

Winners of the 57th SoCal Journalism Awards 2015

JOURNALISTS OF THE YEAR

A1. PRINT (Over 50,000 Circulation)

Frank Suraci, *Daily Breeze*

<http://bit.ly/1bDJD5Q>

Comment: A 34-year veteran city editor of the Daily Breeze who is known as a "Lou Grant" journalist, Frank Suraci reached a high point in his career and the newspaper when he oversaw Rob Kuznia and Rebecca Kimitch's series of articles on the Centinela school district corruption that won the Pulitzer Prize. For that work and his diligent daily shaping of the Daily Breeze's news coverage, Frank is honored with the Print Journalist of the Year Award for newspapers over 50,000 in circulation.

2nd R. Scott Moxley, *OC Weekly*

3rd Hillel Aron, *LA Weekly*

A2. PRINT (Under 50,000 Circulation)

Beau Yarbrough, *The Sun*

<http://bit.ly/1EAvoCM>

Comment: In exposing two of the most bizarre stories of the year, Beau Yarbrough of the San Bernardino Sun deservedly receives the Journalist of the year award. His extensive series on a Rialto Unified school district accountant's alleged embezzlement of 1.8 million dollars in school lunch money, some by stuffing cash in her bra, and his breaking story about the school's controversial decision to have its students debate whether the holocaust happened, are examples of fine journalism. A job well done, Beau.

2nd Brent Lang, *Variety*

3rd Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*

A3. TELEVISION JOURNALIST

N/A

A4. RADIO JOURNALIST

Saul Gonzalez, *KCRW*

<http://bit.ly/1cy1jjJ>

Comment: He does a good job taking the listener to the location of stories, where it's warranted, and thoroughly telling all of the angles. His smooth delivery and segue to sound bites makes his work so easy to listen to that you want to go find more online.

2nd Larry Mantle, *KPCC*

A5. ONLINE JOURNALIST

Brian Addison, *Longbeachize*, Long Beach Post

<http://bit.ly/1FuN0o8>

Comment: Strong writing results in interesting columns covering a number of topics of relevant to readers.

2nd Robert Scheer, *Truthdig*

3rd Bill Boyarsky, *Truthdig*

A6. ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST

Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*

<http://bit.ly/1JIUKzi>

Comment: The topics that Lacey Rose tackled shows her firm engagement with the zeitgeist and her writing style hits all the write notes. Compelling reads.

2nd Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*

3rd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*

A7. SPORTS JOURNALIST

N/A

A8. PHOTO JOURNALIST

Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*

<http://bit.ly/1KECwpV>

Comment: The versatility of Allen J. Schaben's photography for the Los Angeles Times, from landscapes of drought to people portraits to breaking news of wildfires, is formidable and earns for him the Photo Journalist of the year award. His stunning images of fleeting phenomena, such as fire tornadoes within wildfires, will stop a reader with one of those "Wow!" moments.

2nd Ringo H.W. Chiu, *Los Angeles Business Journal*

X. ALL MEDIA PLATFORMS

X1. BEST HUMOR/SATIRE WRITING

Jaci Stephen, *LA Not So Confidential*, "Penis vs. The Furry Cup"

<http://bit.ly/1Gp8ZiP>

Comment: Clever, funny and strangely relatable.

2nd Amy Alkon, *Creators Syndicate*, “Advice Goddess”

3rd Zachary Pincus-Roth and Eve Weston, *LA Weekly*, “Cards Against Humanity: LA Edition”

X2. OBITUARY

Kimberly Nordyke, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Robin Williams Dies of Suspected Suicide”

<http://bit.ly/1SWHBzH>

Comment: Stunningly comprehensive look at a comic's death published the same day Williams was discovered dead. Nordyke was able to touch on the themes that became more widely discussed. An achievement.

2nd Mike Barnes, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Glen A. Larson, Creator of TV’s Quincy M.E., Magnum P.I. and Battlestar Galactica, Dies at 77”

3rd Mike Barnes, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Casey Kasem, American Top 40 Icon Dies at 82”

X3. ACTIVISM JOURNALISM

Chris Hedges, *Truthdig*, “The Last Days of Tomas Young”

<http://tdig.it/1A5lvIB>

Comment: Great journalism should move the reader. Great activist journalism should move the reader to act. Hedges’ piece does just that through the compelling and heartbreaking story of a pain-riddled vet let down by the very country he ultimately gave his life to protect. It’s a cynical piece, and it could devolve into simple antiwar rhetoric – but instead it sharply skewers a VA system that failed to aid the very people it’s meant to serve.

2nd Neon Tommy Staff Reporters, *Neon Tommy*, “More than Overcrowding: A Deeper Look at the Problem Within Prisons”

3rd Sunnive Brydum, Daniel Reynolds and Parker Marie Molloy, *The Advocate*, “Is the T Word the New N Word?”

X4. PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS or FEATURE

Will Federman and Matthew Tinoco, *Neon Tommy*, “New South L.A. Hospital Faces Criticism Over Delays, Lack Of Services”

<http://bit.ly/1JmBEck>

Comment: A serious and well-documented investigation, raising legitimate – and

alarming – questions about public policy, health care, community service and public-private partnerships.

2nd Steve Friess, *Takepart.com*, “The Military Has a Rape Problem—and It's Not Just Women Who Suffer”

3rd Nadja Brandt and John Gittelsohn, *Bloomberg News*, “Housing Woes Worse in L.A. Than New York, San Francisco”

X5. SCIENCE/HEALTH/TECHNOLOGY REPORTING

Anna Gorman, *Kaiser Health News*, “Nursing Home Oversight”

<http://bit.ly/1GZPi1l>

Comment: Kaiser Health News's riveting piece on the so-called “Complaint Workload Clean Up Project” -- nursing home complaints getting the ax before a thorough investigation -- would clearly startle anyone with family or friends in a LA County nursing home. The Kaiser investigation asks whether county officials truly take their obligation to resolve cases seriously. Here we get the story the old-fashioned way: through obtained internal documents and memos, and it shines a light on a shady process. The piece leaves its audience well-informed, and wanting a resolution.

2nd *The Advocate Staff*, *The Advocate*, “31 Days of PrEP”

3rd Paul Tullis, *TakePart.com*, “The Incredible True Story of How Cannabis Is Coming to Rite-Aid”

X6. POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Andres Pruna, León Krautze and Andres Bonilla, *KMEX Univision 34 Los Angeles*, “La Frontera Millonaria”

<http://vimeo.com/86164213>

Comment: Excellent Producing. When it comes to government waste and statistics these are not easy to understand, but Mr. Pruna’s producing, Mr. Krautze’s writing and Mr. Bonilla’s video and Ms. Gabriella Carrera’s graphics make this a delight to see.

2nd Aitana Vargas, *20 Minutos USA Edition & Hoy Los Angeles*, “Arbitraje Laboral”

3rd *KTLA Special Projects*, *KTLA 5 News*, “KTLA Channel 5 Celebrates America”

X7. EDUCATIONAL REPORTING

John Cádiz Klemack, *NBC4*, “Miramonte Sex Scandal: Exclusive Continuing Coverage”

<http://bit.ly/1eS78KI>

Comment: Exemplary reporting and remarkable perseverance in the coverage, quite uncommon for stories spanning over several years.

2nd Silene Rivera, *Hoy Los Angeles*, "Con Caracter y sin Complejos"

3rd Matt Tinoco, *Intersections South LA*, "LAUSD Software Inflicts Scheduling Chaos"

X8. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Gabriela Teissier, Hugo Olguin and Andres Pruna, *KMEX Univision*, "Cada Gota Cuesta"

<https://vimeo.com/87303308>

Comment: Gabriela Teissier, Hugo Olguin and Andres Pruna should be commended for their deep investigation on the environmental issue of water in California, their three-part series detailed the problems connecting the larger concept of drought and bringing it to the viewers front doorstep by use of great reporting and great use of graphics. Impressive team work!

