87th National Headliner Awards winners

The 87th National Headliner Award winners honoring the best journalism in the United States in 2020 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 Newspapers award this year went to Kathleen McGrory and Neil Bedi of the Tampa Bay Times for their story "Targeted."

"With a stunning hit-parade of police body cam footage and starkly written narrative, the Tampa Bay Times uncovers a shocking police practice that amounts to harassing potential wrongdoers from the unwelcoming precincts of Pasco County, Florida," the judges said.

The Los Angeles Times won 15 awards, including six first places, while The Star Tribune in Minnesota won nine awards, including six first places.

The Times' Marcus Yam and Alan Hagman won the Best in Show Photography award for Yam's portfolio entitled "The Long Road: An Exodus from Venezuela."

"A powerful storytelling image by a photographer (Yam) who gained trust and access for his subjects," the judges said. "The photographer captures layers of agony on human sufferings. Each image was compelling and storytelling."

The Best in Show Online award this year went to Andrew Quilty of The Intercept for his story titled "The CIA's Afghan Death Squad."

"This shocking and meticulously reported story exposed the CIA-supported murders of dozens of Afghan children and civilians that can only be described as unprosecuted war crimes," the judges said. "Reporter Andrew Quilty painstakingly pieced together one of the darkest chapters of the Afghanistan War, where women and children as young as eight were summarily executed by CIA-trained paramilitary units that were supported by American air power and advisers."

The Best in Show Radio award this year went to Shima Olaee and Jad Abumrad of Osm Audio and WNYC's Radiolab for their story titled "The Flag and the Fury."

"Overall, this is an amazing mix of storytelling and historical audio clips folded in that illustrates what the Confederate flag means to many people," the judges said.

National Public Radio won eight awards, including three first places.

The Best in Show Television award went to Morgan Till, Nadja Drost, Bruno Federico, Carlos Villalón, Bruno Federico and Sara Just of PBS NewsHour for their story titled "Desperate Journey."

"Extraordinary, embedded, risk-filled documentary of what refugees are going through as they navigate jungles and rivers heading north to the U.S. Exceptional reporting and documenting," the judges said.

CBS News won 16 awards, including five first places.

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

DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS SYNDICATES

Breaking News in daily newspapers, all sizes

First Place "The Death of George Floyd" Star-Tribune Staff

Judges' comments: Within the first hours following the death of George Floyd, the Star-Tribune demonstrated why journalists and journalism are critical to a community. Beginning with the release of the identities of the victim and the police responsible for his death, the staff provided constant updates to readers online and through social media. As protests and then riots erupted across town, they provided multilayered, contextual coverage even as they were targeted by protesters and the police.

Second Place

"Kobe Bryant, daughter Gianna among 9 dead in helicopter crash in Calabasas" Los Angeles Times Staff

Third Place "The Nashville Tornadoes" The Tennessean Staff

Local news beat coverage or continuing story in top 20 media market

First Place Libor Jany Star Tribune

Judges' comments: Libor Jany exemplifies beat coverage. As the first to Tweet out the name George Floyd -- and that of the police officer who kneeled on his neck, killing him -- he was there at the start of what would become an international story. But then he walked off that increasingly beaten path, and found stories and people that speak to his city's other failings. Beautifully written, and meaningful.

Second Place

"Dallas County's response to the pandemic" Nic Garcia The Dallas Morning News

Third Place "Immigration Coverage" Dianne Solis

The Dallas Morning News

Local news beat coverage or continuing story not in top 20 media market

First Place

"Entrenched and in power: How Portsmouth's white establishment attacks Black leaders" Ana Ley, Gary Harki and Margaret Matray The Virginian-Pilot

Judges' comments: The Virginian-Pilot presents a well-reported and thorough picture of a group of people long discriminated against and unfairly targeted. These stories lay out vividly the historic machinations that finally pushed activists and supporters to stand their ground. As readers, we were cheering at the end!

