INDIANA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

JORDAN VANDENBERGE
WEHT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS WAS A DIFFICULT CATEGORY TO JUDGE BECAUSE ALL THE CONTENDERS SHOWED A GREAT BODY OF WORK. BUT JORDAN VANDENBERGE PREVAILED BECAUSE OF HIS CLASSIC WATCHDOG REPORTING, GOOD USE OF DOCUMENTS AND HIS PERSISTENT ATTEMPTS TO GIVE PEOPLE A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN THEIR ACTIONS, EVEN THOUGH THEY KEPT SHUTTING THE DOOR ON HIM.”

INDIANA STUDENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

CAMERON RIDLE
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “CAMERON HAS ACCOMPLISHED QUITE A BIT AT JUST 22 YEARS OLD AND SIMPLY READING HIS NOMINATION LETTER AND VIEWING HIS CLIPS, IT IS CLEAR HE IS VERY DESERVING OF THIS HONOR. I EXPECT CAMERON TO DO GREAT THINGS ... GET HIS AUTOGRAPH NOW.”
INDIANA STORY OF THE YEAR

STAFF
“LIVING ALICE”
HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “BEAUTIFULLY IN-DEPTH LOOK AT A VERY SERIOUS AND PREVALENT SITUATION. GREAT REPORTING AND A NICE WELL-ROUNDED PACKAGE.”

SLAYMAKER SERVICE TO JOURNALISM AWARD

MARCIA ODDI
INDIANA LAW BLOG

FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD:

CRAIG LYONS, SAMIM ARIF, DEJUAN FOSTER
“PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES: ELECTRONIC ACCESS IN INDIANA”

THE MEDIA SCHOOL AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A CLEAR-CUT WINNER. IT IS DISHEARTENING TO READ ABOUT THE ONGOING PUBLIC RECORDS LAW CONFUSION. THIS STUDY SHOULD BE SHARED WITH ALL INDIANA COUNTY OFFICIALS.”
CATEGORY: RADIO BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JOE CRAWFORD, SCOTT WEDDLE
“MAYORAL CANDIDATE JOHN HAMILTON HOLDS FUNDRAISER IN D.C.”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “REPORTER DID A GOOD JOB "FOLLOWING THE MONEY." OBVIOUSLY THIS IS JUST ONE STORY, BUT I HOPE HE CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN THAT KIND OF COVERAGE FOR THE DURATION OF THE RACE.”

2ND PLACE:
MARY PERREN
“LACROSSE GRAIN ELEVATOR EXPLOSION”
WKVI AM/FM
CATEGORY: RADIO BEST NEWSCAST (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WFHB NEWS STAFF
“WFHB DAILY LOCAL NEWS”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WFHB HAS A GOOD TEAM AND A VERY INFORMATIVE FORMAT. THE NEWS REPORT TAKES THE TIME TO GIVE LISTENERS FULL ACCOUNTS OF THE NEWS AND TO PROVIDE ENOUGH BACKGROUND TO FILL IN ALL THE FACTS.”

2ND PLACE:
A.J. BRAMMER
“WORX-FM 4 P.M. NEWS”
WORX-FM

3RD PLACE:
STEPHANIE WIECHMANN
“ALL THINGS CONSIDERED NEWSCAST”
INDIANA PUBLIC RADIO
CATEGORIES: RADIO SPORTS REPORTING  (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
SARAH FENTEM
“COMPETITIVE FORESTRY”
WBAA PUBLIC RADIO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “I ENJOYED LEARNING. SPORTS STORIES OFTEN LINGER ON TROPES - "YAY, WE WON" - BUT THIS STORY DELVED INTO FRESH TERRITORY.”

2ND PLACE:
BRIAN BURNSED
AND SAM KLEMET
“PLAYING FOR TWO”
NCAA CHAMPION

3RD PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“NOTRE DAME AND ESPN BATTLING IN COURT OVER POLICE RECORDS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORtI: RADIO IN-DEPTH REPORTING  (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JAKE HARPER
“OPIOID ADDICTION”
SIDE EFFECTS PUBLIC MEDIA & WFYI

JUDGES COMMENTS: “JAKE HARPER’S STORIES ON OPIOID ADDICTION ARE THE CLEAR, AUTHORITATIVE CHOICE OF THIS FIELD. THE STORIES ARE PACKED WITH ASTONISHING INSIGHTS, LIKE FASTER CARE CASES HAVING UP TO NINE DIFFERENT CASE WORKERS. EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD IN-DEPTH WORK.”

2ND PLACE:
LISA RYAN
“ONE IN FIVE: ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES IN FORT WAYNE”
WBOI

3RD PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“UNKNOWINGLY BUY A METH HOUSE? PAY THE CONSEQUENCES”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORIES: RADIO FEATURE STORY (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
GRETCHEFRAZEE
“SYRIAN REFUGEES FIND NEW HOMES IN INDIANA”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GRETCHEFRAZEE FILLS OUR MINDS WITH THE VOICES OF A FAMILY OF SYRIAN REFUGEES AS THEY WEIGHED A DESPERATE DECISION, ENDURED SEPARATION, ENDLESS WAITING AND FINALLY THE JOURNEY. SENSITIVE ANALYSIS OF HOST COMMUNITY RISKS, WITH CLIPS FROM NATIONAL FIGURES.”

2ND PLACE:
JOE WEBER, SCOTT WEDDLE
“CONNECTING WITH A GREAT-GRANDFATHER THROUGH POETRY”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO

3RD PLACE:
STAN JASTRZEBSKI
“PURDUE SUPERCOMPUTER”
WBAA PUBLIC RADIO
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: RADIO DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WFIU/WTIU NEWS TEAM
“RFRA: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GOOD USE OF A VARIETY OF SOUND INCLUDING A PRESS CONFERENCE, ANALYSIS, PRODUCED PIECES AND OPEN PHONES”

2ND PLACE:
CYNTHIA WOLFE, BOOKS UNBOUND CAST
“KILLING VOLTAIRE: AN OBSERVANCE FOR CHARLIE HEBDO”
WFHB

3RD PLACE:
STAN SOLLARS AND JOHN STRAUSS
“STAN'S JOURNEY”
INDIANA PUBLIC RADIO
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: RADIO CONTINUING COVERAGE (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WFIU/WTIU NEWS TEAM
“THE IMPACT OF INDIANA’S HIV EPIDEMIC”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “TOLD WITH CLARITY. DESCRIPTIVE WRITING AND ACTIVE STORYTELLING. GREAT USE OF SOUND.”

2ND PLACE:
BRANDON SMITH
“RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FALLOUT IN INDIANA”
INDIANA PUBLIC BROADCASTING

3RD PLACE:
RACHEL MORELLO
“THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN GARY, INDIANA”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORY: RADIO PUBLIC AFFAIRS (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DOUGLAS STORM, JONATHAN RICHARDSON
“INTERCHANGE: THE POLICE AND YOU”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE FIRST PLACE WINNER’S ENTRY SERVED AS A GREAT PIECE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORTING BY ASKING HARD QUESTIONS, PUSHING BACK ON INCOMPLETE ANSWERS AND ILLUMINATING ISSUES HIDDEN BENEATH THE SURFACE.”

2ND PLACE:
JOE CRAWFORD
“DISRESPECTING THE AREA”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO

3RD PLACE:
WILLIAM HOSEA, CORNELIUS WRIGHT, CLARENCE BOONE, CHRIS MARTIN
“WHETHER TO COMPLY”
WFHB COMMUNITY RADIO
2015 Winners

CATEGORY: SPOT NEWS REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
STAFF
“JARED FOGLE; FROM PITCHMAN TO PARIAH”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

2ND PLACE:
STAFF
“The RFRA FIX”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
SARAH REESE, ELVIA MALAGON, ED BIERSCHENK
“EAST CHICAGO COUNCIL MEMBER FACING MURDER, DRUG CHARGES”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: SPOT NEWS REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
LAURA LANE
“SERVE THE PUBLIC, NOT THEMSELVES”
THE HERALD-TIMES

2ND PLACE:
STAFF, THE HERALD-TIMES
“HOSPITAL MOVING EAST”
THE HERALD-TIMES

3RD PLACE:
ED WENCK
“THE CANNABITERIANS AND THE COPS”
NUVO
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
TONY COOK
AND TIM EVANS
“BMV OVERCHARGES, MISMANAGEMENT”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF WHY INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM STILL MATTERS. TONY COOK AND TIM EVANS EXPOSED A CALLOUS DISREGARD BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOR THE PEOPLE OF INDIANA, THEN WENT DEEPER AND FOUND A CULTURE OF PATRONAGE THAT PLACED INEPT OFFICIALS IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY. THEY ALSO SHED LIGHT ON SHADY PRACTICES AND FLAWS IN THE SYSTEM. WELL DONE.”