2nd Joel Beers, *OC Weekly*, "The Santa Ana River Is Ready for Its Renaissance"

3rd Mike Amor, Arron Hage and Duncan McLeod, *Seven Network Australia*, "Grand Battle"

X9. MULTI-MEDIA PACKAGE

Daniel Miller, Lily Mihalik, Armand Emamdjomeh, Kari Howard and Morgan Schweitzer, *Los Angeles Times*, "Finding Marlowe"

<http://graphics.latimes.com/finding-marlowe/>

Comment: A strikingly memorable design peppered with photos, maps, illustrations, and even a newspaper clipping made for a winning entry.

2nd Fernando Hurtado and Kimberly Leoffler, *Annenberg TV News*, "Ferguson Protests Reach USC Campus"

3rd Los Angeles News Group, *Los Angeles News Group*, "California Drought Website"

X10. CRIME REPORTING

Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Survivor Producer, A Dead Wife, Four Years In A Mexican Prison: New Evidence Amid A Nightmare"

<http://bit.ly/12zqwFP>

Comment: Great narrative and story telling ability, engaging, very well documented and structured, excellent use of language. Key interviews and food for thought in a very moving story.

2nd Olga Grigoryants and Daina Beth Solomon, *Intersections South LA*, "40 Years for Four Shots"

3rd R. Scott Moxley, *OC Weekly*, “Lonnie Kocontes’ Love Boat”

X11. BEST TRAVEL FEATURE ON CALIFORNIA

Degen Pener, Jeanie Pyun and Leslie McKenzie, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “c”

Link: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/package/summer-malibu>

Comment: The word “Malibu” evokes worldwide recognition for its beaches, barefoot billionaires, seafood, and celebrity scandals, and *The Hollywood Reporter’s* comprehensive, terrific coverage of all aspects of the sand paradise, along with a well-organized, easy-to-read layout, earns it the top award in the travel category.

2nd Maria Estevez, *Conde Nast Traveler Spain & LatinAmerica*, “El Lado Sexy de Los Angeles”

B. PRINT – ANY OUTLET

B1. HARD NEWS

Kim Masters, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Sony Terrorized: The Panic, Fear and Fury”

<http://bit.ly/1QgxzXT>

<http://bit.ly/1zrcvmK>

<http://bit.ly/1ESPdwM>

<http://bit.ly/1bYyHjy>

Comment: Very good behind-the-scene look at a major story and what the impact is. Well-written.

2nd Howard Fine, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Will NFL Team Link to Carson?”

3rd Gregg Kilday and Tina Daunt, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Beverly Hills Hotel Boycott: The Economic Fallout”

B2. HEADLINE

Kevin Leung, *Los Angeles Times*, “Waiter, I’m Ready for the Tabby”

<http://bit.ly/19Gol6F>

Comment: A clever well-written headline that captured the story and drew in the reader, while causing a chuckle (in a good way). Everyone can’t execute humor successfully. This headline writer did.

2nd Tom Hicks, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “High Times: Soaring Stock Mints First Legal Pot Billionaire”

3rd Laura Dominick, *Los Angeles Times*, “Colossal Fossil”

B3. SPORTS

Aitana Vargas, *Hoy Los Angeles*, “De ‘Luchador Callejero’ a ‘Campeón de Lucha’”
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/kx6bgu959trq565/E10.pdf?dl=0>

Comment: It's a nice and exemplary story about self-realization, and it's well written.

2nd Eddie Kim, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “Downtown’s Unlikely Soccer Champs”

3rd Howard Fine, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Will NFL Team Link to Carson?”

C. SOCIAL MEDIA

C2. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA (ORGANIZATION)

Gillian Sheldon, Rachel Kraus and Catherine Manzanares, *TakePart.com*, “SeaWorld’s Worst Nightmare”
<http://bit.ly/19Rnlbo>

Comment: Great use of social media to spread the word and rally support for their cause.

2nd Gillian Sheldon, Rachel Kraus and Catherine Manzanares, *TakePart.com*, “U.N. Climate Summit: Film Premiere & Live Coverage”

3rd Adam VanGerpen, *United Firefighters of Los Angeles City, IAFF, Local 112*, “Firefighter Endorsements for City Council”

D. ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

D1. NEWS PHOTO

Will Lester, *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, “Colby Fire”
<http://bit.ly/1eQ1zfP>

Comment: Lester did a terrific job of capturing the immediacy of fighting an intense fire. It's a right place at the right time photo with good composition and packs an emotional punch.

2nd Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, “Fighting Cocos Fire from Above”

3rd Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*, “Friends of Oscar Toledo, Jr., Gather Around the Ghost Bike Put Up at 47th and Normandie in South LA”

D2. FEATURE PHOTO

Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, “Kings Fans Rally After Stanley Cup Win”
<http://bit.ly/1EX63WN>

Comment: Schaben's shot of the Kings fans brings readers completely into the moment. It grabs the reader's attention with that jubilant celebration.

2nd Will Lester, *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, "Cowgirl at Stagecoach"

3rd Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Carrie Smith and David Needleman, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis, Cover"

D3. PORTRAIT

Chris Mihal, Bailey Franklin and Pari Dukovic, *Variety*, "Marion Cotillard"
<http://bit.ly/1Jr7Xp1>

Comment: The portrait category was the toughest to narrow down to the top three. There were many really strong portraits. These won because of the emotional quality - the gut reaction that readers feel when confronting the portraits.

2nd Chris Mihal, Bailey Franklin and Yu Tsai, *Variety*, "Rosamund Pike"

3rd Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Carrie Smith and Miller Mobley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Philip Seymour Hoffman"

D4. SPORTS PHOTO

David Crane, *Los Angeles Daily News*, "Kershaw Celebrates Dodgers Victory"
<http://bit.ly/1Epfa73>

Comment: The celebrations were easily the strongest of the sports category. Judges would have liked to see a bit more well-done peak action.

2nd Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, "Stanley Cup Celebration"

3rd Benjamin Dunn, *Neon Tommy*, "USC Dives For the Football"

D5. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO

Shanti Marlar, Jennifer Laski, Carrie Smith, Jenny Sargent and Andrew Hetherington, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "John Oliver"
<http://bit.ly/1Ds7DWy>

Comment: The judges appreciated the creativity of the John Oliver portrait - it was a breath of fresh air.

2nd Jenny Sargent, Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar and Ruven Afanador, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Glenn Close"

3rd Benjamin Dunn, *Neon Tommy*, "USC Students Celebrate Springfest"

D6. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Doug Davis, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, "Keep Digging, Donald"

<http://bit.ly/1Nkq3d4>

Comment: Davis' cartoon is funny, biting and simple, as editorial humor should be – and straight to the point.

2nd Steve Greenberg, *Ventura County Reporter*, "The Critical Line"

3rd Chris Mihal and Bailey Franklin, *Variety*, "New Producers Flooding Indie TV With Faith and Family Friendly Fare"

D7. PHOTO ESSAY (Single topic)

Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, "California's Drought Crisis"

<http://lat.ms/1EX7d4t>

Comment: Schaben's body of work for the water crisis is very, very strong. Fantastic images that go into interpretive work in addition to mere documentation. Really powerful. The judges felt that the slideshow should have been edited down by quite a bit. The images, although very strong, began to be redundant.

2nd Ringo H.W. Chiu, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "Hollywood: Strip Away"

3rd Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Carrie Smith and Austin Hargrave, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Downton Abbey Set Visit"

E. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

E1. NEWS FEATURE (Over 1,000 words)

Gendy Alimurung, *LA Weekly*, "Gimme Shelter: Living Homeless In a Shelter Gave the WeHo News Publisher the Story of His Life"

<http://bit.ly/1li9GhE>

Comment: Alimurung's article was able to show the reader the struggles of being homeless, and what homeless men go through in a places that is suppose to "help" those in their situation. The article in some form gave the homeless residents at the PATH L.A. shelter a voice that allows them to bring into light the "corruption," and the injustice they face because they are homeless, It also showed how officials are blind to the way the shelter is run and it also shows there is a need for change in the management of PATH LA. shelter.

