setauket
Good looking black and white page layout for classifieds. Could easily find the classified ads on the pages. Not hidden among the ads.

**Second Place**

Sullivan County Democrat
Calloway
True classified pages. Good format, spacing.

**Third Place**

Tide of Moriches
Moriches
Suzanne Link and Nina Quartuccio
Good layout of display advertising.

**Honorable Mention**

Long Island Advance
Patchogue
Suzanne Link and Nina Quartuccio
Good spacing between ads. Black and white - color ads nice layout.

**Best Video**

**First Place**

The Examiner
Mount Kisco
Adam Stone
Touches the viewer’s heart. Excellent camera work. Both interesting and informative.

**Second Place**

Times Union
Albany
Jessica Marshall and Brendan J. Lyons
Very informative, interesting and keeps the viewers attention.

**Third Place**

The Highlands Current
Poughkeepsie
Ross Corsair
Easily pulls the reader into the story. Excellent information and reporting.

**Honorable Mention**

AmNewYork Metro
New York
Dylan Christie
Good solid camera work with good reporting.

**Best Podcast**

**First Place**

Times Union
Albany
Jessica Marshall and Wendy Liberator
This entry had a great intro that pulls one in, great audio talent and is well-edited. The use of background audio, music and the storytelling of the main talent make the listener feel engaged and a part of the action.

**Second Place**

The Daily Catch
Red Hook
Emily Sachar
This well-produced podcast allowed an interesting community member with a fascinating story to tell his tale with the help of thoughtful guidance by the host.

**Third Place**

Times Union
Albany
Jessica Marshall
This podcast featured great storytelling and multiple sources of audio to effectively weave together a story. The host in engaging throughout.

**Best Newsletter**

**First Place**

City & State
New York
Jeff Cottin
This is an incredible read, especially for those obsessed with city and state politics. It is even interesting for people not living in New York due to the incredible sourcing and storytelling, factoids and tidbits, and insider exclusive feel. It’s an excellent example of doing great journalism in an intimate and conversational way to consumers who eagerly await it in their inboxes.

**Second Place**

AmNewYork Metro
New York
Em Davenport, Dylan Christie, Bobby Hankinson and Rick McGuire
This newsletter is visually compelling, creative and fun. The main story, video, polls and other tidbits be on transit, rats or good eats are incredibly interesting.

**Third Place**

Adirondack Explorer
Saranac Lake
Zachary Matson
Offers important stories and useful information on the subject it is dedicated to – water and waterways issues, be it a salt summit or harmful algal blooms. There is personality and not merely links to other stories.

**Best Online Breaking News**

**First Place**

The Brooklyn Paper
Brooklyn
Kirstyn Brendlen, Adam Daly, Isabel Song Beer and Jada Camille
This entry provides thorough information about the weather event with good background context to help readers conceptualize the event. The inclusion of inline photos and an embedded tweet are nice additions to the coverage that help break up text and visually show the reality of the situation in a way that words sometimes cannot.

**Second Place**

Adirondack Explorer
Saranac Lake
This format of this entry helps to localize the impacts for readers by splitting information into different counties with pertinent updates for various locations, including inline photos and a graph helps visualize the weather incident.

**Third Place**

The Daily Catch
Red Hook
Emily Sachar
This entry showcases that the importance of listening to one’s audience cannot be understated. With newsroom resources running low, they got creative and invited the audience to join in efforts to truly show the impact of such a large weather event. The inclusion of community-submitted videos, photos and personal anecdotes brought the story to life while keeping residents informed.
**First Place — Division 1**

ADAM BUNDY  
SHelter ISLAND REPORTER

The judges said: “You can feel the excitement in the photo”

**First Place — Division 2**

LOYD MITCHELL  
THE BROOKLYN PAPER

The judges said: “Great shot.”

**First Place — Division 3**

DEAN MOSES  
AmNEW YORK METRO

The judges said: “These photos are captivating and entice me to want to read the story.”

**Second Place — Division 1**

DAVID LEE  
THE COLUMBIA PAPER

The judges said: “Great composition.”

**Second Place — Division 2**

BEN ROWE  
PRESS-REPUBLICAN

The judges said: “The timing of this photo is spot on.”

**Second Place — Division 3**

ARiella KIssIN  
QUEENS CHRONiClE

The judges said: “The cause being covered is front and center in the photo.”

**Third Place, Division 1**

Q. SAKAMAKI  
THE VILLAGE SUN

**Third Place, Division 2**

KYRIL BROMLEY  
THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS

**Third Place, Division 3**

DEAN MOSES  
AmNEW YORK METRO
Excellence Awards

BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE

FIRST PLACE
LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY
PLATTSBURGH

Benjamin Pomerance

I struggled to determine the top two spots in this category, but finally gave the edge to this sweet story of professional musicians Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy. It details their career accomplishments without resorting to list-making and gives readers a sense of who they are as people. The writer takes you from how they met to how they make it work, with seven children in tow, all the time keeping the writing light and lyrical.

