

85th National Headliner Awards Newspaper and Online winners

The 85th National Headliner Award winners honoring the best journalism for radio and television stations in 2018 were announced today. The awards were founded in 1934 by the Press Club of Atlantic City. The annual contest is one of the oldest and largest in the country that recognizes journalistic merit in the communications industry.

The Best in Show for newspapers was a story titled “Perversion of Justice” by Julie K. Brown and Emily Michot of the Miami Herald. The story won first place in the Investigative Reporting in a Top 20 Media Market category. The judges’ comments for the story are below:

“Once again the judges are in awe of the work by Julie K. Brown of the Miami Herald, a past winner. Her persistence in tracking down the Jane Does years after their violations by a serial pedophile and giving them voice unleashed a wave of outrage both in Florida and nationally that was felt in the hearings rooms of Congress.”

Brown previously won the Best in Show for newspapers National Headliner Award in 2015 for her story “Cruel and Usual.”

The Best in Show for photography went to Wally Skalij of the Los Angeles Times for his Newspapers Feature Photo titled “Woolsey fire burns all the way down to the coast.”

“Composition, subject matter and color come together to create an emotional visual moment,” the judges said.

The Best in Show for online went to a story titled “NBC Left Field: The Path to Radicalization” by Ed Ou and David Scott Holloway of NBC News in the category Online Video More Than 10 Minutes Long.

“This excellently produced and edited video takes viewers right into the home of a member of one of America's extremist groups. Reporting like this goes a long way to help us see how one becomes a radical and how people such as a parent — no matter what — still can't accept that truth,” the judges said.

Finally, the judges wanted to make a special citation for the staffs of The Baltimore Sun and Capital Gazette for their coverage of the shooting at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland. The coverage won second place in spot news, but the judges said the following about the entry:

“Never have we judged an entry in which the story burst through the front door and took the lives of five valued colleagues. In addition to recognizing your work in the Breaking News category, the National Headliner judges also commend the staff for illustrating the best instincts of our profession during the worst possible circumstances.”

Below are the first, second and third place awards for the newspaper, photography and online categories.

The TV and radio awards were announced on Friday and can be found at headlinerawards.org.

DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS SYNDICATES

Spot News in daily newspapers, all sizes

First Place

“Parkland: The first 36 hours”

Staff

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Judges’ comments: Unlike the law enforcement who answered the call, Sun Sentinel journalists were prepared to do their jobs. Their first tweet was less than 12 minutes after hearing about the shooting, their first story published 19 minutes after the scanner crackled and 27 minutes after the gunman started firing. This is the blueprint for how breaking news should be done and it was masterful.

Second Place

“Capital Gazette shooting”

Staffs of The Baltimore Sun and Capital Gazette

The Baltimore Sun, Baltimore, Md. and the Capital Gazette, Annapolis, Md.

Third Place

“Redding Record Searchlight: Carr Fire”

Redding Record Searchlight: Carr Fire staff

Redding Record, Redding, Calif.

Local news beat coverage or continuing story by an individual or team

First Place

“Wall of Forgotten Natives”

Chris Serres

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Judges’ comments: When social services reporter Chris Serries spotted a new tent village along the side of a highway, his reporter’s curiosity led to reporting that brought attention to a community of homeless Native Americans. That attention in turn sparked a response that ultimately provided shelter for many of those in the camp.

Second Place

“Hospital Safety Oversight”

Stephanie Armour

The Wall Street Journal, New York, N.Y.

Third Place

Lauren FitzPatrick

Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago, Ill.

International news beat coverage or continuing story by an individual or team

First Place

Aaron Nelsen

San Antonio Express-News, San Antonio, Texas

Judges comments: Aaron Nelson's reporting was so good, I worried about his safety. His stories were true dispatches from a turbulent area that has become central in the national political conversation. His stories were peopled, colorful and authoritative.

Second Place

"Alfredo Corchado's coverage of the Mexican Election"

Alfredo Corchado

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Third Place

"Ramadan Reunion and Other Tales from Guantanamo Bay"

Carol Rosenberg

Miami Herald, Miami, Fla.