2nd R. Scott Moxley, *OC Weekly*, "Newport Beach Police Department Corruption"

3rd Jared Sichel, *Jewish Journal*, "What the Beverly Hills Hotel Boycott Says About Where We Draw Our Lines in a Global Economy"

E2. NEWS FEATURE (Under 1,000 words)

Thomas Curwen, Mel Melcon, Lorena Iniguez Elebee and Javier Zarracina, *Los Angeles Times*, "Behind the Grand Pour: Building L.A.'s New Tallest Tower"

<http://graphics.latimes.com/wilshire-grand-the-big-pour/>

Comment: The winning entry was a tour de force in storytelling, from the reporting to the images to the graphics. The LA Times maximized the resources at its disposal and provided an engaging package on what is a unique story.

2nd Paula Diaz, *Hoy Los Angeles*, "Confusion y Temor"

3rd Josh Rottenberg and Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Before Sony Hacking, 'Interview' Co-Directors Knew of N. Korea Risk"

E3. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Zachary Pincus-Roth, *LA Weekly*, "Can TV Save India?"

<http://www.laweekly.com/arts/can-tv-save-india-5191782>

Comment: This story presents a profound view of how Indian TV filmmakers feel an obligation to tell the media about the treatment of women, the corruption, the disparity between rich and poor in India with all its troubling political implications. A feature story that describes similar social issues that are seen in the 2009 British drama film *Slumdog Millionaire*.

2nd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Finding Marlowe"

3rd Martha Sarabia, *La Opinión*, "¿Es Racista la Televisión Latina en Estados Unidos?"

E4. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Gendy Alimurung, *LA Weekly*, "He Wears A Dress. She's Fine With That"

<http://bit.ly/1KaKau8>

Comment: Not only a nicely-written profile, but also a beautiful and exemplary love story.

2nd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Hollywood Cameraman Insists he Invented the Celebrity Selfie in 1981"

3rd Aitana Vargas, *Hoy Los Angeles*, "Pablo Gonzales"

E5. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

Richard Marosi, *Hoy Los Angeles*, "Producto de México"

<http://bit.ly/1FPbCvU>

Comment: The outstanding journalistic work of Richard Marosi vividly depicts the heart breaking reality of thousands of Mexican workers and their families. We commend Marosi for his courageous reporting and for going into forgotten Mexican towns and farms to report on a topic that even local journalists avoid.

TIE

Frank Suraci, Rob Kuznia and Rebecca Kimitch, *Torrance Daily Breeze*, "Centinela Corruption"

<http://bit.ly/1bDJD5Q>

Comment: The Daily Breeze is less emotional, it deals with something that we are used to read (unfortunately): corruption and power abuse. But it's remarkable, it's a long haul investigation, they never stopped investigating and the corpus of information is huge. They didn't win the Pulitzer by chance.

2nd Simone Wilson, *Jewish Journal*, "Wilson's Investigation Into the Gaza War"

3rd Ani Ucar, Chris Walker and Elana Pritchard, *LA Weekly*, "On the Inside"

E6. BUSINESS

Christopher Palmeri, Anousha Sakoui, Lucas Shaw, Robert B. Golum and Michael Riley, *Bloomberg News*, "Sony Hacking Exposes the Studio's Inner Workings"

<http://bloom.bg/190WLki>

Comment: Well-written piece on a major story that gives details on the impact of the email leak.

2nd Jeff Collins, *Orange County Register*, "Housing Rebound Has Construction Workers Rebuilding Lives"

3rd Jeff Collins, *Orange County Register*, "Back in the Nest: Staying with Parents Hampers Recovery"

E7. COMMENTARY

Marty Kaplan, *Jewish Journal*

<http://bit.ly/PkgRNa>

Comment: In a wonderfully erudite fashion, Kaplan puts the "new" in newspaper columns, deconstructing the pitfalls and the pleasures of this new-fangled social media universe we live in.

2nd Amy Alkon, *Creators Syndicate*

3rd Thomas Elias, *California Focus Syndicated Column*

E8. COLUMNIST

Danielle Berrin, *Jewish Journal*, "The Horror of ISIS"

<http://bit.ly/1G6E9gf>

Comment: Haunting and visceral account of discovering a brutal beheading broadcast worldwide separates your childhood friend's head from his body.

2nd Gendy Alimurung, *LA Weekly*, "Candyland"

3rd Rob Eshman, *Jewish Journal*, "A Collection of Columns, 'New Rule: Fanatics Can't Use Twitter,' et al."

E9. REVIEWS or CRITICISM

Besha Rodell, *LA Weekly*, "Barton G Review: A Fiasco From Miami, Now in Beverly Hills"

<http://bit.ly/1QjCfw5>

<http://bit.ly/1ciVojd>

<http://bit.ly/1JOAiqx>

<http://bit.ly/1EeaTie>

Comment: Besha's review of Barton G is vividly entertaining and honest. I was able to live her experience through her words and know exactly what to expect at Barton G.

2nd Amy Nicholson, *LA Weekly*, "The Boxtrolls is the Cutest Kiddie Cartoon Ever Made About Hitler"

3rd Amy Nicholson, *LA Weekly*, "Transformers: Age of Extinction: At Least the Product Placement is Interesting"

E10. SPORTS (See B3)

E11. DESIGN

Design Staff, *Los Angeles Daily News*, "April 25th"

<http://bit.ly/1GGfsHN>

Comment: Lively and a resting layout throughout.

2nd Rodas Heiner, *Hoy Los Angeles*, "Una Mujer de Pelicula"

F. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

F1. NEWS FEATURE (Over 1,000 words)

H.G. Reza, *OC Weekly*, "Santa Ana Michoacanos vs. the Templarios"

<http://bit.ly/1CTdMdv>

Comment: A chilling but uplifting saga of villagers attempting to combat drug cartels in their hometown. The opening scene juxtaposes a description of a bucolic town and its welcoming arch with the startling realization that four dead bodies including that of a pregnant woman are hanging from that arch. Graphic detail but tastefully done. Good quotes. The ex-pats, now living in Southern California, have won the battle but one wonders about the war. Hope there is a folo sometime in the future. The writer has enticed us into wanting to know the final outcome.

2nd Eddie Kim, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “How Downtown Came to be Weedtown”

3rd Alfred Lee, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Booze-filled 7-Eleven Left Reeling”

F2. NEWS FEATURE (Under 1,000 words)

Hannah Miet, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Fuller Plates”

<http://bit.ly/1G2mRzt>

Comment: Hannah Miet nicely weaves together restaurant business decisions and trends in social media to create a lively, delightful read.

2nd Brian Hews, *Los Cerritos Community News*, “Lavish Friday Golf Outings”

F3. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Charles Lam, *OC Weekly*, “The Very Merry Un-Gangs of Disneyland”

<http://bit.ly/1Jm1xsM>

Comment: Fascinating story about the many pleasant, surprising acts of kindness at Disneyland from a community group you would not suspect.

2nd Sandro Monetti, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “‘Baywatch’ Eyes Splash in China”

3rd Elliot Golan and Mark Madler, *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*, “Life After Leno”

F4. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Tom Dotan, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Deep L.A. Roots”

<http://bit.ly/1JIEZzx>

Comment: In Tom Totan’s extensive portrait of Stewart and Lynda Resnick, selected by *L.A. Business Journal* as the Business Persons of the Year, he illuminates the fascinating careers of the billionaires who made their fortune through the production and marketing of various agricultural products, while also touching on their philanthropy, business controversies, and even Lynda’s inadvertent involvement in the Pentagon Papers case. A complex profile that’s a model of its kind.

