Southern California News Group journalists honored for reporting, commentary and photography

ANAHEIM, CALIF. -- April 8, 2020 -- Southern California News Group journalists have been honored by national and regional media industry groups and local public interest organizations for their outstanding work in 2020. The journalists include writers Scott Reid, David Allen and Stephen Scauzillo, and photographers Terry Pierson and Keith Birmingham.

SCNG reporter Scott Reid was recognized among the top 10 in two categories in the Associated Press Sports Editors’ annual contest. Reid was named top 10 in investigative and in breaking news stories for his work covering Olympic sports and athlete safety. It's the 12th time since 1999 that he's been recognized in the top 10 in the investigative category. Reid has been with The Orange County Register since 1996 and his reporting has received widespread national recognition and spurred milestone reforms. View one of his award-winning articles here.

The Society of Professional Journalists Greater Los Angeles chapter has named Inland Valley Daily Bulletin columnist David Allen as one of their Distinguished Journalists of 2020. Allen has been writing about life in the Inland Valley (and more recently the Inland Empire) for more than 20 years. “His inimitable perspective and sense of humor - sometimes offbeat, but always upbeat - have long been a staple of our local reporting and an example of how to make the mundane magical,” said executive editor Frank Pine. Read more about Allen and this year’s other honorees at SPJ/LA’s website.

Staff writer Stephen Scauzillo has been recognized by the D'Andre Lampkin Foundation for his reporting on the city of Ontario's efforts to ensure a complete U.S. census count despite the challenges of the pandemic. Foundation CEO D'Andre Lampkin, who worked as the 2020 census count coordinator for the City of Ontario, presented the award.

SCNG photojournalist Terry Pierson has been named photographer of the year by the National Press Photographer Association's Region 10, which represents California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. This is the 7th time in the past 10 years that Pierson has received this well-deserved recognition. He was one of five SCNG photographers to finish in the top 20. The others were Keith Birmingham, Mindy Schauer, Mark Rightmire and Paul Bersebach. Read more about Pierson’s win and view a gallery of his outstanding work here.
Keith Birmingham was named Member of the Month for April 2021 by The Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles. Birmingham has covered many memorable moments that have happened in Southern California and beyond, including the Super Bowl, NBA Finals, World Series and the Rose Bowl Game. “I found that I have been able to make memorable photos in prep sports. These are student athletes, that are playing for the love of the game. They define themselves by the sound of the whistle or the sound of the buzzer. They live for these moments and subsequently go through a range of emotions. I have always found it challenging to cover these students with the grace and understanding of someone who once stood in their shoes. Their story deserves to be told just as that professional athlete,” Birmingham said. View examples of Birmingham's work here.

Southern California News Group staff photographer Keith Birmingham knows his way around Chavez Ravine, home of the Los Angeles Dodgers. In this photo, Birmingham documented Japan v. Korea in the Championship game of the World Baseball Classic in March 2009.

About the Southern California News Group