News series in daily newspapers Top 20 Media Market

First Place

"USA TODAY: Surviving Suicide"

Laura Trujillo, Alia Dastagir, Anne Godlasky

USA TODAY, McLean, Virginia

Judges comments: This was a bold, meaningful, effective and helpful series about an issue the country continues to struggle with. Laura Trujillo wrote a brave and painful remembrance of her mother's suicide, as well as her own rape, and USA cushioned the story with those of others, and offered meaningful ways to deal with the issue. Beautifully done.

Second Place

"Test of Faith: The Unchurched of America"

Jean Hopfensperger and Leila Navidi

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Third Place

"Unsolved: 75 shot"

Chicago Tribune staff

Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Ill.

News series in newspapers not in top 20 media market

First Place

“No turning back: The story of a transgender man's experience as a Navy sailor”

Courtney Mabeus

The Virginian-Pilot, Norfolk, Virginia

Judges' comments: This was a compelling, timely and human bit of storytelling that took hard work: Access, time, sensitivity, clear-mindedness and courage. We kept talking about this story for days after reading the entry. Readers were given an important glimpse of an issue that is an increasing part of the national conversation.

Second Place

“Cultivating a Community”

James E. Causey

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Milwaukee, Wis.

Third Place

“Stolen future”

Michele Munz, Cristina M. Fletes and Christian Gooden

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo.

Local interest column on a variety of subjects

First Place

Rochelle Riley

Detroit Free Press, Detroit, Mich.

Judges' comments: "She brought joy to heartbreak — and joy won." That's how Rochelle Riley described Aretha Franklin in covering the singer's funeral. And Riley used an uncommonly strong writing voice to call on Michigan State President Lou Anna Simon to resign after the Larry Nasser scandal. And Riley's touching piece on a Detroit student's rise from a chaotic upbringing to academic achievement was outstanding. Great work, Rochelle; we loved it.

Second Place

Tom Hallman Jr.

The Oregonian, Portland, Ore.

Third Place

Frank Cerabino

The Palm Beach Post, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Special or feature column on one subject by an individual

First Place

Jay Cridlin

Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Judges' comments: Jay's columns are delightful and surprising in their love for the unloved. It's a refreshing point of view, and one I'm sure resonates with his readers.

Second Place

Stefano Esposito

Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago, Ill.

Third Place

Bethany Jean Clement

The Seattle Times, Seattle, Wash.

Editorial writing by an individual or team

First Place

"After the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School"

Rosemary O'Hara and Martin Dyckman

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Judges' comments: Three somewhat unconventional positions, each fully reasoned and convincingly argued. A refreshing entry.

Second Place

"Editorials on Sex Trafficking"

The Dallas Morning News staff

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Third Place

"The Invading Sea: Can South Florida be saved?"

Three editorial boards, and public radio

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Miami Herald, The Palm Beach Post, WLRN

Sports column by an individual

First Place

Dennis Anderson

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Judges' comments: Dennis Anderson shows us a different side of sports-column writing with his detail-filled style, resulting in articulate storytelling on topics not common to every-day sports writing. We wanted more!

Second Place

John Canzano
The Oregonian, Portland, Ore.

Third Place

Luke DeCock
The News & Observer, Raleigh, N.C.

Sports writing by an individual or team**First Place**

Andrew Carter
The News & Observer, Raleigh, N.C.

Judges' comments: Andrew Carter shows us how excellent sports writing is achieved by combining a strong style and an ability to convey human drama into great stories. His entries on the community that lost everything to flooding, Tommy Hatton's troubles with concussions and the debate on Silent Sam are great reads from beginning to end.

Second Place

"Youth Basketball"
Brad Schmidt and Jeff Manning
The Oregonian, Portland, Ore.

Third Place

Rachel Blount
Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Feature writing on a variety of subjects by an individual**First Place**

"The Iraqi Spy Who Infiltrated ISIS"
Margaret Coker
The New York Times, New York, N.Y.

Judges' comments: Margaret Coker's story does double duty. She tells how a man trying to find his mission and passion in life becomes an accidental hero. Then she shows how the country he loved has been shedding its reputation as a home for terrorists and becoming a reliable Western ally in the war on terror. Coker's reporting makes the case for recognizing how Iraq might be changing.

Second Place

Doug Moore
St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo.

Third Place

Tom Archdeacon
Cox Media Group Ohio, Dayton, Ohio

Business news coverage, business commentary and/or business columns by an individual or team**First Place**

Rick Barrett
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Milwaukee, Wis.