2nd Donna Evans, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “Strike a Pose”

3rd Carol Kearns, *Downey Patriot*, “Family Business”

F5. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

Brian Hews, *Los Cerritos Community News*, “La Mirada Football Booster Club Under Scrutiny by Attorney General”

<http://bit.ly/1A1Qy4k>

Comment: Reporter Brian Hews has demonstrated classic investigative reporting here in this examination of the La Mirada Booster Club. His work has led to results and possible reform. This should be the goal of all serious investigative reporting. Congratulations. Your work could become a model for others. Every school has a Booster Club and I suspect many fail to follow rules.

2nd Beau Yarbrough, *The Sun*, “Rialto Unified Investigation”

3rd Alfred Lee and Matt Pressberg, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Life Settlements”

F6. BUSINESS

James Rufus Koren, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, “Good Deal?”

<http://bit.ly/1PJlie5>

Comment: Compelling lead draws me into the story immediately. The writer did a good job of clearly showing the story (not telling) even for someone with no familiarity of the casino business. I really liked the way he set up the tension between the two companies and carried it through the piece.

TIE

Gustavo Arellano, *OC Weekly*, “Aaron Kushner's Wrecking Ball”

<http://bit.ly/1jPhg2g>

Comment: OC Weekly’s cover of the OC Register’s financial crisis was timely and comprehensive.

2nd Elliot Golan, Joel Russell and Staff, *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*, “Real Life Storage Wars”

3rd Henry Dubroff and Marlize van Romburgh, *Pacific Coast Business Times*, “Costly Eye Drug”

F7. COMMENTARY

Amy Alkon, *Creators Syndicate*, “I’m with Stupor”

<http://advicegoddess.com/AlkonLAPCI'mWithStupor.pdf>

Comment: Well-written tough love; doesn’t pull punches, but keeps a sense of humor.

2nd Charles Crumpley, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "The Creative Economy's Naked Truth"

3rd Henry Dubroff, *Pacific Coast Business Times*, "Commentary"

F8. COLUMNIST

Charles Crumpley, *Los Angeles Business Journal*

<http://bit.ly/1ESAeDq>

<http://bit.ly/1yCBb1L>

<http://bit.ly/1aEbn9W>

<http://bit.ly/1Ds9uay>

Comment: The economy is complicated. Charles Crumpley cuts through the confusion that normally makes eyes glaze over and finds a way to make "economic issues" accessible - and even enjoyable to read about.

2nd Jon REGARDIE, *Los Angeles Downtown News*

3rd Dan Evans, *Glendale News-Press & Burbank Leader*

F9. REVIEWS or CRITICISM

N/A

F10. SPORTS (See B3)

F11. DESIGN

Brian Allison, Yumi Kanegawa and Alexis Rawlins, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, "Issue of 'Summer's Top 40'"

<http://bit.ly/1IS0NaN>

Comment: Vivid colors and eye-catching graphics.

2nd Adam VanGerpen, *The Los Angeles Firefighter*, "The Los Angeles Firefighter"

3rd Robert Landry and *Business Journal* Staff, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "50 Wealthiest Angelinos"

G. MAGAZINES

G1. INVESTIGATIVE

Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A 'Survivor' Producer, a Dead Wife, Four Years in a Mexican Prison: New Evidence Amid a Nightmare"

<http://bit.ly/12zqwFP>

Comment: Scott Johnson crafted an exhaustive, compelling investigation that raises legitimate questions about the guilt of a man jailed in Mexico for allegedly murdering his wife.

2nd Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood's Vaccine Wars: L.A.'s 'Entitled' Westsiders Behind City's Epidemic"

3rd David Evans, *Bloomberg Markets*, "Anything But Secure"

G2. COMMENTARY

Matt Welch, *Reason*, "When the Left Turned Against Free Speech; Rand Paul, Racism, and Prison; Kiss Your Financial Privacy Goodbye"

<http://bit.ly/1n7JYiS>

<http://bit.ly/1EWigI9>

<http://bit.ly/1vlyBLt>

Comment: Insightful, well-written commentaries present a clear picture of how social and political forces have come to threaten liberty in the United States today in ways sometimes ironic and unexpected.

2nd Michael Wolff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "HBO, CBS Streaming: TV is Disrupting the Internet, et al."

3rd Greg Beato, *Reason*, "The Benefits of Unregulated Pot; Kickstarting Utopia; The Surprising Power of Subtitles"

G3. FEATURE (Over 1,000 words)

Ashley Powers, *The California Sunday Magazine*, "Their Town"

<http://bit.ly/1rVsP25>

Comment: Fascinating look at the hold the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has over a small town and how that impacted one family. Well reported and beautifully rendered. Nice job.

2nd Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How Dr. Heimlich Maneuvered Hollywood Into Backing His Dangerous AIDS 'Cure'"

3rd Vince Beiser, *Playboy Magazine*, "Prescription for Death"

G4. FEATURE (Under 1,000 words)

Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "At Home with Jerry Lewis as He Opens Up About Son's Death, Skirmishes with Fans"

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/race/jerry-lewis-opens-up-sons-709775>

Comment: With limited space the author explores the 70-year career and a number of delicate issues with a deft touch and without softening the less-than-pleasant aspects of a legendary talent. The piece finds the right balance—recounting a well-known history and sharing the subject’s current life. It was a pleasure to read.

2nd Alex Ben Block, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “A Filmmaker’s Prison Nightmare Over Tax Credits”

3rd Dave McNary, *Variety*, “Set in California, but Shot Where It’s Cheap”

G5. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, “‘Today’ vs. ‘Good Morning America’”

<http://bit.ly/1FuQQxA>

Comment: The reporter takes readers inside studios and show teams that are written about extensively, but finds a lot of rich, fresh material to mine. Scene-setting details and quotes are used to great effect to show the reader the clear differences between the NBC and ABC morning shows.

2nd David S. Cohen and Ted Johnson, *Variety*, “Midnight Rider: We Are Sarah”

3rd Peter Suderman, *Reason*, “The New Face of Television”

G6. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “‘X-Men’s’ Ellen Page on Life After Coming Out, the Bryan Singer Case and Her Battle With Depression”

<http://bit.ly/1eQ495o>

Comment: While yet another coming-out-of-the closet story of a celebrity seems routine these days, Seth Abramovitch’s interview with *Juno* actress Ellen Page manages to allow her to open up about the struggles and stress she faced for years before announcing she’s a lesbian. Seth explores those years, as well as Page’s career, in this fine profile.

2nd Scott Foundas, *Variety*, “Marion Cotillard On Her Latest Cannes Film and Getting Over Edith Piaf”

3rd Taffy Brodesser-Akner, *New York Times Magazine*, “Damon Lindelof Promises You His New Show Won’t End Like *Lost*”

G7. REVIEWS/CRITICISM/COLUMN

Amy H. Sturgis, *Reason*, “*Not Your Parents’ Dystopias: Millennial Fondness for Worlds Gone Wrong*”

<http://bit.ly/1ve0v8v>

Comment: What a great job of looking at dystopias past and present through a cultural lens. Regardless of where the future takes us, Amy H. Sturgis has done a great job of explaining how writers and others have gotten us where we are.

2nd Justin Chang, *Variety*, “*Grand Budapest: ‘Hotel’ Worth Checking Out*”

3rd Jesse Walker, *Reason*, “*The Sultan of Sewers: William Burroughs’ Anti-authoritarian Vision*”

G8. IN-HOUSE or CORPORATE PUBLICATION

Irma Mejia, Elizabeth Post and Marina Senderov, San Fernando Valley Bar Association, *Valley Lawyer Magazine*, “November 2014 ‘New Lawyers’ Issue”

<http://bit.ly/1FuGVr6>

Comment: The editors have produced a good mix of features, columns and service/advice stories in this issue, which keeps things interesting as a reader moves through the book. Interactive components, like a quiz, and advice stories, like an article offering tips on content marketing a solo practice, are good “news you can use” elements for readers.