2ND PLACE:
SARAH REESE
“TWO STORIES, ONE VIDEO”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
HAYLEIGH COLUMBO
“SCHOOL OFFERED $100 REWARDS FOR NEW STUDENTS”
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CHALKBEAT INDIANA
CATEGORY: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MAUREEN DOBIE
“BLAMING THE VICTIM”
NUVO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “NICE PIECE BY MAUREEN DOBIE. WELL RESEARCHED AND ENGAGING.”

2ND PLACE:
KEN DE LA BASTIDE
“MOUNDS LAKE: BOON OR BOONDOGGLE?”
HERALD BULLETIN

3RD PLACE:
MICHAEL RESCHKE AND MARY KECK
“EARLY TO RISE”
THE HERALD-TIMES
CATEGOR Y: NON-DEADLINE STORY OR SERIES (NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA)  
(PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
SCOTT ELLIOTT, SHAINA CAVAZOS, HAYLEIGH COLOMBO, 
ERIC WEDDLE, STEPHANIE WANG 
“LOST IN TRANSLATION”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA, THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR AND WFYI

JUDGES COMMENTS: “LOST IN TRANSLATION IS AN INTERESTING EXAMINATION OF A NATIONAL ISSUE THAT HAS HAD GROWING IMPACT ON INDIANA SCHOOLS. THE SERIES HAS ALREADY INFLUENCED THE STATE LEGISLATURE.”

2ND PLACE:
JERRY DAVICH 
“FINALLY, A FREE MAN AFTER 40 YEARS BEHIND BARS” 
POST-TRIBUNE

3RD PLACE:
IBJ STAFF 
“THE INNOVATION ISSUE” 
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners
CATEGORIZATION: NON-DEADLINE STORY OR SERIES (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:

STAFF

“LIVING ALICE”

HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “IT’S ALWAYS HARD TO TAKE NUMBERS, NO MATTER HOW IMPORTANT, AND BREATHE LIFE INTO THEM WITH ANECDOTE, INTERVIEWS AND WRITING, BUT IT IS HARDER STILL WHEN THE TOPIC MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO FIND PEOPLE WHO WILL SPEAK ON THE ISSUE, OUT OF EMBARRASSMENT OR STIGMA. BALANCING HARD NUMBERS WITH COMPELLING PERSONAL STORIES, THE HERALD BULLETIN DID ITS READERS, AND ITS COMMUNITY, A SERVICE IN ILLUSTRATING THE PLIGHT OF PEOPLE LIVING IN ECONOMIC DISTRESS. CLARITY, STYLE AND RESOURCEFULNESS WERE EVIDENT, AND SO WAS THE PAPER’S COMMITMENT TO TACKLING AN ISSUE THAT COULD HAVE BEEN A DAILY ABOUT DATA, INSTEAD OF SHEDDING LIGHT ON AN ISSUE OF SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC CONCERN.”

2ND PLACE:

SUE LOUGHLIN, MARK BENNETT, STAFF

“CITY ON THE BRINK”

TRIBUNE-STAR

3RD PLACE:
DOUGLAS WALKER, KEITH ROYSDON
“COLD CASE: MUNCIE”
THE STAR PRESS
CATEGORY: NON-DEADLINE STORY OR SERIES (MAGAZINES AND
NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DAVE STAFFORD, MARILYN ODENDAHL, JENNIFER NELSON,
KELLY LUCAS
“INDIANA LAWYER SURVEY”
INDIANA LAWYER

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE INDIANA LAWYER TOOK WHAT COULD
HAVE BEEN AN “INSIDE BASEBALL” STACK OF STATISTICS
AND TURNED THEM INTO A SERIES OF PIECES THAT WERE
THOUGHTFUL AND SURPRISING. THE STORIES POKED HOLES IN
TRADITIONAL IDEAS OF LAWYERING AND THE NUMBERS WERE
FLESHED OUT WITH GENEROUS QUOTES ATTACHING FACES TO
THE NUMBERS.”

2ND PLACE:
OSEYE BOYD, MIKE LAFOLLETTE, DIANA LAMIRAND, SUE WILTZ
“REACHING FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM”
ANGIE’S LIST

3RD PLACE:
NANCY HILLER
“EVA KOR OF TERRE HAUTE — A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR WHO BELIEVES IN FORGIVENESS”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRIAN EASON
“ABANDONED Indy”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “EASON’S COVERAGE STANDS OUT FOR DRILLING DOWN HARD ON AN IMPORTANT AREA OF GOVERNMENT NEGLECT WITH GREAT STORYTELLING.”

2ND PLACE:
BILL DOLAN, MARC CHASE
“DISPATCH DISCONNECT”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
LINDSEY ERDODY
“NORTHERN SUBURBS COVERAGE”
CATEGORt: COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MEGAN BANTA
“MAYORAL ELECTION 2015”
THE HERALD-TIMES

2ND PLACE:
ELISABETH ANDREWS
“THE AMERICAN SPECTATOR’ BORN AND BRED IN BLOOMINGTON”
BLOOM MAGAZINE
CATEGORY: BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JARED COUNCIL
“INDIANAPOLIS TECHNOLOGY COVERAGE”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

JUDGES COMMENTS: “JARED COUNCIL’S STORIES MAKE INDIANAPOLIS’S TECH COMMUNITY COME ALIVE. IF SILICON VALLEY ITSELF HAS A SCRIBE AS DEDICATED TO GETTING INSIDE AND INTIMATE WITH THE PEOPLE DRIVING ITS TECH INDUSTRY, IT WOULD BE DOING VERY WELL.”

2ND PLACE:
TOM MURPHY
“DEATH BUSINESS EXPANDS INTO HOSTING WEDDINGS, OTHER EVENTS”
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3RD PLACE:
TIM EVANS
“CONSUMER WATCHDOG REPORTING”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR
CATEGORY: BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ED WENCK AND MICHAEL RHEINHEIMER
“TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS COVERAGE”
NUVO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “YOU DON’T OFTEN SEE COVERAGE OF THE VIDEOGAME BUSINESS, EXCEPT MAYBE IN THE BROADEST FINANCIAL STROKES, MUCH LESS TABLETOP GAMES. THAT COMBINED WITH DECENT WRITING AND THE CREATIVITY OF MAKING YOUR OWN GAME PUT THIS OVER THE TOP.”

2ND PLACE:
MARILYN ODENDAHL
“SPARKS FLY”
INDIANA LAWYER

3RD PLACE:
CHARLEE BEASOR
“BROADBAND NECESSITY: RURAL INDIANA STRUGGLES TO GET CONNECTED”
BIZVOICE
CATEGORt: EDUCATION REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
SCOTT ELLIOTT
“THE BASICS OF SCHOOL FUNDING: DIFFICULTY DEFINING FAIRNESS”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA

2ND PLACE:
RACHEL MORELLO
“COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITY: THE REALITIES OF GARY’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

3RD PLACE:
DYLAN PEERS MCCOY
“RICH SCHOOL, POOR SCHOOL: IPS PUSH TO EVEN OUT FUNDING COULD BRING BIG CHANGES”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA
CATEGORY: EDUCATION REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ELISABETH ANDREWS
“RISKING THEIR LIVES FOR JUSTICE”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A WONDERFUL ARTICLE ON THE INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND THE TWO INDIANA UNIVERSITY WHO TEACH IT”

2ND PLACE:
STUART HIRSCH
“GRADUATES OVERCOME OBSTACLES”
HERALD BULLETIN
CATEGORY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MICHAEL RUBINO AND EVAN WEST
“UNDER THE GUN”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS WAS A DIFFICULT CATEGORY TO JUDGE. THE WINNER HAS TRULY IMPRESSIVE COVERAGE OF A NATIONAL HOT TOPIC APPLIED LOCALLY. IT COVERED MANY DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW IN A TAPESTRY OF REPORTING, COMBINED WITH DETAILED SIDEBARS. IT IS BEYOND COMPREHENSION THE LEVEL OF TEAMWORK AND COLLABORATION NEEDED TO PULL OFF THIS INCREDIBLE FEATURE STORY.”