Judges' comments: Hundreds of Wisconsin dairy farms are going under as a glut of milk on the market collapses prices and profits. Rick Barrett's in-depth and insightful reporting puts a human face on a crisis that is punching Wisconsin farmers in the gut.

Second Place

"Death on Foot"
Eric D. Lawrence, Nathan Bomey and Kristi Tanner
Detroit Free Press, Detroit, Mich.

Third Place

"UAW scandal"
Robert Snell
The Detroit News, Detroit, Mich.

Education writing by an individual or team**First Place**

Lauren FitzPatrick
Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago, Ill.

Judges' comments: A great selection of stories. Two dealt with areas that most parents will have on their radars at some point in their child's education — cleanliness of his/her school and the school nurse — and took parents to areas they might not be aware of, while the third helped the reader see a personal side to the superintendent and consider the effects of violence. Solid numbers, well-written, led to changes.

Second Place

"Parkland and beyond: How schools hide and spin the facts"
Staff
South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Third Place

Bethany Barnes

The Oregonian, Portland, Ore.

Health, medical and science writing by an individual or team

First Place

“Deadly Deliveries”

Alison Young and Laura Ungar

USA TODAY, McLean, Va.

Judges’ comments: The United States is the most dangerous place in the developed world to deliver a baby. It’s hard to get your head around that. USA Today took a deeper dive at why this is the case. The writing is compelling, the examples and numbers strong, and the need for continued change and oversight obvious.

Second Place

“Bad Medicine”

John Fauber, Matt Wynn and Kristina Fiore

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Milwaukee, Wis.

Third Place

“Aging Parents, Stressed Families”

Jackie Crosby

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Environmental writing by an individual or team

First Place

“Risky Business: The failure to test for a cancer-causing chemical in Illinois”

Michael Hawthorne

Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Ill.

Judges’ comments: A tip from a source led Michael Hawthorne to investigate a little-known government database. His thorough reporting led to easy-to-follow stories that not only raised reader awareness about unusually high cancer risks in their neighborhoods, but also led to state and federal officials calling for investigations of their own, and finally a call for the plant at the center of the problem to be shut down.

Second Place

Josephine Marcotty

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Third Place

“Poisoned Cities, Deadly Border”

Ian James

The Desert Sun, Palm Springs, Calif.

Investigative reporting in newspapers in top 20 media market**First Place and BEST IN SHOW**

“Perversion of Justice”

Julie K. Brown and Emily Michot

Miami Herald, Miami, Fla.

Judges’ comments: Once again the judges are in awe of the work by Julie K. Brown of the Miami Herald, a past winner. Her persistence in tracking down the Jane Does years after their violations by a serial pedophile and giving them voice unleashed a wave of outrage both in Florida and nationally that was felt in the hearings rooms of Congress.

Second Place

“Heartbroken”

Kathleen McGrory and Neil Bedi

Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Third Place

“The Innocents: How U.S. Immigration Policy Punishes Migrant Children”

Martha Mendoza and Garance Burke

Associated Press, New York, N.Y.

Investigative reporting in newspapers not in top 20 media market.**First Place**

“Stalk. Murder. Repeat.”

Ian Cummings, Glenn E. Rice and Tony Rizzo

The Kansas City Star, Kansas City, Mo.

Judges’ comments: Kansas City Star reporters sewed together an exhaustive well-told tale of a serial killer who had stalked the region for decades.

Second Place

“How Florida Ignited the Heroin Epidemic”

Pat Beall

The Palm Beach Post, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Third Place

“Alabama’s ‘Beach House Sheriff”

Connor Sheets

Alabama Media Group

Public service performed by publishing material in a daily newspaper

First Place

“Public officials after Parkland: Hide, deny, spin”

Staff

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Judges’ comments: The staff of the Sun Sentinel showed how to hold government officials accountable for its failings while keeping a community engaged, even when facing immense pressure to drop the story. They did this all while remaining sensitive, responsive and connected to the victims of a tragedy in their community.

Second Place

“Betrayed”

Chicago Tribune staff

Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Ill.

Third Place

“Project Homeless”

Project Homeless staff

The Seattle Times, Seattle, Wash.

Editorial cartoons

First Place

Rob Rogers

RobRogers.com

Judges’ comments: This collection of cartoons gets high marks for originality, diversity of topics, quality of artwork and clarity of message. An outstanding entry all around.