2nd Adam VanGerpen, *The Los Angeles Firefighter*, “Does LAFD Need an Overhaul”

3rd Bennet Kelley and Cyber Report, *Internet Law Center*, “A Dozen Things in Tech You Need to Know”

G9. DESIGN

Kayoko Suzuki-Lange, Stephan Horbelt, Ed Baker, Gabriel Goldberg and Frontiers Media, *Frontiers Magazine*, “Outfest 2014”

<http://bit.ly/1M5EQXo>

Comment: Original, eye-grabbing. Great use of color.

2nd Chris Mihal and Bailey Franklin, *Variety*, “Bill Murray: Saint Bill”

3rd Shanti Marlar, Jennifer Laski, Peter Cury and *The Hollywood Reporter* Design Staff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Oscar Issue”

H. TELEVISION/FILM

H1. ANCHOR

Sonali Kolhatkar, *Free Speech TV*, “Uprising with Sonali”

<http://bit.ly/1EnWa9R>

Comment: Kolhatkar is a no-nonsense journalist asking tough questions and covering serious news in a professional, respectful and serious manner.

2nd Frances Wang, *Annenberg TV News*, “Repairs for South L.A. Sidewalks Take Step Forward”

H2. VIDEOGRAPHER

Arron Hage, *Seven Network Australia*, “Grand Battle”

<http://youtu.be/gYXFq1PA0PA>

Comment: Documenting one of the most marginalized communities in America, "Grand Battle" utilizes different videography modes to capture sweeping panoramics with a firm and steady hand along with unique viewpoints recorded with wearable technology.

2nd Ani Ucar, *LA Weekly*, “EXCLUSIVE: Inside the Gay Wing of L.A. Men’s Central Jail”

3rd Ernesto Torres, *KNBC TV*, “Risky Ride”

H3. NEWS

Derrick Shore, Lata Pandya, Kenny Gioseffi and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*, “‘SoCal Connected’- Processed Human Waste as Fertilizer: The Stinky Controversy”

<http://bit.ly/1Kan0UL>

Comment: The SoCal Connected story was really well done. Interesting, well explained, and it didn’t take itself too seriously, so I learned something while being entertained.

2nd Kacey Montoya and Kevin Horton, *KTLA 5 News*, “Westchester Rat Hoarder”

3rd Zach Weissmueller and Paul Detrick, *Reason*, “Ferguson Protestors React to Michael Brown Robbery Footage”

H4. INVESTIGATIVE

Val Zavala, Lata Pandya, Dan Caston and John Sandoval, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: Overmedicated Elderly”

<http://bit.ly/1eQ4N2F>

Comment: The elderly abuse story was really smart and well done, and actually, very scary on a large scale. Very eye opening.

2nd Carolina Sarassa, Steve Malave, Manny Giron, Armando Acevedo and Gustavo Gutierrez, *MundoFOX Noticias*, “¿Injusticias?”

3rd Laela Zadeh, Gary Baum, Jennifer Laski, Minh Hieu Bui and Stephanie Fischette, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Hollywood Vaccination Fail”

3rd Ivan O'Mahoney, Nial Fulton, Darren Foster, Jeff Plunkett and Alex Simmons, *Al Jazeera America*, “Borderland”

H5a. FEATURE LIFESTYLE

Mike Amor, Arron Hage and Duncan McLeod, *Seven Network Australia*, “Grand Battle”
<http://youtu.be/gYXFq1PA0PA>

Comment: Grand Battle – fascinating, well told story and tremendous use of photography.

2nd Michael Martinez, Ana Cabrera and Sara Weisfeldt, *CNN*, “Prescription Drug Abuse Epidemic: How a Grandmother of 18 Became Addicted”

3rd Carolina Sarassa, Gustavo Gutierrez and Manny Giron, *MundoFOX Noticias*, “Marcados De Por Vida/Marked For Life”

H5b. FEATURE NEWS

Conor Knighton, Katherine Spiers, John Sandoval and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: Foreign Restaurant Chains”
<http://bit.ly/1RKh2fw>

Comment: Loved the story on Foreign Restaurant Chains—very engaging, interesting topic and very well told.

2nd Derrick Shore, Katherine Spiers, Michael Bloecher and John Sandoval, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: Bugs as Food”

3rd Denise L. Poon, Pat Harvey, Gustavo Sampaio, Peter Wilgoren and Scott Diener, *CBS2LA*, “40th Anniversary of Biggest Shootout”

H6. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

David S. Cohen, *Variety*, “The Dangerous Art of Aerial Cinematography”
<http://youtu.be/V2wQS4LBoVg>

Comment: I selected this one because it was extremely informative, action-packed, great visuals, and told a story. I really felt like I got an inside look and an understanding of aerial cinematography.

2nd Cecilia Bogran and Andres Pruna, *KMEX*, “Paseo de las Estrellas”

3rd George Pennacchio and Cheryl Diano, *KABC-TV*, “Debbie Reynolds ‘For Sale’”

H7. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Kimberly Cornell, Chris Schauble, Jason Roberts, Brian Choo and Justin Mashouf, *KTLA 5 News*, “Chris Schauble’s Adoption Search”
<http://bit.ly/1eQ545K>

Comment: So many amazing entries! We made a connection to Chris Schauble and his personal journey, so he's our winner. But again, tremendous work by all in this category.

2nd Lacey Rose, Christopher Genovese, Alfred Aquino, Jennifer Laski and Stephanie Fischette, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Chris Rock"

3rd Nick Gillespie and Meredith Bragg, *Reason*, "Nirvana's Krist Novoselic on Punk, FairVote, Why He Dumped the Dems, & Why the GOP Should Embrace Anarchy"

H8. SPORTS

Rick Garcia and Raymond Bell, *KCBS-TV*, "Kopay NFL Secret"

<http://cbsloc.al/1AKXLX5>

Comment: Rick Garcia and Raymond Bell's story on David Kopay was gently done. Good stuff.

2nd Kenny Holmes, *KNBC-TV*, "Mechanics of an Olympian"

3rd Seth Abramovitch, Stephanie Fischette, Jennifer Laski, and Vincent Venturella, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "David Kopay"

H9. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Val Zavala, Linda Burns, Cara Santa Maria, Derrick Shore, Jennifer Sabih et al., *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: Environmental Special"

http://www.kcet.org/shows/socal_connected/socal-connected-330.html

Comment: Good insight on the Los Angeles River story. Well shot and great balance.

2nd Carolina Sarassa, Jaime Maldonado, Victor Castillo, Miguel Gamboa and Manny Giron, *MundoFOX Noticias*, "Frontera Esperanza Muerta" (The Border: Dead Hope)

3rd Sonali Kolhatkar, *Free Speech TV*, "Understanding the Historical and Political Context of the US War on ISIS"

H10. FEATURE DOCUMENTARY (Over 25 minutes)

Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty and Drew Tewksbury, *KCET*, "Without Borders/Sin Fronteras"

<http://bit.ly/1zfyMth>

Comment: Opening segment captures the viewers attention immediately and draws you into a very creatively shot interview.

2nd Juan Devis, Bruce Dickson, Joris Debeij and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, "America Deserta"

3rd Stacey Wilson, Lacey Rose, Jennifer Laski and Stephanie Fischette, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Comedy Actor Roundtable (Emmys)”

H11. DOCUMENTARY (Short, under 25 minutes)

Juan Devis, Chris Metzler, Jeff Springer and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, “Zorthian Ranch”
<http://bit.ly/1aVxwQs>

Comment: Zorthian Ranch is a well told documentary describing the ranch, work and life of the artist Jirayr Zorthian. The story opens with a good title sequence which captures the attention of the viewer. The storyline is attention-grabbing as it tells the history of the artist and why the ranch exists. The cinematography is stimulating, using moving camera shots and there is a good mixture of legacy footage with new footage. A good blend of natural sound and music is used to set the tempo of the story. The interviews are creatively captured using nonstandard framing. The piece has a good closing which wraps up the tale and nicely compliments the opening sequence. This is a well done short documentary which incorporates a wide variety of cinematic and storytelling techniques.