Second Place

"Roy McGrath's short tenure as Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's chief of staff" Pamela Wood The Baltimore Sun

Third Place

"Locked Out" Charlotte Keith Spotlight PA

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

First Place

"Anatomy of a Venezuelan Coup" Antonio M. Delgado, Kevin G. Hall, Shirsho Dasgupta, Ben Wieder and Marta O. Craviotto Miami Herald-McClatchy

Judges comments: With a degree of difficulty that ranks very high, the Miami Herald introduces us to the characters behind the Venezuelan coup in a John Le Carre-style piece that ranges from the dark fringes of Latin America to the elegant streets of Boca Raton.

Second Place

"Pandemic Warnings Unheeded" Bloomberg staff

Third Place

"The Thai monarchy in crisis" Shashank Bengali Los Angeles Times

News series in daily newspapers top 20 media market

First Place

"A Native American community and a virus" Kurtis Lee Los Angeles Times

Judges comments: A well-told tale, that is at once, both startling and heartwarming. The situation is dire, but the people are courageous and loyal. Kurtis Lee captures the best of the human spirit

Second Place

"Being the first Black female military pilots wasn't easy. Now they help others fly" Tara Copp and Kevin Keister McClatchy

Third Place

"The Last Walk of Manuel Ellis" Patrick Malone, Erika Schultz and Lauren Frohne The Seattle Times

News series in newspapers not in top 20 media market

First Place

"Water Ways: Dutch Lessons for a Changing Coast" Tristan Baurick and Tegan Wendland The Times-Picayune and New Orleans Advocate

Judges' comments: Some of the world's biggest challenges require thinking outside of the box, and that's exactly what this series -- a partnership between The Times Picayune, The New Orleans Advocate, WWNO New Orleans Public Radio and Climate Central -- highlights. New Orleans is learning some of the innovative ways that The Netherlands is tackling rising rivers and related water issues, from sand peninsulas to green rooftops to "giving land back to the rivers." These well-told and well-researched stories help readers see the kinds of efforts and thinking it will take to protect our increasingly vulnerable coastlines.

Second Place

"Rising Waters" The Post and Courier staff

Third Place "Milwaukee's Promise" James E. Causey and Angela Peterson Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Local interest column on a variety of subjects

First Place James E. Causey Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Judges' comments: James Causey rises to the top of an excellent harvest of local columns examining race in America with his own deft take on the issue. His column on buying a comic book in MIssissippi is not only chilling, haunting and sparsely told, it should be required reading for all those wondering whether there really are two Americas in which we dwell.

Second Place Kyle Whitmire Alabama Media Group

Third Place LZ Granderson Los Angeles Times

Special or feature column on one subject by an individual

First Place Mark Lamster Dallas Morning News

Judges' comments: Mark Lamster's columns on architecture teach us that the urban landscape is an important part of the community as a reflection of how a community views itself. In this case, historic renovation is better than a garish fountain, and an architectural gem of a ballpark built far away from mass transit is a flawed concept. Texans may think of themselves as bigger and better, but in the end Lamster notes that value trumps conceit.

Second Place

Scott Vogel Newsday

Third Place Corev Friedman

The Wilson Times

Editorial writing by an individual or team

First Place "Florida's flawed death penalty" Martin Dyckman South Florida Sun Sentinel

Judges' comments: These Sun-Sentinel editorials mince no words. They are direct and passionate, but at the same time well reasoned. They confront the entrenched forces favoring, as the editorial writers document it, an unfair, poorly administered death penalty. The Sun-Sentinel ediitorial writers force death penalty proponents to confront their own logical failings.

Second Place

Dave Helling and Toriano Porter The Kansas City Star

Third Place

"Safeguarding the health of Texans during the pandemic" Houston Chronicle Op/Ed staff

Sports column by an individual

First Place Luke DeCock Raleigh News & Observer

Judges' comments: Luke DeCock's examination of racial injustice in the sports coaching world, his tale of the wonderful happiness people can find in sports when a Zamboni driver becomes an NHL goalie for a night, and his argument that there is nothing wrong with May Madness (instead of March Madness) amid a pandemic were well crafted, thoughtful, and to-the-point pieces. He connected with the reader, and we were eager for more.