Second Place

Ward Sutton

The Boston Globe, Boston, Mass.

Third Place

Michael Ramirez

Las Vegas Review-Journal, Las Vegas, Nev.

Journalistic innovation

First Place

“Hostile Waters: Orcas in Peril”

The Seattle Times staff

The Seattle Times, Seattle, Wash.

Judges’ comments: An all-hands-on-deck approach to innovation on a story that is a part of the soul of the Pacific Northwest: the fate of orcas. Several smart approaches, from Facebook Live with officials to texting for more from the reporters, from a documentary to strong use of historical footage in an inviting web design — well done.

Second Place

“The Alzheimer's Chronicles”

Will Doolittle, Bella Doolittle and Adam Colver

The Post-Star, Glens Falls, N.Y.

Third Place

“Parkland: Voices of Change”

Mike Stocker, Doreen Christensen and Yiran Zhu

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Best political coverage

First Place

“A year of upheaval in Missouri, Kansas politics”

The Kansas City Star staff

The Kansas City Star, Kansas City, Mo.

Judges’ comments: Watchdog reporting across multiple races yielded stories that voters surely appreciated. Good role model for papers across the country.

Second Place

“Mayor Barry Scandal”

The Tennessean staff

The Tennessean, Nashville, Tenn.

Third Place

“Texas Midterm Election coverage”

The Dallas Morning News staff

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

MAGAZINES

Magazine coverage of a major news event or topic

First Place

“19-Year-Old Skylar Richardson Says She Had a Stillborn Baby. So Why Is She On Trial For Murder?”

Sonia Chopra

Cosmopolitan

Judges’ comments: The reporting was remarkable, given that the principal characters were unavailable because of judicial gag order/patient-client confidentiality/conducting an investigation or simply refused to talk. The narrative was pieced together from interviews with secondary sources, by monitoring social media and following up with commenters, etc. Bravo to the reporter. The writing tied it all together masterfully.

Second Place

“Lost In The Storm”

Sheri Fink and Luke Mitchell

New York Times, New York, N.Y.

Third Place

“How Did We Let James Hardy Slip Through the Cracks?”

Brian Burnsed

Sports Illustrated

Magazine feature writing by an individual on a variety of subjects

First Place

Mina Kimes

ESPN

Judges’ comments: The writing is wonderful on all of these, clearly elevated by the author's skills as a listener and observer. The quotes, anecdotes and descriptions of nonverbal responses make the subjects come alive.

Second Place

Shawn Tully

Fortune

Third Place

Geoff Colvin

Fortune

Magazine column by an individual on a variety of subjects

First Place

Peter Keating
ESPN

Judges' comments: This collection demonstrated a wide range of knowledge across the sporting world.

Second Place

Simi Horwitz
Film Journal International

No third-place award given

Magazines political coverage

First Place

"Political Corruption and the Art of the Deal"
Anjali Kamat
Type Investigations

Judges' comments: A compelling look at the Trumps' real estate dealings in India.

No second- or third-place award given

PHOTOGRAPHY AND GRAPHICS FOR DAILY NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES, NEWS SERVICE AND SYNDICATES

Newspapers spot news photography

First Place

Rose Baca
The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Judges' comments: This photo clearly captured the emotions of this trial verdict in one simple, evocative, well-composed image.

Second Place

Marcus Yam
Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif.

Third Place

Andrew Carter
The News and Observer, Raleigh, N.C.

Newspapers feature photography

First Place and BEST IN SHOW

“Woolsey fire burns all the way down to the coast”

Wally Skalij

Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif.

Judges’ comments: Composition, subject matter and color come together to create an emotional visual moment.

Second Place

“Dressed to Dig”

Robert Cohen

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo.

Third Place

“Freedom”

Robert Gauthier

Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif.

Newspapers sports action photography

First Place

“Right in the face”

Tim Tai

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia, Pa.

Judges’ comments: Powerful image perfectly reflects a powerful moment in this match.

Second Place

“Hail Mary”

Steven M. Falk

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia, Pa.

Third Place

“Leap of Fate”

Robert Gauthier

Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif.

Magazines, news services or syndicates spot news photography

First Place

"Botham Jean"

Shaban Athuman

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Judges' comments: The viewer can feel the grief and anguish of this mother and her son in the photographer's coverage of this prayer service.