2nd Todd Krainin, *Reason*, “Jay Austin’s Beautiful, Illegal Tiny House”

3rd Jennifer Laski, Stephanie Fischette, Brian Rovanpera and Victor Klaus, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Making of the Oscar Statue”

I. RADIO

I1. ANCHOR

Steve Chiotakis, *KCRW*
<http://bit.ly/1H8yKqt>

Comment: The delivery is inviting and familiar enough to make you want to hear more.

2nd Jim Rondeau, *KCLU*

3rd Sonali Kolhatkar, *Pacifica Radio*

I2. NEWS or FEATURE SHORT FORM

Chris Sedens, *KNX*, “Ed Begley’s Not Running on Empty”
<http://www.entries.knxnews.net/2014%20SOCAL%20JOURN%20NEWS%20SHORT.mp3>

Comment: Chris Sedens visits Ed Begley’s environmentally friendly home, letting the listener hear Begley demonstrate methods he uses to reduce water use not only during the current drought but also over many years. An excellent short feature that gives practical tips from an actor who practices what he preaches.

2nd Stephanie O'Neill, *Southern California Public Radio*, "Covered California Again Pulls Faulty Doctor List from Website"

3rd Truthdig Radio, *Truthdig*, "Edward Snowden's Lawyer Takes on John Kerry"

I3a. HARD NEWS FEATURE

Saul Gonzalez, *KCRW*, "Armed and Concealed in Orange County"

<https://soundcloud.com/kcrw/armed-and-concealed-in-orange-county>

Comment: Great job getting the listeners' attention with the opening nat sound of gunfire. It was VERY informative and reveals the "thinking" on both sides of the issue.

2nd Madeleine Brand and Anna Scott, *KCRW*, "Fault Lines: A Trip to the Midnight Mission"

3rd Stephanie O'Neill, *Southern California Public Radio*, "Confusion, Cost Leave Some Californians to Go Uninsured"

I3b. LIGHT NEWS FEATURE

Jerome Campbell, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "As Black As I Wanna Be?"

<http://bit.ly/1H23qcg>

Comment: Growing up other kids made reporter Jerome Campbell ask himself the question, "How black am I?" In this Detours segment, Jerome explores his identity as a black man, and discovers that he doesn't have to feel like being "black" is relative.

2nd Victor Figueroa, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "Carl the Bartender Keeps Santa Monica Laughing"

3rd Saul Gonzalez, *KCRW*, "This Business of Death: Death Doulas"

14. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Kerstin Zilm, Bob Carlson and Skylar Myers, *KCRW*, "I Knew You Back Then"

<http://bit.ly/1ItTsxO>

Comment: How can a piece sound as if it wasn't edited as if it wasn't even recorded. This is powerful and real and we learn about two people who were friends as kids but then they turned out very differently. We discover the differences as they do – and Skylar gives us insight into her friend, Randall almost as an aside. We are there!

2nd Madeleine Brand and Christian Bordial, *KCRW*, "Tough Choices for Transgender Kids"

3rd Steve Chiotakis and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*, "A Look Back at Pacific Ocean Park"

15. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Elvis Mitchell and Jenny Radelet, *KCRW*, “Charles M. Blow: Fire Shut Up in My Bones”
<http://bit.ly/1H5qXd7>

Comment: There are three elements – a book, an author and an interviewer. But the story holds tight to the author’s story without getting into a lot of “as I say in the book.” The interviewer is sensitive to the story without trying to sound as if he knows it all ahead of time. A simple conversation – simply and perfectly done. I wanted more.

2nd Kim Masters and Kaitlin Parker, *KCRW*, “TV Legend Norman Lear on a Lifetime of ‘Experience’”

3rd Larry Mantle, Lauren Osen, Fiona Ng and Shawn Campbell, *KPCC*, “Music legend Herbie Hancock opens up about this wild creative ride from jazz to hip hop”

16. INVESTIGATIVE

Charles Feldman and Laraine Herman, *KNX*, “Running on Empty: Our Epic Drought”
<http://bit.ly/1AOsgex>

Comment: This is a series of minute and a half pieces, which take on a monumental issue. Yet it keeps working as individual episodes. The scope of this work is vast – and though there are some sound issues – there is a lot of “place” here. We are out of the studio and into the story. Well done.

2nd Stephanie O’Neill, *Southern California Public Radio*, “The Surge in Psychedelic Research, et al.”

3rd Annie Gilbertson, *KPCC*, “Los Angeles Unified School District’s iPad Project”

17. ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING/CRITICISM

Larry Mantle, Lauren Osen, Jasmin Tuffaha, Fiona Ng and Matt Dangelantonio, *KPCC*, “A Massive Hack of Sony Pictures Leaves the Studio and Industry Reeling”
<http://bit.ly/1MmtRcS>

Comment: This team left no stone unturned. The coverage insures that listeners don’t walk away wondering “what if,” because it was in there! The host, Larry Mantle, obviously knows the subject, as well as his community quite well. Nicely done!

2nd Larry Mantle, Lauren Osen, Jasmin Tuffaha, Fiona Ng and Matt Dangelantonio, *KPCC*, “The Death of ‘Midnight Rider’ Crew Member Sarah Jones Leads Hollywood to re-examine its Safety Practices”

3rd Anthony Byrnes, *KCRW*, “What Does it Mean to be Local?”

18. SPORTS

Matt Levin, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, “Draft Insurance”

<http://bit.ly/1eQ5IAf>

Comment: The piece is thoroughly done by covering several angles in business, academics, professional and personal...all tied together smoothly.

2nd Susan Valot, *The California Report*, “Arena Football with a Hard Rock Beat”

19. USE OF SOUND

Victor Figueroa, *USC Annenberg Radio*, “Carl the Bartender Keeps Santa Monica Laughing”

<http://bit.ly/1e6RLA>

Comment: Fun piece with lots of character!

2nd Stephanie O'Neill, *Southern California Public Radio*, “The Surge in Psychiatric Research Using Hallucinogens”

3rd Susan Valot, *The California Report*, “Arena Football with a Hard Rock Beat”

110. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Charles Feldman, Tom Haule, Jonathan Serviss, Diane Dray and Logan Moy, *KNX*, “Ask the Mayor”

<http://bit.ly/1M5Ja93>

Comment: Excellent public service that gives listeners real access.

2nd USC Annenberg Radio News, *ARN Live Show*, “November 5, 2014”

3rd Sonali Kolhatkar, *Pacifica Radio*, “The Legacy of Occupy Wall Street”

111. DOCUMENTARY

Lu Olkowski, *KCRW*, “The Pirate”

<http://bit.ly/1H3X0tK>

Comment: Creative piece that really transports the listener. Good production values, too!

2nd Bob Carlson, Jesse Hardman, Wendy Dorr, Tiffany Camhi and Elly Yu, *KCRW*, “Preacher's Kid”

3rd Amy Alkon and Gregg Sutter, *Blogtalk Radio*, “Nina Teicholz on Why Butter, Meat, and Cheese are the Foundation of a Healthy Diet”

J. ONLINE (Also see X. All Media Platforms)

J1A. HARD NEWS

William Avila, Christina Cocca, Kelly Goff, Samia Khan, Jonathan Lloyd and Andrew Lopez, *NBC4*, "Massacre Near UC Santa Barbara"

<http://trib.al/9rYE5gB>

Comment: This piece includes compelling video and photographs, along with crucial information explained via sidebars and additional stories (timeline, manifesto, social media reax, newser video). The whole online package on the mass shooting presents an incredible reading experience and the content is seamless. This tragic story garnered national attention and NBC4 was clearly on the ball, with all angles covered.