2ND PLACE:
TIM EVANS
AND MARK ALELIA
“INDY’S SPICE ROAD”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
ADAM WREN
“RECYCLEFORCE CAN’T LOSE”
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

CATEGORY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DOUGLAS WALKER
THE STAR PRESS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WELL-WRITTEN, THOROUGH AND WITH A PHYSICAL RESULT OF EFFORT. TALENTED WRITER PRESENTS WITH CLARITY.”

2ND PLACE:
DAVE STAFFORD
“THAT’S A WRAP”
INDIANA LAWYER

3RD PLACE:
RYAN M. FAIST
“CRIME STOPPERS”
GRANGER DOES IT MAGAZINE
CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF CHILDREN’S ISSUES (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MARISA KWIAKTOWSKI
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

2ND PLACE:
AMBER STEARNS
“TRANSATHLETE: A GIRL’S TRANSITION JOURNEY AND THE FIGHT FOR HER RIGHT TO PLAY”
NUVO

3RD PLACE:
HAYLEIGH COLUMBO
“SOME IMMIGRANT CHILDREN SHUT OUT OF NEW PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA
CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF MINORITY ISSUES (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
STEPHANIE WANG
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “ENTRY INCLUDES GREAT DEPTH ON SEVERAL MINORITY ISSUES AND DISCUSSES PROBLEMS AS WELL AS ATTEMPTS AT RESOLUTION.”

2ND PLACE:
HAYLEIGH COLUMBO
“HISPANICS FLEE AS FIGHTS, RACIAL TENSION RILE GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
HAYLEIGH COLUMBO
“FIRST THING SCHOOLS OFTEN GET WRONG WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS IS THEIR NAMES”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA
CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF MINORITY ISSUES (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JENNIFER BOEN
“CITIZENSHIP ELUSIVE FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH ISSUES, ILLITERACY”
THE NEWS-SENTINEL

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A DEPRESSING WELL RESEARCHED SERIES ON THE BUREAUCRATIC HELL FACED BY OLDER IMMIGRANTS SEEKING CITIZENSHIP. WELL DONE!”

2ND PLACE:
MIKE LEONARD
“GEORGE TALIAFERRO MAKES OLD PAL'S WISH COME TRUE”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
RYAN M. FAIST
“AND GLEE FOR ALL”
GRANGER DOES IT MAGAZINE
CATEGORY: MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRIAN BURNSED
“A GRAY MATTER”
NCAA CHAMPION

JUDGES COMMENTS: “AN IN DEPTH LOOK AT DEBUNKING A THEORY THAT FOOTBALL IS AUTOMATICALLY DANGEROUS TO ONE’S HEALTH. WELL DONE!”

2ND PLACE:
GILES BRUCE
“MEDICAL RECORDS DUMPED”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
CATEGORY: MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
CHARLEE BEASOR
“SETTING A STATEWIDE EXAMPLE: SUCCESSES EMERGE FROM GOVERNMENT WELLNESS INITIATIVE”
*BIZVOICE*

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GREAT READABILITY WITH MANY SOURCES QUOTED. GOOD FLOW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION; MADE ME CARE ABOUT THE ISSUE. DID NOT SUGAR COAT THE STATE OF PEOPLES’ HEALTH IN INDIANA IN TERMS OF RANKINGS WITH OTHER STATES.”

2ND PLACE:
DEVAN FILCHAK
“TREATING PARKINSON’S”
*HERALD BULLETIN*

3RD PLACE:
KYLIE VELETA
“LIFE SCIENCES INDIANA”
*INSIDE INDIANA BUSINESS*
CATEGORY: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA)  
(PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
VIC RYCKAERT, RYAN SABALOW
“STINK-FREE SUPER BOWL SMELLS TO SOUTHSIDERS”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

2ND PLACE:
JOHN RUSSELL, GABRIELLE FERREIRA
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR
CATEGORtY: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
KEN DE LA BASTIDE AND DEVAN FILCHAK
“MOUNDS LAKE”
HERALD BULLETIN

2ND PLACE:
ED WENCK AND AMBER STEARNS
“GARBAGE DEAL — MONEY TO BURN?”
NUVO

3RD PLACE:
CAROL KUGLER
THE HERALD-TIMES
CATEGORY: FEATURES WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
LANDA BAGLEY
“THE POWER OF A PROMISE - MISHAWAKA COP NEVER FORGETS PLEDGE TO MOM OF MURDERED TEEN”
SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WHAT COULD EASILY HAVE BEEN JUST ANOTHER CRIME REPORT IS CRAFTED INTO A TAUTLY TOLD STORY THAT ALMOST READS LIKE A CRIME NOVELLA -- WITHOUT VEERING INTO SENTIMENTALITY. THE RESTRAINT IN THE WRITING HIGHLIGHTS THE EMOTIONAL THREAD OF A “PROMISE KEPT” WITHOUT RELYING ON EMOTION-FUELED DESCRIPTION OR OVERWROUGHT EMBELLISHMENTS.”

2ND PLACE:
ZAK KEEFER
“BOB COLLINS CHAMPIONED ATTUCKS AMID THREATS, BIGOTRY ”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
JOSEPH S. PETE
“WHITING REFINERY EXPlosion SEEMED LIKE ‘END OF THE WORLD’”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

CATEGORY: FEATURES WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
KELLY DICKEY
“BOND OF BROTHERS”
HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “AN UNCANNY TALE OF AN UNBREAKABLE BOND BETWEEN BROTHERS. WELL DONE!”

2ND PLACE:
KEITH ROYSDON
“ALIVE AGAINST ALL ODDS”
THE STAR PRESS
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: FEATURES WRITING (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MICHAEL RUBINO
“OLD SCHOOL”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS WAS TRULY A PLEASURE TO READ. LET’S HEAR IT FOR THE BOYS!”

2ND PLACE:
CARMEN SIERING
“How the Homeless See Bloomington”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
JENNIFER DODDS FOX
“Treasured Family Recipes”
FORT WAYNE MAGAZINE
CATEGORtY: PERSONALITY PROFILE (NEwSPAPERS AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MARK ALESIA, TIM EVANS
“WHo IS BILL LEVIN?”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “An amusing look into Indiana’s grand poobah of the first Church of Cannabis. Well done!”

2ND PLACE:
SAM STALL
“FIX IT MAN KEEPS TYPEWRITERS CLACKING”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

3RD PLACE:
LOU HARRY
“URBANSKI'S MANY FACES”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL
CATEGORt: PERSONALITY PROFILE (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ADAM WREN
“MAN OF CONVICTION”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GRIPPING STORY. GOOD SOURCES, NICE CHOICE OF QUOTES. LOTS OF DETAIL.”

2ND PLACE:
BRIAN BURNSED
“PLAYING FOR TWO”
NCAA CHAMPION

3RD PLACE:
RACHEL STARK
“A TWIST OF FAITH”
NCAA CHAMPION
CATEGORY: ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITING (NEWSPAPERS AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
LOU HARRY
“LOU’S VIEWS REVIEWS”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

JUDGES COMMENTS: “LOU HARRY’S WORK WAS CLEVERLY WRITTEN, STYLIZED AND EXPRESSIVE. HE CAN TURN A PHRASE. HIS COLLECTION HAD A MARVELOUS RANGE OF TOPICS.”

2ND PLACE:
WEI-HUAN CHEN
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

2ND PLACE:
ANDREW S. HUGHES
SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

3RD PLACE:
DAVID LINDQUIST
“DAVE’S LAST LAUGH AND JOHN GREEN”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR
CATEGORİE: ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRİTİNG (MAGAZİNES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DANIEL S. COMISKEY
“DAVE”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “ORIGINAL AND QUIRKY PIECE, LIKE DAVID LETTERMAN. GREAT QUOTES FROM CLASSMATES, FELLOW CELEBS, ETC. STRONG POINT OF VIEW/VOICE”

2ND PLACE:
CARMEN SIERING & ROGER PFINGSTON
“AN ARTIST’S IMAGES ON THE B-LINE TRAIL”
BLOOM MAGAZINE
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: EDITORIAL WRITING (ALL PUBLICATIONS AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MAX JONES
“RATIONAL DISCUSSION, BOLD ACTION NEEDED TO RESOLVE FINANCIAL CRISIS”
TRIBUNE-STAR

2ND PLACE:
MARK BENNETT
“ISTEP FLUNKS THE TRUST TEST”
TRIBUNE-STAR

3RD PLACE:
TIM SWARENS
“FIX THIS NOW”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR
CATEGORY: EDITORIAL CARTOON (ALL PUBLICATIONS AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
TIM CAMPBELL
“BMV MAKE UP A NUMBER”
CURRENT PUBLISHING

JUDGES COMMENTS: “TIM CAMPBELL’S TAKE ON THE STATE BMV ACCOUNTING SCANDAL IS IN THE TRADITION OF GREAT EDITORIAL CARTOONING, SCATHINGLY ON TARGET AND FUNNY.”