SECOND PLACE
THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION
SOUTHAMPTON

Michelle Trauring

This account of a grueling cycling trip across Africa was a close second in this category. Her writing skills came across in vivid descriptions.

THIRD PLACE
ADIRONDACK EXPLORER
SARANAC LAKE

James Odato

A clean design and plenty of nice-and inventive turns of phrase. Very well done!

THIRD PLACE
DAN’S PAPERS
BRIDGEHAMPTON

Kevin Redding

This profile of the manager was just as much a profile of the bookstore. I appreciated that the writer spent time on-site, getting feedback from customers and sharing the general vibe of the visit. The anecdotes told not just the story of the bookstore and its people, but, more subtly, how the book industry and a way of life are changing.

HONORABLE MENTION

CITY & STATE
NEW YORK

Annie McDonough

This profile of Justin Brannan deftly wove together his political and personal lives and how his background in punk music set him on this unlikely career path as a New York City Council member. My favorite line was this summation: “Brannan raged against the machine, and then he became the machine.”

BEST THEMED ISSUE

FIRST PLACE
SARATOGA TODAY
SARATOGA SPRINGS

Chad Beatty and Kacie Cotter-Harrigan

Beautiful throughout with a cohesive collection of well-written stories. Lots of big, vibrant pictures draw the reader in and make them stick around to read what you have to say. Well done!

SECOND PLACE
LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY
PLATTSBURGH

A treat to read through with a neat, “clean” design throughout, punctuated by large pictures, which nicely compliment well-written articles.

THIRD PLACE
SAG HARBOR EXPRESS
SAG HARBOR

The Summer Book features a great layout with creative design and is full of great stories that tie together well.

Best Innovative Ad Project

FIRST PLACE
THE SMITHTOWN NEWS

The judges said: “Powerful partnership with disabilities organization results in a powerful win/win. Great concept and execution.”

SECOND PLACE
NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK
AMANDA HITTERMAN, DEBBIE MORGAN, JOHN BASHAM, BILL SHUMWAY

The judges said: “Lovely, creative concept. Exceptionally clean layouts”

THIRD PLACE
THE VILLAGE TIMES HERALD

The judges said: “A winner for the community - a money maker for the newspaper - way to go!”
The judges said: “The Express Magazine’s cover is nothing short of impressive. The image jumps off the page and demands your attention. The use of a black-and-white portrait juxtaposed with full-color imagery and text is a time-honored technique and this implementation is expertly done.”

The judges said: “Good editorial design is a mix of visual metaphor, eye-catching imagery and strategic typography, and this cover from the Herald expertly nails all three elements with ease. It’s stylish, emotional and smart. Excellent work.”

NYPA's annual Better Newspaper Contest is always one of the highlights of the year. The contest showcases the extraordinary work New York's newspapers produce on a daily basis. Members of the Tennessee Press Association judged the entries in January. 142 newspapers submitted 2,530 entries in 65 categories. 379 awards were presented at NYPA's annual conference April 26th and 27th in Saratoga Springs. The most competitive categories by far were Feature Story and News Story. The judges donated a tremendous amount of time, and we appreciate their efforts on your behalf.

Annually, Jill Van Dusen administers the contest – assisting newspapers submitting entries, coordinating the judging, verifying winners, generating plaques and certificates, and posting the winners to our website.

Judy Patrick produces the contest newspaper, the convention program, and every issue of NewsBeat.

Rick Fensterer (who is not an NYPA employee – just an extremely dedicated friend and volunteer) produces and presents all of the award shows, takes convention photos, and supplies any other on site support we need during the conference.

Our longtime, and extremely generous friends and colleagues at Trumbull Printing donate the printing of the BNC Newspaper and every issue of NewsBeat.

I don't know how to adequately express my appreciation for the amazing work and support from all of them.

To you, the newspaper staff who create and enter your best work, thank you. On behalf of the communities your serve, we salute you. You motivate and inspire us. Thank you for entering the contest, for attending the conference, and for your continued support of NYPA.

Michelle
Best Local Government Coverage

Proposed zoning changes lead to call for moratorium

JANANNE ABEL & JEREMIAH HASSEL

Westmore News

The judges said: “Entries cover diverse current political issues in the community and are presented in a well-written, well-designed platform. Photos provide good supplemental material.”

FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 1

Ben Brachfeld

AM New York Metro

The judges said: “Great images that really supplement and bring the story to life. The overall design and readability is well-executed, and topics are relevant, interesting, and attention-grabbing.”

SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 1

Lincoln Anderson

The Village Sun

The judges said: “Articles are well articulated with accompanying photos that bring the story to life. Issues are relevant to the community. Reports are executed in an objective manner that truly empowers the reader to have a dynamic understanding of the issue(s) at hand.”

SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 2

Ariama Long

New York Amsterdam News

The judges said: “Entries highlight relevant news for the community in a well-articulated manner. Photos provide good supplemental material to accompany article.”

THIRD PLACE — DIVISION 1

Mark Scheer, Rick Pfeiffer

Niagara Gazette

The judges said: “Topics are relevant issues of community concern/interest. Reports are very well-written. Photographs provide a great supplement to the stories.”

THIRD PLACE — DIVISION 2

Raymond Janis and Lynn Hallarman

Port Times Record

The judges said: “Excellent layout. Reports are eye-catching and cover a variety of controversial local government topics.”
2023 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
The Highlands Current & Times Union

Last year these same two newspapers- one a weekly and one a daily - tied for Newspaper of the Year honors. It is amazing and unprecedented to have them repeat this amazing feat. Both newspapers earned 185 total contest points in this contest. The Highlands Current staff won Photographer of the Year, and first-place awards for Business Coverage, Feature Story (one of the most competitive categories in the contest), Graphic Illustration, and ran the category, taking first, second and third place awards for Best Small Space Ad. The Times Union won first place awards for In Depth Reporting, Coverage of Health Care, Spot News, News Story (an extremely competitive category), Editorials, Sports Feature Photo, and Best Podcast.

Congratulations to the New York Press Association’s Newspapers of the Year!

2023 STUART C. DORMAN AWARD FOR EDITORIAL EXCELLENCE
Times Union

In a closely contested race, the Times Union earned 150 editorial contest points. Josh Solomon earned a first-place award for his In Depth reporting on Doc Go. Rachel Silberstein earned first-place for Health reporting. Brendan Lyons, Lauren Stanforth and Steve Hughes earned a first-place award for Spot News coverage and Phil Pantuso for his well-written News Story.

Congratulations to the Times Union!

2023 JOHN J. EVANS AWARD FOR ADVERTISING EXCELLENCE
Dan’s Papers

Congratulations to Dan’s Papers for earning 60 points in the advertising contest, garnering first-place awards for Advertising Excellence, Best Special Section Advertising and Best Large Space Ad.

STUART C. DORMAN

Stuart Callender Dorman established a precedent for excellence in publishing when he owned the Suffolk Times (1969 - 1978) and The Record-Review (1976 - 1978). Dorman died in 1978, during the year he was to have served as president of the New York Press Association. Dorman was also president and founder of Graphics of Peconic.

Dorman was educated at Andover Academy and Harvard University. Prior to purchasing the Suffolk Times, Dorman held a number of important positions in the book publishing industry, including a 10-year stint as vice president of McGraw-Hill Book Co.

J ohn J. Evans Award

John J. Evans is the former executive vice president of Bee Publications, Inc., Buffalo. Evans is a past president of the New York Press Association and the New York Press Service. Acknowledging the countless hours Evans has devoted to assisting NYPA members with their advertising programs, the NYPA Board of Directors established the John J. Evans Award for Advertising Excellence in 1990.

1991 - East Hampton Star
1992 - The Riverdale Press
1993 - The Record-Review
1994 - The Streetside Inquirer
1995 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
1996 - The Record-Review
1997 - The Record-Review
1998 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
1999 - The Record-Review
2000 - The Village Times
2001 - The Record-Review
2002 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
2003 - The Record-Review
2004 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
2005 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
2006 - The Southhampton Press, Eastern Edition
2007 - The Times Union
2008 - Dan’s Papers
2009 - The Village Times Herald
2010 - The Record-Review, Eastern Edition
2011 - The Times Union
2012 - The Record-Review, Eastern Edition
2013 - The Record-Review, Eastern Edition
2014 - The Record-Review, Eastern Edition
2015 - Dan’s Papers
2016 - The Record-Review, Eastern Edition
2017 - Dan’s Papers
2018 - Dan’s Papers
2019 - TIE: Dan’s Papers, The Post-Standard
2020 - The Post-Standard
2021 - The Post-Standard
2022 - The Post-Standard