Second Place

"Waiting for News"

Joel Auerbach

Associated Press

Third Place

"Advance Team Block"

Evan Vucci

Associated Press

Magazines, news services or syndicates feature or sports photography

First Place

"Ostrich"

Smiley N. Pool

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Judges' comments: Lighting, action, composition and unique subject matter made the viewer stop, look and love.

No second- or third-place award given

Photography portfolio

First Place

Robert Cohen

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo.

Judges' comments: This photographer's portfolio stood out from the rest. Nice variety of singles with unique color and composition. The Broken Homes, Broken Lives story gave the edge to this portfolio.

Second Place

Smiley N. Pool

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Third Place

Thomas A. Ferrara
Newsday, Melville, N.Y.

Photo essay/story**First Place**

“A Caravan”

Rodrigo Abd
Associated Press

Judges’ comments: The migrant caravan captured national and international attention as the huge group of Central Americans made their way north seeking asylum inside the U.S. border. Traveling with them, this photographer used a variety of powerful images to put viewers inside their journey and their hearts.

Second Place

“Yemen: Life in Ruins”

Nariman El-Mofty
Associated Press

Third Place

“Lincoln's Shot”

Lara Cerri
Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Portrait**First Place**

“Songs of Praise”

Alejandra Villa Loarca
Newsday, Melville, N.Y.

Judges’ comments: The personality and passion of this prayer leader comes through loud and clear in the compelling moment captured in this photo.

Second Place

“Master Luthier, Charles Rufino”

Thomas A. Ferrara
Newsday, Melville, N.Y.

Third Place

“Robert Wilonsky”

Carly Geraci

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Pictorial**First Place**

“Dallas Moonrise”

Ryan Michalesko

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

Judges’ comments: The photographer's mastery of technical skills and knowledge of the community was evident in the presentation of the full moon over Dallas.

Second Place

“Fair reflections”

Richard Tsong-Taatarii

Star Tribune, Minneapolis, Minn.

Third Place

“Flash in the night sparks King history”

Robert Cohen

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo.

Disaster coverage**First Place**

“Ravaged by Wildfire”

Noah Berger, John Locher and Ringo H.W. Chiu

Associated Press

Judges’ comments: Each image by the AP photographers was so powerful and storytelling that it could have stood on its own. Together, they present a clear and horrifying narrative of this tragedy.

Second Place

“Parkland news photography”

Photography Staff

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Third Place

“Woolsey fire burns to the coast”

Los Angeles Times staff

Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif.

ONLINE

Online investigative reporting, news organization not connected to print or broadcast

First Place

“Myanmar Burning”

Wa Lone, Kyaw Soe Oo and Reuters colleagues

Reuters News Service

Judges’ comments: Reuters correspondents, working in one of the world's most dangerous regions, obtain a photograph of a group of men about to be executed and use it as the foundation into a shocking investigation of the grisly massacre, then track down the families of the men and introduce us to the condemned in the haunting picture. Two correspondents are still jailed for their reporting.

Second Place

“Sign Here to Lose Everything”

Bloomberg News staff

Bloomberg News

Third Place

“Bill of the Month”

Kaiser Health News staff

Kaiser Health News

Online beat coverage, news organization not connected to print or broadcast

First Place

“Treatment Overkill”

Liz Szabo

Kaiser Health News

Judges’ comments: In a world where "more is better", smart in-depth reporting shows that in medicine that is not always true. From vitamins to knee replacements, these stories are great journalism helping people be better informed health consumers.

Second Place

“Harvesting Peril: Extreme Weather and Climate Change on the American Farm”

InsideClimate News staff

InsideClimate News

Third Place

Jon Marcus

The Hechinger Report

Best Blog

First Place

“Fortune: raceAhead”

Ellen McGirt

Fortune

Judges’ comments: Ellen McGirt's columns are so needed right now, so helpful to a country struggling with issues of race (and gender, and, and, and ..). They are smart and thoughtful and informative, but also written in just the right tone — a feat in itself.

Second Place

“Comic Riffs: The Power of Political Art”

Michael Cavna

The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

Third Place

“PoliticiL Insider”

Mick Dumke

ProPublica Illinois

Online video up to one minute

First Place

“California Props in a minute”

Byrhonda Lyons

CALmatters

Judges’ comments: CALmatters took several dense topics of fhte California propositions and produced a series of short videos aimed at voters. Good mix of production value and helping readers understand complex issues.