2ND PLACE:
SHANE JOHNSON
“ANTHEM DATA LEAK”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

3RD PLACE:
TIM CAMPBELL
“BRADY BREAKS CELL PHONE”
CURRENT PUBLISHING
CATEGORY: COLUMN WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ABDUL-HAKIM SHABAZZ
“REEFER AND RFRA”
INDY POLITICS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS IS HOW TO INTEREST READERS. GIVE THEM THE FACTS AND SHOW THEM WHY A CERTAIN VIEWPOINT IS RIDICULOUS. ALSO LOVE THE USE OF HUMOR -- NOT TOO MUCH, NOT TOO LITTLE, BUT JUST RIGHT.”

2ND PLACE:
JOHN KRULL
THESTATEHOUSEFILE.COM/WFYI

3RD PLACE:
JOHN TUOHY
“WILL AMTRAK KEEP ROLLING IN INDY?”
INDIANANAPOLIS STAR
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: COLUMN WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DOUGLAS WALKER, KEITH ROYSDON
“WALKER/ROYSDON REPORT”
THE STAR PRESS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “VERY WELL REPORTED WITH FACTS -- WHICH CAN'T ALWAYS BE FOUND IN COLUMNS -- AND VERY INVITING TO READ. LOVE BEING DRAWN INTO A STORY.”

2ND PLACE:
KEVIN LEININGER
THE NEWS-SENTINEL

3RD PLACE:
SCOTT UNDERWOOD
HERALD BULLETIN
CATEGORY: COLUMN WRITING (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
PHILIP GULLEY
“BACK HOME AGAIN”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

2ND PLACE:
DAVID HOPPE
NUVO

3RD PLACE:
CARMEN SIERING
“MIND, BODY, SPIRIT”
BLOOM MAGAZINE
CATEGORy: SPORTS REPORTING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ZAK KEEFER
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

2ND PLACE:
CANDACE BUCKNER
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
STEVE HANLON
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
CATEGORY: SPORTS REPORTING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MIKE MILLER
“AT THE MIKE”
THE HERALD-TIMES

2ND PLACE:
JON BLAU
“LINTON'S DYLAN MORRIS MANS UP OFF THE FIELD, TOO”
THE HERALD-TIMES

3RD PLACE:
GEORGE BREMER, RICK TEVERBAUGH AND HEATHER BREMER
HERALD BULLETIN
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: SPORTS REPORTING (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRIAN HENDRICKSON
“PHOTO FINISH”
NCAA CHAMPION

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A SOLID FEATURE EXPANDED BY THE INSET FIRST-PERSON REMINISCENCES AND VIDEO CLIPS.”

CATEGORY: SPORTS COLUMN WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BOB KRAVITZ
WTHR.COM

JUDGES COMMENTS: “STRONG VOICE/POINT OF VIEW; GREAT WRITING; PAINTS A GREAT PICTURE OF PEOPLE INCLUDED IN HIS PIECES”

2ND PLACE:
MIKE LOPRESTI
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

CATEGORY: SPORTS COLUMN WRITING (NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
PETE DIPRIMIO
THE NEWS-SENTINEL

2ND PLACE:
REGGIE HAYES
THE NEWS-SENTINEL

3RD PLACE:
JEREMY PRICE
THE HERALD-TIMES
CATEGORY: SPORTS COLUMN WRITING (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRIAN HENDRICKSON
“LESSONS LEARNED LIVE ON”
NCAA CHAMPION

JUDGES COMMENTS: “MOVING PIECE ABOUT TWO PEOPLE WHO CARED FOR EACH OTHER. THE MENTOR/MENTEE/HERO NARRATIVE IS FAMILIAR BUT IT STILL WORKS.”

2ND PLACE:
DEAN HOCKNEY
SPORTS JOURNAL OF CENTRAL INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
AMY WIMMER SCHWARB
“MY BIGGEST WIN”
NCAA CHAMPION
CATEGORY: HEADLINE WRITING (DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
SPORTS STAFF
“TWO FOR JUAN ... OLD, RELIABLE ... TWO SWEET”
HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “TWO FOR JUAN WAS MY CLEAR CHOICE FOR 1ST PLACE. THERE’S NO QUESTION THAT READERS ARE GOING TO CHOOSE THAT STORY FIRST.”

2ND PLACE:
WBAA.ORG

3RD PLACE:
GREG ANDREWS
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL
CATEGORY: HEADLINE WRITING (MAGAZINES AND NON-DAILY NEWSPAPERS) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
NUVO EDITORS
NUVO

2ND PLACE:
MATT OTTINGER AND SYMONE C. SKRZYCKI
BIZVOICE
CATEGORY: SPOT NEWS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
MEGAN JULA
“WOMAN SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR ABORTING AND DISCARDING BABY”
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “MEGAN JULA’S STORY OF A YOUNG WOMAN SENTENCED FOR ALLEGEDLY ABORTING HER BABY IS NOT ONLY THOROUGH AND WELL-SOURCED - IT IS NOT JUST A RECORD OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THE COURTROOM - BUT IT IS WELL-ORGANIZED, TOLD WITH THE DRAMA AND EMPHASIS THAT THE SUBJECT DESERVES, AND GIVES CONTEXT TO THE ISSUE. IT’S WORTHY OF ANY PROFESSIONAL NEWS OUTLET. IMPRESSIVE WORK.”

2ND PLACE:
CHRISTOPHER STEPHENS
“BALL STATE PROFESSOR, WIFE SUFFER SMOKE INHALATION AFTER MORNING FIRE”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest
2015 Winners

CATEGORY: NON-DEADLINE NEWS (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
ALEXA CHRYSSOVERGIS
“VACANCIES”
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “STRONG NARRATIVE WRITING MAKES THIS PIECE STAND OUT”

2ND PLACE:
ANTHONY LOMBARDI
“MUNCIE’S METHAMPHETAMINE DILEMMA”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
MADISON DUDLEY
“DEPAUW UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC MENTAL HEALTH”
THE DEPAUW
2015 Winners

CATEGORY: FEATURE STORY (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
ALDEN WOODS
“THE UNSETTLED”
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE DEBATE RAGES ON WHEN IT COMES TO THE TOPIC OF IMMIGRATION. THIS THOUGHTFUL PIECE OFFERS THE VIEWPOINT OF THOSE WHO SEEK REFUGE. WELL DONE!”

2ND PLACE:
KELSEY ROADRUCK AND HALEY WARD
“STILL WATERS”
812 MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
KOURTNEY COOPER
“WE ARE COMING”
BALL BEARINGS MAGAZINE
CATEGORIE: SPORTS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
DAKOTA CRAWFORD
“GROWN-MAN DECISION”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

2ND PLACE:
ROBBY GENERAL
“BALL STATE POCKETS $1.2 MILLION FOR TEXAS A&M GAME”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
JAKE FOX
“GILBERT'S DREAM FUELS SUCCESS BEYOND BALL STATE”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS
CATEGORtY: EDITORIAL WRITING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS STAFF
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE WORK OF THE STAFF OF BALL STATE UNIVERSITY SHOWS DIVERSE, CONSISTENT OPINION. THE EDITORIALS SUBMITTED GIVE A CLEAR VIEW OF ISSUES THAT SHOULD BE IMPORTANT TO STUDENTS. THEY ARE THE BEST IN THIS CONTEST BECAUSE THEY ARE CLEARLY, SHARPLY WRITTEN, AND WELL EDITED.”

2ND PLACE:
ABIGAIL LINGENHOEL
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY

3RD PLACE:
MICHAEL RHEINHEIMER
THE REFLECTOR
CATEGORt: EDIToRIAL CARTOON (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
MADISON HAYS
THE REFLECTOR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WHAT SEPARATES THE WINNER FROM THE RUNNER-UP ISN'T THE QUALITY OF THE DRAWINGS BUT THE CONTENT. EDITORIAL CARTOONS NEED TO SAY SOMETHING AS MUCH AS LOOK LIKE SOMETHING.”