Second Place

Tim Cowlishaw Dallas Morning News

Third Place

Kevin Sherrington Dallas Morning News

Sports news writing by an individual or team

First Place

Sam Blum Dallas Morning News

Judges' comments: Sam Blum's presentation of sports news not only gives a complete report, he does so in such a way that the reader has no choice but to feel impressed, or angry, or sad, or even amazed. His detail-filled stories on how a college women's basketball coach created a divide among team members, or the bizarre case of a national wrestling tournament that went on despite the 'overhyped' threat of Covid, and his telling of how a Texas coach and his mixed-race family deals with racism reflects the exhausting effort he clearly puts into his writing. Excellent stuff.

Second Place

Joseph Hoyt Dallas Morning News

No third-place award given

Sports feature writing by an individual or team

First Place

Luke DeCock, Jonas Pope and Andrew Carter Raleigh News & Observer

Judges' comments: Luke DeCock, Jonas Pope IV and Andrew Carter tell tales of Roy Williams and his down-home roots, of Michael Jordan and how his footsteps no longer echo in his high school gym, and of Jaleel Scroggins, a Shaw University football player who refused to quit after being shot in the chest by would-be burglars. This is great stuff, rich in detail, rich in drama. Bravo.

Second Place

David Barron Houston Chronicle

Third Place

Greg Borowski Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Feature writing on a variety of subjects by an individual

First Place Jennifer Berry Hawes The Post and Courier **Judges' comments:** In a category of -- for the most part -- overwhelmingly moving entries, Jennifer Berry Hawes' work rises to the top. The once-swaggering sheriff, a city's racial past and the death of a bicyclist are not unique subjects. In fact, not even unique in other entries presented for this year's awards consideration. But Berry Hawes found new angles and went to extreme measures -- as a pandemic enveloped us all -- to report deeply, creatively and inspiringly.

Second Place

Reid Forgrave Star Tribune

Third Place

Tim Prudente The Baltimore Sun

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

First Place

"In the Shadows" Raquel Rutledge, John Diedrich and Daphne Chen Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Judges' comments: Hospital workers have been hailed as heroes for their front-line efforts during the coronavirus pandemic. But little attention is given to the violence these workers experience in a hospital itself or in its parking garage. Raquel Rutledge, John Diedrich and Daphne Chen of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel make clear in their package how inaction by many hospitals has put these hospital workers in additional danger. An eye-opener.

Second Place

"SBA Fraud" Bloomberg staff

Third Place

"Health Care Giants Benefit With Covid Relief Funds" Jordan Rau and Rachana Pradhan KHN in The Washington Post

Education writing by an individual or team

First Place

"The new reality of school" Los Angeles Times Staff

Los Angeles Times

Judges' comments: The herculean challenges of learning in a pandemic are captured in stories of the struggle to learn virtually, financial hardship and administrative decision-making. Solid statistics support the reporting. Equity issues put the issues into a local and national perspective. The depth and breadth of the reporting was stunning and became the yardstick by which competing versions of the story from other towns and other places were judged.

Second Place

Nader Issa Chicago Sun-Times

Third Place

"School Bus Safety: 'Rogue' NJ school bus operators put children in deadly danger" Asbury Park Press staff Asbury Park Press

Health, medical and science writing by an individual or team

First Place "Maricella's Last Breath" Rory Linnane Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Judges' comments: Maricella Chairez died while in the custody of the state. Rory Linnane's brought her to life through her quest to find justice for her. Officials across the legal and social service spectrum blocked efforts to unravel Maricella's story—one of failure by the various entities charged with protecting and working on solutions for a young girl with mental health problems. In the end, Linnane's tenacity, determination and persistence coupled with excellent narrative storytelling that focused on Maricella's humanity caught the ears of Wisconsin lawmakers. Reforms are pledged.

Second Place

"The Alzheimer's Chronicles" Will Doolittle The Post-Star

Third Place

"The Nation's Flawed Drug Tracking System" John Fauber and Daphne Chen Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Environmental writing by an individual or team

First Place

"The Grumman Plume: Decades of Deceit" David M. Schwartz, Paul LaRocco and Jeffrey Basinger Newsday

Judges' comments: This is the best of environmental reporting: Painstaking research and determined reporting that unearthed decades of deceit and gross negligence by a corporation and outlined the failures of a number of federal agencies that were responsible for the safety of residents. But, it's the results here that matter. Less than a year after publication, a historic agreement was reached to conduct full containment and cleanup of severe problems that threatened Long Island's sole source of drinking water.