Second Place

“Angel gowns help ease burden for parents of stillborn babies”

WBAL Digital Team

WBAL-TV, Baltimore, Md.

Third Place

“Hometown Hero”

WBAL Digital Team

WBAL-TV, Baltimore, Md.

Online video up to three minutes

First Place

“Georgian Sword Dancers”

Nathalie Basha and Shaun Mir

Circa

Judges’ comments: Strong cinematography that told the story of how history continues to influence one culture’s dance traditions.

Second Place

“How CRISPR works, explained in two minutes”

Dom Smith and Sharon Begley

STAT, Boston, Mass.

Third Place

“First-time Voter Vanni Wang prioritizes women’s issues”

Gabriel Kramer

ideastream, Cleveland, Ohio

Online Video 3-10 minutes

First Place

“The Office of Missing Children”

Michael Schiller, Aura Bogado and Brian Britigan

Reveal from The Center for Investigative Reporting

Judges’ comments: This was an unexpected, impeccable and well-produced piece about a broad issue, presented in the most simple and personal way. From the opening, about a mysterious building, to the closing credits, featuring a child’s drawings, we were riveted and moved. Well done.

Second Place

“Kevin’s House”

Jeremy Raff

The Atlantic

Third Place

“Police beat man on fire”

Andrew Ford

Asbury Park Press, Neptune, N.J.

Online Video More than 10 minutes

First Place and BEST IN SHOW

“NBC Left Field: The Path to Radicalization”

Ed Ou and David Scott Holloway

NBC News, New York, N.Y.

Judges’ comments: This excellently produced and edited video takes viewers right into the home of a member of one of America's extremist groups. Reporting like this goes a long way to help us see how one becomes a radical and how people such as a parent — no matter what — still can't accept that truth.

Second Place

“NBC Left Field: “The Long Wait: Venezuela Violinist Flees Violence to Seek U.S. Asylum”

Carlos Beltran

NBC News, New York, N.Y.

Third Place

“Able”

Chris Ware and Megan Miller

Newsday, Melville, N.Y.

Web or Interactive Project

First Place

“Parkland: Unprepared and Overwhelmed”

Staff

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Judges’ comments: This package used simple elements and crisp storytelling to deliver a powerful digital package. The staff lead readers through the initial breaking news event, just moments after the first shots were fired, and also showed how poor decisions by authorities were primary factors in making the catastrophe worse.

Second Place

“Californians: Everything you need to know before you vote”

CALmatters staff

CALmatters

Third Place

“We Will Keep on Fighting for Him”

Jodi S. Cohen, Logan Jaffe and Rob Weychert

ProPublica Illinois

Social Media

First Place

Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting staff

Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting

Judges' comments: Using a blend of different approaches, Reveal's social media platforms are tools for audience engagement. They do this not by using them solely for promotion of stories, but by using them as tools to deliver in-depth storytelling that is clear and informative.

Second Place

"Real America with Jorge Ramos on Facebook Watch"

Real America with Jorge Ramos on Facebook Watch

Univision/Fusion

Third Place

WTOP.com Staff

WTOP-FM, Washington, D.C.

Online Slideshow

First Place

"A Side of Grasshoppers - Un Apetitoso Platillo de Chapulines"

ESPN staff

ESPN/ESPN Deportes

Judges' comments: Great visual, stills and video presentation. Very innovative storytelling and user-friendly site. Short videos worked so well to give the glimpse as a trailer.

Second Place

"Hurricane Michael"

Tampa Bay Times staff

Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Third Place

"No Turning Back"

Kristen Zeis

The Virginian-Pilot, Norfolk, Va.

Best Podcast

First Place

“16 Shots”

WBEZ and Chicago Tribune staff

Judges’ comments: Well-crafted portrait of all aspects of the shooting of a man in Chicago by a police officer. The case skyrocketed to national attention when a video of the incident was released. Reporters dug deep into neighborhoods, families and police officer ranks to tell the story. including in real-time when a verdict was reached.

Second Place

“Going Under”

Michelle Basch and Ginger Whitaker

WTOP-FM, Washington, D.C.

Third Place

“Empire on Blood”

Steve Fishman, Mia Lobel, Julia Barton, Emile Klein and Andy Bowers