2nd Faith Miller, Emily Thornburg, Heidi Carreon, Rebecca Gibian and Ani Ucar, *Neon Tommy*, "L.A. Reaction to Ferguson Grand Jury Decision"

3rd Rebecca Gibian, *Neon Tommy*, "'Yes Means Yes' Sets Affirmative Consent Standard for California"

J1B. TRAFFIC AND CITY

Christina Cocca, Samia Khan and Jonathan Lloyd, *NBC4*, "Deadly California Bus Crash"

<http://trib.al/QmueqIX>

Comment: NBC4 provided comprehensive online coverage of a devastating bus crash that killed 10. The submission contained compelling video, photographs, maps, follow-up reports and family reaction in a clean-cut online package that told the story of a community hit hard. The pieces contained live shots from the scene and emotional follow ups that brought the viewer into the lives of the families who were left reeling. This is exactly how a story like this should be told, and it looks like a tremendous team effort.

2nd Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*, "Dupont-Walker, Community Press Metro on Surprising Changes Slated for Mariachi Plaza, Demand More Outreach"

3rd David Nusbaum, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "L.A.'s NFL Hopes Turn to Inglewood"

J2. INVESTIGATIVE

Joel Grover and Jacquelin Sonderling, *NBC4*, "Water Hogs Investigation"

<http://trib.al/FTbxkPw>

Comment: Stellar investigative work on what could be one of the worst environmental disasters of the modern age. Given the draught conditions in California right now, the idea that public officials are among the worst water wasters is despicable. Kudos to the NBC4 team for bringing these facts to light.

2nd Will Federman and Matthew Tinoco, *Neon Tommy*, "Identity for Sale"

3rd Joel Grover and Jacquelin Sonderling, *NBC4*, "Risky Rides"

J3. NEWS FEATURE

Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*, "To Be or Not To Be a Gang-Banger: Is that Really the Question?"

<http://bit.ly/1FuThjL>

Comment: Sahra Sulaiman takes us inside a world that few are familiar with, or so it seems, unless you're raised in the environment. Through tremendous story-telling and telling photographs, we get a glimpse into the life of a gang-member -- and the daily struggles they face in the sense of coming to grips with their own reality. Do they really want this life? Are they proud of what they do? Through interviews with youth - some unnamed - we can begin to put the puzzle together. The writer takes a first-person point of view, which actually assists in guiding us through this lifestyle. A fine piece of journalism that appears to offer youth a voice - almost a plea for help -- and that power cannot be understated.

2nd Daina Beth Solomon, *Intersections South LA*, "South LA Street Cooks Could Soon Go Legit"

3rd John Gittelsohn and Karen Gullo, *Bloomberg News*, "Chinese Millionaire Roils Brokers Over Shrinking Mansion"

J4. LIFESTYLE FEATURES

Alana Bracken, *Neon Tommy*, "An Inside Look Into The World Of Competitive Irish Dance"

<http://bit.ly/1HL2VPZ>

Comment: An engaging first person look at the challenges and ups and downs of competitive Irish dancing. Bracken provides strong descriptions which make the reader feel like he is there.

2nd Christian Brown, *Neon Tommy*, "Will a Mass Grave in L.A. Be Your Final Resting Place?"

3rd Damien Newton, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*, "StreetsR4Families: Walk/Bike to School Day Is Easy"

J5. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Brianna Sacks and Will Federman, *Neon Tommy*, "Daniel Ellsberg: On the Republic We Couldn't Keep"

<http://bit.ly/1H1kor9>

Comment: An interesting catch-up with Daniel Ellsberg and his insights into the current state of America's government and how it regards and treats whistleblowers. The reader learns how attitudes have changed since Ellsberg's Pentagon Papers days of the 1970's.

2nd Tom Teicholz, *Forbes.com*, "The Rothschild is a Mensch"

3rd Jase Peeples, *The Advocate*, "Susan Blu: Transformation of an Animation Icon"

J6. POLITICAL COLUMN/COMMENTARY

Jesse Walker, *Reason*, "Regulating Hateful Speech Won't Stop Hateful Crimes"

<http://bit.ly/1EJvakv>

Comment: Wilson makes his case with strong logic and writing, cutting through more emotional arguments to limit hate speech.

2nd Bill Blum, *Truthdig*, "Recess is Over: What the Supreme Court Has In Store for Us Now"

3rd Chris Hedges, *Truthdig*, "Alcatraz: A Prison As Disneyland"

J7. NON-POLITICAL COLUMN/COMMENTARY

Robby Soave, *Reason*, "Is the UVA Rape Story A Gigantic Hoax?"

<http://bit.ly/1vLeaEI>

Comment: This column was ahead to the curve, raising questions about the veracity of the UVA rape story that appeared in Rolling Stone. Soave raises legitimate questions about some of the story contents without declaring it a hoax. He shows respect and sensitivity toward the victim while still addressing journalistic inconsistencies in the story.

2nd Neal Broverman, *The Advocate*, "Op-Ed: Finding Sympathy for the Most Hated Woman in America"

3rd Eriq Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Can Sony Get Around the First Amendment to Sue Media Over Hack?"

J8. ONLINE SPORTS NEWS or FEATURE

Marah Alindogan, *Neon Tommy*, "Can Social Media Bring Back the Los Angeles Rams?"

<http://bit.ly/1EXibqV>

Comment: Will Los Angeles ever have an NFL team again? This informative piece details what would be involved and how a growing online movement may be leading the way.

2nd Devra Maza, *The Huffington Post*, "Shooting Diamonds: Directing the World Series"

3rd Ryan Reft, *KCET*, "Politics of Surfing"

J9. SPORTS COMMENTARY

Paolo Uggetti, *Neon Tommy*, "The NFL, America's Monster"

<http://www.neontommy.com/news/2014/09/nfl-americas-monster>

Comment: A sobering, well-documented look at the role the NFL, empowered by its fans, plays in a number of league problems and scandals. This gives the reader plenty to ponder.

2nd Devra Maza, *The Huffington Post*, "Baseball's Library: Inside the Hall of Fame Archives"

3rd Max Meyer, *Neon Tommy*, "Penn State's NCAA Sanctions Lifted Due to Program, Why Not USC's?"

J10. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Michael Martinez, Elliot C. McLaughlin and Ben Brumfield, *CNN*, "Bill Cosby and His Accusers"

<http://cnn.it/1KNrsKI>

Comment: A thorough job of identifying the women who have accused Bill Cosby of rape and their individual encounters with him that led to the alleged rapes. Full of interesting details.

2nd Dawn Chmielewski and Arik Hesseldahl, *Re/code*, "Sony: The Worst Hack in Corporate History"

3rd RadarOnline.com and The National Enquirer Staff, *RadarOnline.com*, "The Tragic Loss of a Legend: Robin Williams Death Coverage"

J11. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE

Taffy Brodesser-Akner, *GQ*, "The Leftovers"

<http://bit.ly/YU1u1O>

Comment: A look at Paula Deen's initial comeback steps as viewed first hand by the writer. Superior writing and description made this hard to put down until the very end.

2nd Josh Dickey, *Mashable*, "Everyone Is Altered"

3rd Jeremy Fuster, *Neon Tommy*, "Is Sunset Strip Dying?"

J12. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY/REVIEWS

Eve Weston, *LA Weekly*, "Does 'Into The Woods' Punish a Wife for Adultery and Not a

Husband?"

<http://bit.ly/1BKOyZU>

Comment: An insightful look at a major question women often see in this hit show. Good sourcing adds to the case the reporter makes.

2nd Todd McCarthy, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How Bacall, Bogie and Hawks Turned Sexual Chemistry Into A Classic"

3rd David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Elaine Stritch: An Appreciation"

J13. BLOG, INDIVIDUAL

Rebecca Plevin, *KPCC*, "Impatient: Making The Health Care System Work for You"

<http://www.scpr.org/blogs/health>

Comment: This blog is extremely useful by providing important information on health care topics that readers can use for their personal benefit and better health.