Stuart Callender Dorman Award

1990 - The Riverdale Press
1991 - The Riverdale Press
1992 - The Riverdale Press
1993 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
1994 - The Riverdale Press
1995 - The Cuba Patriot
1996 - The Record-Review
1997 - The Record-Review
1998 - The Record-Review
1999 - The Record-Review
2000 - The Village Times
2001 - The Village Times
2002 - The Village Times
2003 - The Village Times
2004 - The Village Times
2005 - The Village Times
2006 - The North Shore Sun
2007 - The Riverdale Press
2008 - The North Shore Sun
2009 - The Suffolk Times
2010 - The Long Island Press
2011 - The Scarsdale Inquirer
2012 - The Long Island Press
2013 - The News-Review
2014 - The Suffolk Times
2015 - The Suffolk Times
2016 - The Suffolk Times
2017 - The Suffolk Times
2018 - The Suffolk Times
2019 - The Independent
2020 - Southampton Press, Eastern Edition
2021 - The Record-Review
2022 - The Times Union
The Spectator

The student-run newspaper of the Fredonia Central School District is the 2023 Best High School Newspaper. The staff of The Spectator earned 100 points including four first place awards, winning General Excellence, Design, Photography, and Sports Story. The newspaper is beautifully designed, great page layouts, terrific photos run large, relevant story ideas, good headlines. This is the total package. Congratulations!

Congratulations to all high school competitors – your work is inspiring!
The Ithacan is the 2023 winner of the Best College Newspaper Contest. Earning 120 points including first-place awards for General Excellence, Feature Story, Photography, Sports Coverage, and Best Web Site. This student-run newspaper has it all and does it right. Page layouts are attractive, enticing and organized. Great photography. Chock full of beautifully designed ads. Web site engaging and organized. Great editorial page. Coverage is broad, sports coverage is amazing – we want to hire you! Great work!

Congratulations to all the entrants in the college newspaper contest!

HONORABLE MENTION
CARDINAL POINTS
PLATTSBURGH
Aleksandra Sidorova
Al is such an abstract topic that it can be hard to cover. Sidorova made Al real and concrete for the reader, producing a story that was both fascinating and relevant.

SECOND PLACE
THE CHRONICLE
ALBANY
Mia Quick
A different kind of feature story for a college newspaper but one that was a breath of fresh air. Clearly written, compelling and well researched.

FIRST PLACE
THE STATESMAN
STONY BROOK
Viola Flowers, Kat Procacci, Maria Lynders and Tim Giorlando
The Statesman tackles big topics in big issues that showcase solid reporting and writing. Relevant graphics and clean design brought elegance to the publication.

HONORABLE MENTION
CARDINAL POINTS
PLATTSBURGH
Solid paper covering all the bases.

NEWS STORY
FIRST PLACE
THE CHRONICLE
ALBANY
Makenna Williams
Williams does a stellar job of covering all the angles and holding college officials accountable in her breaking news coverage of the college’s closing.

SECOND PLACE
VANGUARD
BROOKLYN
Kate Dempsey
Dempsey does a professional job of covering all the incredibly controversial issues that came with college protests in the fall of 2023.

THIRD PLACE
THE ITHACAN
ITHACA
Caitlin Holtzman
Holtzman takes on a complicated topic and does it justice, with good research and solid efforts to produce a well-rounded article.

HONORABLE MENTION
CARDINAL POINTS
PLATTSBURGH

SECOND PLACE
THE CHRONICLE
ALBANY
Ray Milburn
A wonderful story well told.

COLUMN
FIRST PLACE
THE ITHACAN
ITHACA

SECOND PLACE
THE IMPACT
DORIS FERRY
Carla Gradiz
The best columns show you new perspectives and Gradiz does this with aplomb.

SECOND PLACE
THE IMPACT
DORIS FERRY

THIRD PLACE
THE STATESMAN
STONY BROOK

BEST SPORTS COVERAGE
FIRST PLACE
THE ITHACAN
ITHACA
Nolan Saunders
A great photo tells a great story and this sports celebration photo did just that. The photographer caught the glee at just the right moment. Photo also well composed and nice and sharp.

SECOND PLACE
THE CHRONICLE
ALBANY
From breaking news to game coverage, Chronicle coverage was solid, timely and well-written.

THIRD PLACE
CARDINAL POINTS
PLATTSBURGH
This is a real workhorse of a sports department, with solid, insightful reporting sports lovers can rely on.

HONORABLE MENTION
THE LAMRON
GENESSEE

BEST WEB SITE
FIRST PLACE
THE ITHACAN
ITHACA
Design makes this website easy to navigate but what really made it stand out was its content. The site is frequently updated and full of content that illustrates the power of digital storytelling.

SECOND PLACE
THE STATESMAN
STONY BROOK
This site does a stellar job of organizing and displaying in-depth content. I loved the easy-to-read story pages.

THIRD PLACE
THE IMPACT
DORIS FERRY
Nice mix of news, good integration with social media and easy to navigate.
To all of our winners!