Second Place

"A toxic secret lurks in deep sea" Rosanna Xia Los Angeles Times

Third Place "Examining Oregon's wildfires" Ted Sickinger The Oregonian

Investigative reporting in newspapers in top 20 media market

First Place and BEST IN SHOW

"Targeted" Kathleen McGrory and Neil Bedi Tampa Bay Times

Judges' comments: With a stunning hit-parade of police body cam footage and starkly written narrative, the Tampa Bay Times uncovers a shocking police practice that amounts to harassing potential wrongdoers from the unwelcoming precincts of Pasco County, Florida. Defending their brutish approach, police say they work with a nationally-recognized expert -- who says he's barely met anyone at the Pasco Sheriff's office.

Second Place

"Fumed out" Kiera Feldman Los Angeles Times

Third Place

"K2: Cancers strike veterans who deployed to Uzbek base where black goo oozed, ponds glowed Tara Copp and Reshma Kirpalani McClatchy

Investigative reporting in newspapers not in top 20 media market

First Place

"LIGHTS. CAMERA. VIOLENCE." Tony Plohetski Austin American-Statesman

Judges' comments: Tough category, but deep reporting, data research and national context put this entry above the rest. Tony Plohetski used established and newly developed sources to pull the curtain back on a sheriff and a department more in love with starring in reality TV than in fair law enforcement.

Second Place

"CRE8AD8 Investigative Reporting" Tom Orsborn San Antonio Express-News

Third Place

"Problems with crime free housing in Granite City" Alexis Cortes Belleville News-Democrat

Public service in newspapers in top 20 media market

First Place

"Detroit homeowners overtaxed \$600 million" Mark Betancourt, Christine MacDonald, Emmanuel Martinez and Tom Gromak The Detroit News

Judges' comments: Detroit's homeowners owe the Detroit \$600 million thank you. Through diligence, ingenuity and public spiritedness, the Detroit News researched, verified and publicized a gross accounting error that robbed citizens of tax money. The paper's public service put money back in the homeowners' pockets.

Second Place

"The human toll of the Hanford cleanup" Patrick Malone and Hal Bernton The Seattle Times

Third Place

"Our Reckoning With Racism" Los Angeles Times Staff Los Angeles Times

Public service in newspapers not in top 20 media market

First Place

"Alpine fire aftermath" Las Vegas Review-Journal staff Las Vegas Review-Journal

Judge's comments: It's a tragedy it took a deadly fire to bring attention to another issue of poor people being ignored. The Las Vegas Review-Journal dug deep to reveal years-long neglect by a building owner living in a mansion and a local government not bothering to enforce its own rules. As one reader wrote, "It's writing like this that reminds me of the importance of journalism." The reporting has led to criminal charges and legislative action. And the surviving tenants may finally believe someone values them as human beings.

Second Place

"Death in a North Carolina jail" Danielle Battaglia, Dan Kane and Lucille Sherman The News & Observer in collaboration with the North Carolina Watchdog Reporting Network

Third Place

"The case of Michael Fesser" Maxine Bernstein The Oregonian

Editorial cartoons

First Place Steve Kelley The Post-Gazette

Judges' comments: Steve Kelley doesn't play in cliches. His cartoons stood out for their originality, smarts and focus on the hilarious moments that were so very hard to find in 2020 - some on the national stage, and some in our own homes. His artistic hand is crisp and clear, and his messages go right to the gut -- causing a laugh, a headshake or a glance at the calendar: Is it 2021 yet?

Second Place

Clay Bennett Chattanooga Times Free Press

Third Place Mike Smith Las Vegas Sun - Greenspun Media Group

Journalistic innovation

First Place

"Just Like You" Aaron Albright, Sarah Blaskey and Nicholas Nehamas Miami Herald

Judges' comments: The Miami Herald assembled an arsenal as part of their coronavirus coverage allowing readers to enter their own personal demographic information and getting a story tailored to their own interest. Some 60,000 possibilities were taken into account and the story included anecdotes written by a computer to make sure the reader got the information they needed. This was a wonderful experiment and kudos to the Herald for trying it on the biggest story of the year.