2ND PLACE:
KYLE DUNBAR
THE REFLECTOR
CATEGORY: COLUMN WRITING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
JOE FRIEDRICHSEN
“UNDER THE RADAR”
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2ND PLACE:
DANIEL BROUNT
“DO YOU COPY?”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
ANNA BOWMAN
“FILM ANALYSIS”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS
**CATEGORY: NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY (STUDENT)**

**1ST PLACE:**
REBECA BAGDOCIMO
“STUDENT, STAFF MEMBER PINNED BY POLICE DURING PROTEST”
*THE DEPAUW*

**2ND PLACE:**
BREANNA DAUGHERTY
“PENCE VISITS 4TH GRADERS”
*BALL STATE DAILY NEWS*

**3RD PLACE:**
SAM CARAVANA
“ASHTON JOHNSON WINS WALKER CUP”
*THE DEPAUW*
SPJ's “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
KAMERON CASEY
“MEN'S BASKETBALL GETS BACK ON ROLL”
THE REFLECTOR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS MAY BE THE BEST PHOTO IN THIS ENTIRE AWARDS PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR. A DRAMATIC MOMENT WITH A FASCINATING FACE PERFECTLY COMPOSED. VERY WELL DONE.”

2ND PLACE:
SAM CARAVANA
“MARCUS DOZIER”
THE DEPAUW

3RD PLACE:
BREANNA DAUGHERTY
“WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS
CATEGORY: FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
SAM CARAVANA
“CELLIST MAYA BEISER GOES NO HANDS”
THE DEPAUW

2ND PLACE:
SAM CARAVANA
“JOHN FEDCHOCK”
THE DEPAUW

3RD PLACE:
EMMA ROGERS
“BENNY THE BARBER!”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS
CATEGORY: PAGE ONE OR COVER DESIGN (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
JESSICA HOOVER
“THE REFLECTOR’S NOV. 10 PAGE ONE”
THE REFLECTOR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GOOD WRITING; CLEAN LAYOUT & GRAPHICS. NICE PLACEMENT OF NAMEPLATE AND SOCCER IMAGE. HIERARCHY/PLACEMENT OF CONTENT SEEMS LOGICAL AND FLOWS WELL TO THIS READER’S EYE.”

2ND PLACE:
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS STAFF
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
HANNAH FLEACE AND TAYLOR HAGGERTY
“812: THE MAGAZINE OF SOUTHERN INDIANA”
812 MAGAZINE
CATEGORY: GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATION (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
TYSON BIRD
“A WORLD WITHOUT LAFOLLETTE”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE BEST GRAPHICS INSTANTLY COMMUNICATE MORE THAN ONE FACT WITH VISUALS THAT DON’T JUST ILLUSTRATE THOSE FACTS BUT PUT THEM INTO CONTEXT. ALL THE WINNERS HERE BALANCED THE COMPLEXITY OF PRESENTING SO MANY FACTS WITH VISUAL APPEAL. AND THEY’RE ALL LOCAL FACTS ON OTHERWISE MUNDANE TOPICS.”

2ND PLACE:
STEPHANIE REDDING, DAKOTA CRAWFORD
“What Cost of Attendance Stipend Could Look Like at Ball State”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
MATTHEW MORSE
“NEW YEAR, NEW CHAPEL”
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY
SPJ's “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
MEGAN JULA
“WAITING FOR HELP”
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

2ND PLACE:
KARA BERG
“SEXUAL ASSAULT”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
CRAIG LYONS, SAMIM ARIF, DEJUAN FOSTER
“PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES: ELECTRONIC ACCESS IN INDIANA”
THE MEDIA SCHOOL AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY
CATEGORY: BEST JOURNALISM WEBSITE (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS STAFF
“BALL STATE DAILY”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE GAP BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND WAS NARROW, MOSTLY BECAUSE BOTH REGULARLY COVER A LOT OF GROUND YET EMBARK ON AMBITIOUS PROJECTS. THE THIRD-PLACE WINNER IS EQUALLY IMPRESSIVE BUT GETS LESS CREDIT FOR NOT TOILING UNDER THE DAILY BURDEN OF THOSE WHO FINISHED AHEAD.”

2ND PLACE:
THE REFLECTOR STAFF
“THE REFLECTOR ONLINE”
THE REFLECTOR

3RD PLACE:
STAFF OF BALL BEARINGS MAGAZINE
“BALL BEARINGS MAGAZINE”
BALL BEARINGS MAGAZINE
CATEGORtY: BEST ONLINE MULTIMEDIA (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
ALDEN WOODS, IKE HAJNAZARIAN, ANNA BOONE
“THE UNSETTLED”
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A WELL-ROUNDED MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE -- A DEEP LOOK AT A MAJOR ISSUE THAT REALLY HITS HOME IN INDIANA.”

2ND PLACE:
ALAN HOVORKA
“MUNCIE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE BODY CAMERAS”
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS

3RD PLACE:
MIRANDA CARNEY
“THE AFTERMATH”
BALL BEARINGS MAGAZINE
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DON KNIGHT
“BRAXTON PARDON”
HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE FIRST PLACE PHOTO HAD EVERYTHING RIGHT, ANGLE, LIGHTING, CAUGHT THEIR EXPRESSIONS PERFECTLY.”

2ND PLACE:
KELLY WILKINSON
“BOOSIE’S BLOCK”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
JOSEPH C. GARZA
“EARLY-MORNING TRAGEDY”
TRIBUNE-STAR
CATEGORİE: SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (PUBLİCATİON CIRCULATİON ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGİTAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MYKAL MCELDOWNEY
“THE DIVE”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “YOU TRULY FEEL EVERY POSSIBLE EMOTION GOING THROUGH THE ATHLETE’S MIND, WOW.”

2ND PLACE:
JOHN WATKINS
“BASKETBALL POINTERS”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
STEVE C. MITCHELL
“WILL POWER WINS 2015 ANGIE’S LIST GRAND PRIX OF INDIANAPOLIS”
ANGIE’S LIST
CATEGORY: SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JOSEPH C. GARZA
“BUNT: LAY LOW”
TRIBUNE-STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE DISTANCE BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND PLACE WAS LESS THAN A BLINK OF A SHUTTER. BOTH CAPTURE A FACE IN SHARP DETAIL. THE FIRST-PLACE WINNER HAD ONLY ONE SPLIT-SECOND TO CAPTURE THE IMAGE.”

2ND PLACE:
JOSEPH C. GARZA
“BACK OVER THE BAR”
TRIBUNE-STAR

3RD PLACE:
JOHN P. CLEARY
“CELEBRATE”
HERALD BULLETIN
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest
2015 Winners

CATEGORY: FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
MICHELLE PEMBERTON
“FLIRTING WITH FLORALS”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

JUDGES COMMENTS: “‘FLIRTING WITH FLORALS’ WAS A GRAPHICALLY FRESH WAY TO ILLUSTRATE FLORAL DESIGNS IN FASHION, NICE COMPOSITION AND LIGHT.”

2ND PLACE:
MATT KRYGER
“A VIEW FROM ABOVE”
THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

3RD PLACE:
MIKE FENDER
“GO BIG OR GO HOME”
ANGIE’S LIST
CATEGORY: FEATURES PHOTOGRAPHY (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JOHN P. CLEARY
“SUPREME SHOWMANSHIP”
HERALD BULLETIN

JUDGES COMMENTS: “JOHN CLEARY CATCHES TWO INTENSE COMPETITORS AT JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT, MAKING IT A WINNER.”

2ND PLACE:
CAITLIN SIEVERS
“SPLASH”
RENSSELAER REPUBLICAN

3RD PLACE:
SHANNON ZAHNLE
“LENNY & LOU: STILL MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER”
BLOOM MAGAZINE
CATEGORY: MULTIPLE PICTURE GROUP (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
FRANK ESPICH
“IN WITH THE OLD: BUSINESSES THRIVE ON SALVAGING ANTIQUES AND ARCHITECTURAL TREASURES”
ANGIE’S LIST

2ND PLACE:
BRANDON SMITH
“METAL MASTERS”
ANGIE’S LIST

3RD PLACE:
EDUARDO TORRES
“MAKING THE LEAP”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY
CATEGORY: MULTIPLE PICTURE GROUP (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION BELOW 40,000) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
TYAGAN MILLER
“IRAQ WAR VETERAN MIKE OGDEN”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A FIRST-RATE PACKAGE ABOUT HOW A FORMER ARMY OFFICER IS USING THINGS HE LEARNED IN A MILITARY CAREER TO HELP COLLEGE STUDENTS, TEENS, BUSINESSES AND ATHLETES DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS.”

2ND PLACE:
THE BLOOMINGTON HOMELESS COMMUNITY
“How the Homeless See Bloomington”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
PETER HAMLIN
“INDIANA UNIVERSITY IN AUTUMN”
BLOOM MAGAZINE
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: NEWSPAPER PAGE ONE DESIGN (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DEBORAH HILE
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA IS A BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED NEWSPAPER. THE TEASER BOXES ARE EXCEPTIONAL AND THE USE OF INFOGRAPHICS ADDS TO THE DESIGN AND GIVES READERS VALUABLE INFORMATION. THE "POWER STRUGGLE" AND "LEGISLATIVE WAR CHESTS" PAGES ARE PARTICULARLY STRIKING. THESE PAGE 1 LAYOUTS MAKE ME THINK PRINT JOURNALISM IS SAFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA!”

2ND PLACE:
BILL THORNBRO, STEWART MOON
THE HERALD-TIMES

3RD PLACE:
DAN VANCE
THE NEWS-SENTINEL
CATEGORY: MAGAZINE COVER DESIGN (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
TODD URBAN
“INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY: UNDER THE GUN, LET’S DO LUNCH, BEST OF INDY”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE BEST-DESIGNED MAGAZINES DISPLAY A DEFT RANGE OF STYLES, AND INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY CAN GO FROM BUSY-ON-PURPOSE FEATURE FARE ABOUT LUNCH TO CLEAN, POWERFUL SERIOUSNESS ABOUT GUNS - AND DO BOTH IMPRESSIVELY. THAT RANGE IS WHAT WON.”

2ND PLACE:
CAROLINE MARKLEY
FORT WAYNE MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
BRUCE SNOW
ANGIE’S LIST
CATEGORIE: MAGAZINE DESIGN OTHER THAN COVER (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ARNEL REYNON
“COMPETING TO GET A JOB”
NCAA CHAMPION

2ND PLACE:
KAYE LEE JOHNSTON
“COLLEGE SPORTS IN CRISIS”
BLOOM MAGAZINE

3RD PLACE:
TODD URBAN
“BEST NEW BARS”
INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY
CATEGORY: GRAPHICS AND ILLUSTRATIONS (PUBLICATION CIRCULATION ABOVE 40,000 AND DIGITAL MEDIA) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ARNEL REYNON, AMY WIMMER SCHWARB
“How the NCAA Works”
NCAA CHAMPION

JUDGES COMMENTS: “OUTSTANDING PRESENTATION OF VERY COMPLEX INFORMATION IN A WAY THAT HELPS PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE INTRICACIES OF COLLEGE SPORTS. GOOD FLOW, USE OF COLOR AND ICONS AND LOGOS.”

2ND PLACE:
GRETCHEH N FRAZEE AND EOBAN BINDER
“Can You Guess the State Budget?”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

3RD PLACE:
BRAD TURNER
“MAYORAL CANDIDATES”
INDIANAPOLIS BUSINESS JOURNAL
1ST PLACE:
BILL THORNBRO
“COMMON INDIANA FOSSILS”
THE HERALD-TIMES

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THRONBRO’S SIMPLE CREATION ALLOWED A READER TO GRASP THE NUANCES OF THE STORY BEFORE READING ONE WORD, BUT ADDED MUCH TO THEIR UNDERSTANDING ONCE THEY REFERRED BACK TO HIS TEXT.”

2ND PLACE:
ELAINE BENKEN, ED WENCK, RITA KOHN
“CENTRAL INDIANA BREWERS TREE”
NUVO

3RD PLACE:
HEATHER BREMER
“THE ALICE HOUSEHOLD”
HERALD BULLETIN
CATEGORY: NEWSPAPER DESIGN OTHER THAN PAGE ONE (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ELAINE BENKEN
“INSTAGRAM AS ART?”
NUVO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “LAYOUT HAS FINE BALANCE OF ART AND TEXT THROUGHOUT. ENGAGING CHOICE OF FEATURED PHOTOS.”

2ND PLACE:
DEBORAH HILE
“LAKE INVADERS”
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
ALICIA MORGAN
“VALLEY LIFE SECTION COVER”
TRIBUNE-STAR
CATEGORY: NON-FICTION BOOK (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:

RAY E. BOOMHOWER

“JOHN BARTLOW MARTIN: A VOICE FOR THE UNDERDOG”
CATEGORY: BEST JOURNALISM WEBSITE (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
RACHEL MORELLO AND CLAIRE MCINERNY
“STATEIMPACT INDIANA EDUCATION”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “CLEAN AND SIMPLE USER INTERFACE. EASY NAVIGATION, WITH NICE PIE CHART/PODCAST.”

2ND PLACE:
STAFF
“CHALKBEAT INDIANA”
CHALKBEAT INDIANA

3RD PLACE:
ABDUL-HAKIM SHABAZZ
“INDY POLITICS”
INDY POLITICS
CATEGORY: BEST ONLINE MULTIMEDIA (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
RACHEL MORELLO
“COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITY: THE REALITIES OF GARY’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE WINNER IS AN IMPRESSIVE MULTI-MEDIA SERIES THAT IS BOTH INFORMATIVE AND VISUALLY APPEALING. THE COMPUTER GRAPHICS ARE EYE-CATCHING AND INTERACTIVELY FUN, ENHANCED BY EXPRESSIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGERY. I LIKED THAT IT TOOK BOTH A LONG VIEW OF THE COMMUNITY’S HISTORY AND OUTLOOK, AND PERSONAL, CLOSE-UP VIEW OF PEOPLE WORKING WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.”

2ND PLACE:
GRETCIEN FRAZEE
“(RE)ENTERING THE WORKFORCE”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

3RD PLACE:
ROB ANDERSON, EOBAN BINDER, SARAH CURTISS
“THE WEEKLY SPECIAL”
WTIU
SPJ's “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: BEST NEWSCAST (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
RAFAEL SANCHEZ, JASON SCHEUER, JULIE PURSLEY,
GLEN WELLING
WRTV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “GREAT TEAM COVERAGE OF THE FOGLE INCIDENT WITH COMPELLING STORIES THAT HAD INFORMATION VIEWERS COULD RELATE TO AND BE INTERESTED IN. NICE USE OF VISUALS WITH THE COURT PAPERS.”

2ND PLACE:
LORI WILSON, BROOKE MARTIN, ANTHONY CALHOUN, JEFF WAGNER
WISH-TV

3RD PLACE:
WTHR NEWS TEAM, ALEX JUD, PHIL CANNELONGO & PERRY PACE
WTHBR-TV
CATEGORY: BEST NEWSCAST (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WFIU/WTIU NEWS TEAM
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE INDIANA NEWSDESK IS THE CLEAR WINNER IN THIS FIELD. IT STOOD ABOVE THE REST IN TERMS OF IN-DEPTH REPORTING, ENTERPRISE AND THE RANGE OF STORIES COVERED.”

2ND PLACE:
FOX28 NEWS TEAM
WSJV

3RD PLACE:
WANE-TV STAFF
WANE-TV
CATEGORY: BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WTHR NEWS TEAM
“DEADLY CHURCH BUS CRASH”
WTHR-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THOROUGH REPORTING ON CHURCH BUS CRASH GIVES THIS PIECE AN EDGE, AND A FIRST-PLACE WIN.”

2ND PLACE:
AMY HOWELL, DAVID BARRAS, KEITH MCCUTCHEN, DREW BLAIR
“ZOO RIDE STUCK”
WISH-TV

3RD PLACE:
AMY HOWELL, DAVID BARRAS, BROOKE MARTIN,
KEITH MCCUTCHEN
“CHurch BUS CRASH”
WISH-TV
CATEGORY: BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
EYEWITNESS NEWS
“GREEN RIVER ROAD BOMBER”
WEHT

CATEGORY: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE (TIE):
SANDRA CHAPMAN, RYAN THEDWALL, BILL DITTON, CYNDEE HEBERT, SUSAN BATT
“DESPERATE FOR ANSWERS”
WTHR-TV

1ST PLACE (TIE):
BOB SEGALL, BILL DITTON
“INVESTIGATING THE IRS: "BORROWING" YOUR IDENTITY”
WTHR-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “ALL OF THE ENTRIES IN THIS CATEGORY ARE OUTSTANDING. “INVESTIGATING THE IRS” PROMPTED QUICK AND DECISIVE ACTION. “DESPERATE FOR ANSWERS” DID NOT GIVE-UP, MAKING SENSE OUT OF A MOUNTAIN OF DATA TO BEGIN TO FIND THE TRUTH.”