Second Place

"Commissary Slips" Alabama Media Group Connor Sheets

Third Place

"Accused: The Mysterious Death of David Bocks" Amber Hunt and Clay Sisk The Cincinnati Enquirer

Best political coverage

First Place

"Chicago mayor's broken promises" Chicago Tribune staff Chicago Tribune

Judges' comments: This is politics in the trenches. Pratt shows how and why politics in Chicago doesn't work on behalf of the citizens. In tough, clear prose -- sprinkled with spot-on anecdotes, Pratt holds the city's mayor to account and shows her performance to be wanting.

Second Place

"2020 Elections Coverage" The Dallas Morning News staff The Dallas Morning News

Third Place

Craig Gilbert Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Newspaper pandemic coverage or project

First Place "Shadow Pandemic" William Wan The Washington Post

Judges' comments: Data. Reporting. Results. The coverage by The Post was unique in this category and they tackled under-reported mental health issues exacerbated by the pandemic with a depth we didn't see in any other entry. They accomplished this by building their own set of data to uncover where deaths were and paired that with reporting that showed how little was being done about the growing crisis. All of this while introducing readers to the victims. After publication, there was an acknowledgment of issues by government agencies, historic funding to behavioral health groups, and a better understanding of societal issues that are often hidden.

Second Place

"Desperate at Death Ridge" Chris Serres and Glenn Howatt Star Tribune

Third Place

"A Numbers Game" Miami Herald Miami Herald staff

MAGAZINES

Coverage of a major news event or topic

First Place "The Risky Business of Breast Implants" Maria Aspan Fortune **Judges' comments:** This entry deserves recognition for its comprehensive look at a serious issue. The writers utilized personal narratives, data and an examination of the regulations to craft informative stories. The straight-forward writing emphasized the seriousness of an issue often viewed with a touch of mockery creating a wealth of information for women, and their partners, considering the procedure from either a medical or personal approach. Well done.

Second Place

"Seattle Under Siege" Erika Fry Fortune

No Third Place award given

Magazine feature writing by an individual on a variety of subjects

First Place

"When can we really rest?" Nadja Drost The California Sunday Magazine

Judges' comments: Much has been written about the caravans coming to America, but there has been scant coverage of those trying to reach the US via the Darien Gap, described as Traversing the Darien Gap taken by migrants from Africa, South Asia and Haiti. Reporter Nadja Drost spent a week with a group braving one of the most dangerous regions in the world. Her evocative writing describing the journey and the backstories of these desperate souls takes readers on the dangerous trek as well.

Second Place

"The Amish Keep to Themselves. And They're Hiding a Horrifying Secret" Cosmopolitan, Type Investigations and Sarah McClure

Third Place

"Burial at New York City's Mass Graveyard on Hart Island" W.J. Hennigan TIME

Magazine column by an individual on a variety of subjects

First Place

"The dark side of the cannabis explosion" Mona Zhang and Ben Schreckinger Politico **Judges' comments:** Market a controversial product, add in competition and corruption, stir with charges of racism and rules varying across states and you get a broad look at the growing commercial marijuana market in this three-part piece. Ben Schreckinger and Mona Zhang provide the reader with all the details needed to grasp this burgeoning industry, once viewed with absolute anthem by society.

Second Place

Clifton Leaf Fortune

Magazine political coverage

First Place

"Michael Kruse's Studies of Donald Trump's Psyche" Michael Kruse Politico

Judges' comments: Revealing profiles that help forward the understanding of President Trump and the things that shape his world.

No second- or third-place award given

Magazine pandemic coverage/project

First Place

"Hidden Hardship: Immigrant and foreign food workers toil, and die, in obscurity" Susan Ferriss, Joe Yerardi and Taylor Johnston Center for Public Integrity and Mother Jones

Judges' comments: The Center for Public Integrity and Mother Jones share kudos for giving a voice to Latino immigrants—some legal, some not—who grow, harvest and process our food even as political pressures and a pandemic threaten their livelihoods. Crisp writing, detailed graphics and narrative stories personalize the entry.