2ND PLACE:
KARA KENNEY, JORDAN FISCHER, JASON SCHEUER
“DEFYING THE ODDS”
WRTV
CATEGORY: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DAN KLEIN, RYAN DELANEY
“POISONOUS PROPERTIES ”
WLFI

JUDGES COMMENTS: “DAN KLEIN AND RYAN DELANEY OF WLFI-TV TOLD VIEWERS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF LIVING IN A HOUSE OR APARTMENT--OR A MOTEL ROOM--WHERE PREVIOUS OCCUPANTS HAD COOKED METH. THEY ALSO TOLD HOW EXPENSIVE IT IS TO CLEAN A FORMER METH LAB.”

2ND PLACE:
JORDAN VANDENBERGE, BRIAN CISSELL
“QUESTIONS IN UNION COUNTY”
WEHT

3RD PLACE:
ALYSSA IVANSON
“15 FINDS OUT: FOOD INSPECTIONS”
WANE-TV
CATEGORY: SPORTS REPORTING (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
RICH NYE
WTHR-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE SERIES OF VIGNETTES IN THE HEART OF SPORTS IS ENLIGHTENING AND VERY WELL PUT TOGETHER. RICH NYE DESERVES A LOT OF CREDIT FOR GOING BEYOND THE USUAL SCORE-ORIENTED STORIES TO TELL US ABOUT A UNIQUE RACING COUPLE, A HANDICAPPED ATHLETE, A FOOTBALL PLAYER WITH A JAIL RECORD, OR A DEAF BASEBALL TOURNEY.”

2ND PLACE:
DAVE FURST
WRTV

3RD PLACE:
SCOTT SWAN, STEVE RHODES
WTHR-TV
CATEGORY: SPORTS REPORTING (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
CARL DEFFENBAUGH
WSBT-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “TELLS AN EMOTIONAL STORY WITH MANY ANGLES, TWISTS, TURNS, AND SURPRISES. EFFECTIVE USE OF ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE.”

2ND PLACE:
GLENN MARINI, ROSS KINSEY
“WRESTLING WITH DOWN SYNDROME”
WANE-TV

3RD PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“NOTRE DAME AND ESPN BATTING IN COURT OVER POLICE RECORDS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: FEATURE STORY (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
KEVIN RADER, STEVE RHODES
“ONLY IN INDIANA”
WTHR-TV

2ND PLACE:
JIM HALL
“DENTAL MISSION OF MERCY”
WFYI PRODUCTIONS

3RD PLACE:
JASON SCHEUER, RAFAEL SANCHEZ
“MODEL EMPLOYEE”
WRTV
CATEGORY: FEATURE STORY (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DAVID GONZALEZ, TOM ROZNOWSKI, ADRIENNE WAGNER
“THE WEEKLY SPECIAL: MEMORY CHAIN: BEES IN THE TREES”
WTIU

JUDGES COMMENTS: “LOTS OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION IN THREE MINUTES. GREAT NARRATIVE AND FOOTAGE FOR A UNIQUE STORY.”

2ND PLACE:
LUCAS ANTHONY PACKER
“DAD GIVES THE GIFT OF MEMORIES”
WSBT-TV

3RD PLACE:
CARL DEFFENBAUGH
“SAFE AT HOME”
WSBT-TV
CATEGORY: DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WISH-TV STAFF
“CRIME WATCH 8”
WISH-TV

2ND PLACE:
JOHN STEHR, JOHN WHALEN
“CUBA REDISCOVERED”
WTHR-TV

3RD PLACE:
KIM JACOBS, VINCENT MANGANELLO
“WHEN THE WORLD ANSWERED”
WFYI PRODUCTIONS
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest
2015 Winners

CATEGORY: DOCUMENTARY OR SPECIAL (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
RON PRICKEL
“LEW WALLACE: SHILOH SOLDIER / BEN-HUR BARD”
WTIU

JUDGES COMMENTS: “NICELY SHOT AND INTERESTING STORY. TOLD WELL”

2ND PLACE:
JOHN STRAUSS, HEATHER HUNT
“HOOSIER HARVEST”
WIPB-TV

3RD PLACE:
JAKOB BILINSKY
“BEHIND THE BADGE: IN TRAINING”
WEHT
CATEGORY: CONTINUING COVERAGE (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JENNIE RUNEVITCH, KRIS KIRSCHNER, RYAN THEDWALL, JOEL CLAUSEN
“THE POPE IN AMERICA”
WTHR-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “REALLY ENJOYED THE COVERAGE OF THE POPE IN PHILADELPHIA. I FELT THE ENTRY WAS EMOTIONAL, ENTERTAINING, AND "BREATHED" IN JUST THE RIGHT SPOTS TO CONVEY THE MOMENT. OVERALL EXCELLENT PRODUCTION AND CONTENT.”

2ND PLACE:
PHIL SANCHEZ, JASON HARRIS, JOE FENTON
“CITIZEN'S ACADEMY”
WISH-TV

3RD PLACE:
WTHR NEWS TEAM
“THE AMANDA BLACKBURN MURDER”
WTHR-TV
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: CONTINUING COVERAGE (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
WFIU/WTIU NEWS TEAM
“INDIANA’S HIV OUTBREAK”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WFIU/WTIU’S CONTINUING COVERAGE OF A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS IN INDIANA WAS EXHAUSTIVE AND INFORMATIVE. THE NEWS TEAM COVERED EVERY ANGLE OF THE HIV OUTBREAK, AND DID SO WITHOUT DESCENDING INTO ALARMISM. IT WAS, ABOVE ALL, SENSITIVE TO THOSE WHO ARE HIV POSITIVE. EVEN DECADES AFTER HIV FIRST CAME INTO THE MAINSTREAM CONSCIOUSNESS, THAT’S STILL DIFFICULT TO DO, AND WFIU/WTIU GOT IT EXACTLY RIGHT.”

2ND PLACE:
KRISTA HENERY
“RISKY RAILROADS”
WLFI

3RD PLACE:
WFIU/WTIU NEWS TEAM
“I-69 CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES TOWARDS INDIANAPOLIS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORİY: COVERAGĖ OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“BILL WOULD PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO ADOPTION RECORDS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “BARBARA BROSHER DOES A THOROUGH JOB OF TELLING VIEWERS OF THE CONFLICT OVER ACCESS TO BIRTH RECORDS BY ADOPTED CHILDREN, AND THEIR MOTHERS DESIRE FOR PRIVACY.”

2ND PLACE:
JIM SHELLA, AMY HOWELL
“RFRA: RIPPLE EFFECT”
WISH-TV

3RD PLACE:
DAN KLEIN
“HORROR STORY FOR A HERO”
WLFI
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: BUSINESS OR CONSUMER AFFAIRS REPORTING (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
KARA KENNEY, RAFAEL SANCHEZ, JASON SCHEUER
“SHADY DEALERS”
WRTV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “EXCELLENT INVESTIGATION, WITH EXTENSIVE RESEARCH AND NUCE PRODUCTION VAULUES”

2ND PLACE:
BENNETT HAEBERLE, SHAWN PIERCE
“ANGIE'S LIST”
WISH-TV

3RD PLACE:
WTHR NEWS TEAM
“13 INVESTIGATES CONSUMER CONCERNS”
WTHR-TV
CATEGORY: EDUCATION COVERAGE (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
DAN KLEIN, RYAN DELANEY
“RELIGION DURING THE SCHOOL DAY”
WLFI

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A LOOK INTO A RELIGIOUS-BASED CURRICULUM THAT IS CATCHING SOME EDUCATORS OFF GUARD BUT IN A GOOD WAY. A UNIQUE TOPIC. GREAT JOB!”
CATEGORIE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“THE HIDDEN PRICE OF PRISON”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THE HIDDEN PRICE OF PRISON” UNVEILS A SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT IN SOCIETY THAT IS LARGELY IGNORED. THE STAFF DID A GREAT JOB EXPLAINING THE NUANCES OF DEALING WITH PRISON FROM THE FAMILY’S POINT OF VIEW.”

2ND PLACE:
GRETCHEN FRAZEE
“HOW FUNDING MENTAL HEALTH COULD KEEP PEOPLE OUT OF PRISON”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

3RD PLACE:
KARA KENNEY, JORDAN FISCHER, JASON SCHEUER
“DRUNK DRIVING”
WRTV
**CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF CHILDREN’S ISSUES (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)**

**1ST PLACE:**

BOB SEGALL, BILL DITTON, CYNDEE HEBERT

“13 INVESTIGATES: KIDS IN CRISIS”

*WTHR-TV*

*JUDGES COMMENTS: “A LOOK INTO HOW THE STATE UNDERSERVES ONE OF ITS MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION. WELL DONE!”*

**2ND PLACE:**

TINA STEIN, JOHN SIMPSON

“THE NEW STRANGER DANGER”

*WEHT*

**CATEGORY: COVERAGE OF MINORITY ISSUES (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)**

**1ST PLACE:**

ALYSSA IVANSON

“BADGE 210”

*WANE-TV*
JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND VISUALLY APPEALING PIECE HIGHLIGHTS THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN FIREFIGHTER IN FORT WAYNE.”
CATEGORY: MEDICAL OR SCIENCE REPORTING (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRAD BYRD, JOHN SIMPSON
“A MARINE’S PAIN”
WEHT


2ND PLACE:
SANDRA CHAPMAN, BILL DITTON
“13 INVESTIGATES: BABIES AT RISK”
WTHR-TV

3RD PLACE:
TINA STEIN, JOHN SIMPSON
“INJECTING INDIANA”
WEHT
SPJ's “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners
CATEGOR Y: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BARBARA BROSHER
“ARE INDIANA’S METH DISCLOSURE LAWS STRONG ENOUGH?”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS PIECE HIGHLIGHTS A TROUBLING LOOPHOLE THAT ALLOWS METH HOMES TO BE SOLD TO UNSUSPECTING BUYERS. THIS HAS THE POTENTIAL TO SPUR WIDESPREAD AWARENESS AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGE.”
SPJ’s “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: NEWS VIDEOGRAPHY (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JOHN SIMPSON
WEHT

2ND PLACE:
JASON SCHEUER
WRTV

3RD PLACE:
JOHN DUONG
WTHR-TV
CATEGORY: FEATURES VIDEOGRAPHY (INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
JASON SCHEUER
WRTV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “STRONG, EMOTIONAL COVER OF THE STATE’S SPECIAL STORIES, PEOPLE AND FUN.”

2ND PLACE:
JOHN DUONG
WTHR-TV

3RD PLACE:
MATT WHISNER
WTHR-TV
SPJ's “Best in Indiana Journalism” Contest

2015 Winners

CATEGORY: FEATURES VIDEOGRAPHY (OUTSIDE INDIANAPOLIS MARKET) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
ROSS KINSEY
WANE-TV

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THIS EMBODIES THE EPITOME OF FEATURE REPORTING. STRONG COVERAGE, EMOTIONAL STORIES.”

2ND PLACE:
BRIAN CISSELL
WEHT

3RD PLACE:
JASON PEAR
WTIU
CATEGORIES: SPORTS VIDEOGRAPHY (ANY INDIANA STATION) (PROFESSIONAL)

1ST PLACE:
BRIAN CISSELL
WEHT

JUDGES COMMENTS: “CISSELL’S VIDEOS FEATURED HIGHLY CREATIVE SHOTMAKING THAT REALLY MADE THE STORIES FEEL SPECIAL.”

2ND PLACE:
MATT WHISNER
WTHR-TV
CATEGORY: TELEVISION NEWS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
LINDSEY WRIGHT
“VINCENNES UNIVERSITY AXES BOWLING MANAGEMENT DEGREE PROGRAM”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “WRIGHT SHOWS TRUE PROFESSIONALISM IN BOTH STORIES. THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF NARRATIVE AND QUOTES.”

2ND PLACE:
SARAH FENTEM
“AS TRADITIONAL BURIALS DECLINE, A NEW OPTION APPEARS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

3RD PLACE:
LINDSEY WRIGHT
“ST. MARY CO-ED DECISION LEADS TO MINIMAL CHANGES”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORY: TELEVISION SPORTS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
TYLER BRADFIELD, TIM REUSCHE, NICK PANOZZO
“BROKEN: THE ANDREW STUTZ STORY”
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
1ST PLACE:
ZAC MIKLUSAK, NOAH REED
“A WALK TO REMEMBER”
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “A MOVING TALE AND VISUALLY STUNNING. WOW! GREAT JOB!”

1ST PLACE:
DILLON WELCH, MATT ORGAN, MATT CRAIG, TIM REUSCHE
“BALL STATE SPORTS LINK: OUT OF THE SHADOWS”
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

JUDGES COMMENTS: “EXCELLENT PRODUCTION. GOOD VARIETY OF SHOTS. SOME OF THE PLAYERS COULD WORK ON THEIR INTERVIEW SKILLS BUT THAT IS WHAT YOU HAD TO WORK WITH. THIS LOOKS LIKE THE TEAM HAD A LOT OF FUN PUTTING IT TOGETHER.”
CATEGORY: TELEVISION VIDEOGRAPHY (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
ZAC MIKLUSAK
“BALL STATE SPORTS LINK: ZAC MIKLUSAK VIDEOGRAPHY”
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

CATEGORY: TELEVISION CONTINUING COVERAGE (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
CAMERON RIDLE
“BALL STATE AWARD LEADS TO CONTROVERSY, RESIGNATION”
NEWSLINK INDIANA

JUDGES COMMENTS: “THOROUGH COVERAGE OF CAMPUS ISSUE, INCLUDING NICE FOLLOWUP OF ADMINISTRATOR’S RESIGNATION FOLLOWING THREAT TO PULL A CAMPUS ORGANIZATION’S FUNDING.”

CATEGORY: RADIO BEST NEWSCAST (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
CHRISTIE YORK
THE EDGE RADIO/UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA
JUDGES COMMENTS: “BROADCAST HAS A GOOD SPREAD OF LOCAL, HEALTH, AND NATIONAL NEWS. DELIVERY IS UPBEAT WITHOUT BEING PERKY.”

CATEGORY: RADIO NEWS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
SARAH FENTEM
“UNDERSTANDING TIF DISTRICTS AND HOW THEY WORK”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “VERY INFORMATIVE WITHOUT GETTING BOGGED DOWN IN NUMBERS. NICE TOUCH TO EXPLAIN HOW THE TIF PROGRAMS CAN BE ABUSED/MISUSED.”

2ND PLACE:
CHARLOTTE TUGGLE
“E-CIGS GAIN POPULARITY, BUT ONE GROUP HOPES IT'S NOT WITH STUDENTS”
WBAA PUBLIC RADIO

3RD PLACE:
CHARLOTTE TUGGLE
“A PUSH FOR MORE YOUTH VOTING IS SNEAKILY PARTISAN”
WBAA PUBLIC RADIO
CATEGORY: RADIO SPORTS REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
VANESSA RICHARDSON
“COLTS CAMP REPORT”
UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

JUDGES COMMENTS: “LIVELY ENTRY; GOOD PACE WITHOUT BEING BREATHELESS; SHORT CLIP BUT STILL FULL OF INFORMATION.”

CATEGORY: RADIO FEATURES REPORTING (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
ZACH HUFFMAN
“FIGHTING THE FIRE”
INDIANA PUBLIC RADIO

JUDGES COMMENTS: “IMMERSED INTO THE STORY THANKS TO THE DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE SCENES. GREAT AUDIO TO SUPPORT/REINFORCE THE NARRATIVE.”

2ND PLACE:
SOPHIA SALIBY
“SONGS OF THE SEASON HERALD THE HOLIDAYS”
WFIU/WTIU NEWS
CATEGORIE: RADIO CONTINUING COVERAGE (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
CHARLOTTE TUGGLE
“FARM TAXES”
WBAA PUBLIC RADIO
CATEGORY: BEST DESIGN OTHER THAN COVER (STUDENT)

1ST PLACE:
MERCER SUPPIGER, PAIGE HUTSON
“100 YEARS OUTDOORS”
812 MAGAZINE

JUDGES COMMENTS: “CLEAN & SIMPLE FONT TYPES AND
GRAPHICS. CREATIVE, SIMPLE AND CLEAN GRAPHICS THAT
ILLUSTRATED THE NATIVE ANIMALS IN THE PARKS. A LOT OF
INFORMATION PRESENTED IN A READER-FRIENDLY/ENGAGING
MANNER.”

2ND PLACE:
ANNA BOONE
INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

3RD PLACE:
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS STAFF
BALL STATE DAILY NEWS