Second Place

"How To Define A Plague" Sonia Shah The Nation

Third Place

"Big-Think Coronavirus Packages" Politico staff Politico

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

Spot news photography

First Place

"Pandemic Revolt" Joshua A. Bickel The Columbus Dispatch

Judges' comments: The winning photo is a haunting prequel to the events of January 6th, playing out on the steps of the Ohio statehouse. Faces of protesters are jammed against the statehouse windows in defiance of the COVID distancing rules being put in place.

Second Place

"Pepper sprayed at BLM riot" Sean Simmers PennLive and Patriot-News

Third Place

"Body of man shot and killed at Trump rally in Portland" Dave Killen The Oregonian

Feature photography

First Place

"Drive-thru Strip Club in a Pandemic" Beth Nakamura The Oregonian

Judges' comments: The Drive-thru Strip club photo was the right feature where a photographer must have done some homework to get that shot. Good planning and knowing your community helps to get unique visuals.

Second Place

"MLK Oratory" Vernon Bryant The Dallas Morning News

Third Place "Wildfire Superheroes" Beth Nakamura The Oregonian

Sports action or sports feature photography

First Place

"An emotional tribute to Kobe Bryant" Wally Skalij Los Angeles Times

Judges' comments: The NBA Los Angeles Lakers pay a stirring tribute to the loss of their teammate Kobe Bryant. This category was an L.A. Times sweep with second- and third-place winners going to action photos of the Los Angeles Dodgers run to the World Series.

Second Place

"Champs" Robert Gauthier Los Angeles Times

Third Place

"Freeze Tag" Robert Gauthier Los Angeles Times

Individual photo portfolio

First Place and BEST IN SHOW

"The Long Road: An Exodus from Venezuela" Marcus Yam and Alan Hagman Los Angeles Times

Judges' comments: A powerful storytelling image by a photographer who gained trust and access for his subjects. The photographer captures layers of agony on human sufferings. Each image was compelling and storytelling. The photo of a young woman sleeping on the road with her family still haunts me to see their dire journey.

Second Place Robert Gauthier Los Angeles Times

Third Place Richard Tsong-Taatarii Star Tribune

Staff photo portfolio

First Place

"In the shadow of George Floyd" Star Tribune staff Star Tribune

Judges' comments: This compelling portfolio made in Minneapolis following the death of George Floyd tells a story of rage, fury, confrontation and sadness in this tightly edited set of pictures.

Second Place

"A Season of Protest" Newsday photo staff Newsday

Third Place

"Portland Protests" Beth Nakamura and Dave Killen The Oregonian

Single day photo story

First Place

"Lifting Their Voices" Joshua A. Bickel The Columbus Dispatch

Judges' comments: Columbus Dispatch photographer did a great portrait work of planning and executing a portraiture reportage. So much BLM protest work we saw this year with a lot of anger and anxiety. This work showcases the pride and humanity.

Second Place

"Black Lives Matter Riot" San Antonio Express-News Bob Owen

Third Place

"BLM Protest of the Killing of George Floyd, June, 23, 2020" Brian Branch-Price Zuma Press Images

Multiple day photo story

First Place

"Our people are scared" Richard Tsong-Taatarii Star Tribune

Judges' comments: Families in the Standing Rock Reservation of South Dakota suffer outsized loss of life from COVID-19 due to crowded housing conditions and poor access to health care. The photos in this winning portfolio show the suffering of losing a loved one due to the pandemic.

Second Place

"Justice for George Floyd protests" J. Conrad Williams Jr. Newsday

Third Place

"Jacob Blake shooting and aftermath" Milwaukee Journal Sentinel staff Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Portrait

First Place "Jazz Musicians, Out Cruisin'" Thomas A. Ferrara Newsday

Judges' comments: A photographer captures a genuine moment of everyday life. Color and composition add an element to the winning image than the rest of the other entries. Great work.

Second Place

"Stressed Nurse" Bob Owen San Antonio Express-News

Third Place

"Lola Jean Gardner" Lynda M. González Dallas Morning News

Pictorial

First Place "With flying colors" Tom Fox The Dallas Morning News

Judges' comments: The winning photo captured the coming together of a rainbow and an airplane in flight.

Second Place

"Raindrops" Thomas A. Ferrara Newsday

Third Place

"Corona Military Graduation" Bob Owen San Antonio Express-News