2nd Carren Jao, *KCET*, "Confluence"

3rd Simone Wilson, *Jewish Journal*, "Simone's Blog: Hella Tel Aviv"

J14. BLOG, GROUP

Melanie Curry, Joe Linton, Damien Newton and Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*

<http://bit.ly/1DNr59T>

Comment: This is exceptionally easy to navigate and features timely topics of interest to area residents.

2nd Natasha Hakimi, Peter Z. Scheer, Alexander Reed Kelly, Kasia Anderson and Donald Kaufman, *Truthdig*, "Ear to the Ground"

3rd Erin Weinger, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Pret-A-Reporter"

J15. WEBSITE, NEWS ORGANIZATION EXCLUSIVE TO THE INTERNET

USC Annenberg School of Journalism, *Neon Tommy*, "Neontommy.com"

<http://www.neontommy.com>

Comment: Well-designed, easy to navigate website featuring updated news and information that would make a person come back and back again.

2nd Juan Devis, Justin Cram, Rubi Fregoso, Yosuke Kitazawa and Luis Sierra Campos, *KCET*, "Departures"

3rd Fernando Mexia, *WestJournal*, "WestJournal"

J16. WEBSITE, TRADITIONAL NEWS ORGANIZATION

Janice Min, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "THR.com"

<http://thr.com>

Comment: With a well-organized home page and links that quickly connect to its myriad of current articles, *The Hollywood Reporter* is an excellent, reliable resource for those in the entertainment industry as well as the general public. For its easy-to-use and wonderfully designed Web site, the entertainment publication decisively earns the top award as Best Web Site.

2nd Stu Oldham, *Variety*, "variety.com"

3rd *The Advocate*, *The Advocate*, "advocate.com"

K. INTERNATIONAL

K1. NEWS

Kerstin Zilm, *Deutschlandradio*, "Police Brutality"

<http://bit.ly/1DGbQ8k>

Comment: Conveys the deep pain, mistrust and anger of many in the African-American community when it comes to dealing with the LAPD. You can practically feel the anger and a certain level of helplessness bubbling just beneath the surface of everyone involved.

2nd Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV – Canadian Television*, "Comedown in Tinseltown"

3rd Ruben V. Nepales, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, "Courtney Love"

K2. FEATURE

Mike Amor and Arron Hage, *Seven Network Australia*, "Free for a Day"

<http://youtu.be/l85ellWndZo>

Comment: Excellent story that reveals the unexpected. Interviews are strong. The story is allowed to tell itself, although the use of POV shots really adds to the package. Overall, just kept me interested from the start.

2nd Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV – Canadian Television*, "Car Pool"

3rd Mike Amor, Arron Hage and Duncan McLeod, *Seven Network Australia*, "Grand Battle"

K3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Chrissy Iley, *Telegraph*, "Hillary Clinton Interview - Forgiveness is Hard"
<http://bit.ly/1EXWdE2>

Comment: Much has been written about Hillary Clinton, but Chrissy Iley manages to provide a fresh perspective on this well-known figure with insightful questioning and thorough background research.

2nd Barbara Gasser, *Besser*, "Julianne Moore - An Unusual Normal Woman"

3rd Barbara Gasser, *Wiener*, "Mike Tyson - Unvarnished Truth"

K4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV – Canadian Television*, "The Last Ramone"
<http://bit.ly/1JlpL2q>

Comment: Nice obit that covers the influence of the subject.

2nd Barbara Gasser, *Besser*, "Julianne Moore – An Unusual Normal Woman"

3rd Kerstin Zilm, *Deutschlandradio*, "Freedom Rocks – Berlin Wall Fragments in California"

K5. COLUMNIST or CRITIC

Tom Walters, *CTV – Canadian Television*, "Parliament Hill"
<http://bit.ly/1GbvYKq>

Comment: A powerful piece. A poetic tribute to honoring Kevin Vickers for his heroic actions when a gunman opened fire in Parliament. Successfully portrayed Vickers' quiet resolve and the hope for the future of an entire country. Well done.

2nd Ruben V. Nepales, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, "Stephen King: Why Master of Horror Novels Doesn't Scare Us"

3rd Janet Nepales, *Manila Bulletin*, "Robin Williams: 'Just Dance On My Grave'"

L. YOUTH MEDIA

L1. BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

Daily Titan, California State University, Fullerton
<http://www.dailytitan.com/>

Comment: The *Daily Titan* demonstrates an excellence not only in its news coverage but also in its arts, entertainment and sports features, opinion pages, and photography. The newspaper serves as a model for other colleges and universities to follow and greatly deserves recognition as the best.

2nd *Los Angeles Collegian*, Los Angeles City College

3rd *Daily Bruin*, University of California, Los Angeles

L2. BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

The Pearl Post, Daniel Pearl Magnet High School

<http://www.thepearlpost.com/>

Comment: The *Pearl Post* provides comprehensive coverage of high school issues, and supplements its articles with fine photography, compelling profiles of students and teachers, and thoughtful opinion pieces. A fine effort by future journalists and leaders.

2nd *Highlights*, Beverly Hills High School

L3. BEST NEWS WEBSITE

USC Annenberg School of Journalism, *Neon Tommy*, “neontommy.com”

<http://neontommy.com>

Comment: A full range of news in a dynamic presentation.

2nd *Daily Bruin Staff*, *Daily Bruin*, “dailybruin.com”

3rd *Intersections South LA Staff*, *Intersections South LA*, “www.intersectionssouthla.org”

L4A. BEST NEWS PHOTO

Curtis Sabir, *Los Angeles Collegian*, “Civil Unrest Hits Los Angeles”

<http://bit.ly/1PNy1uo>

Comment: Curtis Sabir took a compelling photo of 37 protesters blocking a Beverly Hills intersection by sprawling there following the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, earning him a share of the top award.

TIE

Loren Townsley, *The Sundial*, “Ferguson Protests”

<http://sundial.csun.edu/2014/12/photos-of-the-week/>

Comment: Loren Townsley also took a photo of protesters of the Brown killing at a different location in L.A. and earns a nod for the Best News Photo.

2nd Jessica Brecker, *Los Angeles Collegian*, “Solar Eclipse Attracts Stargazers to Astronomy Club Viewing Party”

3rd Marisela Gonzalez, *Daily Titan*, “Kim Takes 65th”

L4B. BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Austin Yu, *Daily Bruin*, "UCLA Defeats USC 38-20, Wins Rivalry for Third Straight Year"

<http://bit.ly/1ESpxMT>

Comment: *Daily Bruin* photographer Austin Yu's stunning photograph of a moment of victory for UCLA quarterback Brett Hundley backlit by lights and framed by cheering fans as the team defeated rival USC shows how being at the right place at the right time pays off.

2nd Winnie Huang, *Daily Titan*, "Women's Soccer"

L4C. BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Winnie Huang, *Daily Titan*, "Waka Flocka"

<http://www.dailytitan.com/2015/04/winnie-photo-entry/>

Comment: Winnie Huang caught musician Waka Flocka singing with his dreadlocks flowing in this memorable, winning feature photo for the *Daily Titan*.

2nd Jessica Brecker, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "Astronomy Club Gravitates to Star-Studded Premiere"

3rd Curtis Sabir, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "Encore: Nun Goes Missing in Theatre Academy Production at Odyssey"

L5a. SPOT NEWS

Manny Araujo, *The Sundial*, "A Former CSUN Scientist is Claiming He Was Fired for His Christian Beliefs"

<http://bit.ly/1FuUI1Q>

Comment: Good thorough airing of issues related to religious zealot's firing.

2nd Michael J. Arvizu, *The Sundial*, "Two Arrested in Investigation of Abdullah Alkadi's Disappearance"

3rd Jake Camarena, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "Civil Unrest Hits Los Angeles"

L5b. ENTERPRISE

Will Federman and Matthew Tinoco, *Neon Tommy*, "New South L.A. Hospital Faces Criticism Over Delays, Lack of Services"

<http://bit.ly/1oxcmu3>

Comment: Very strong investigative probe into shortcomings of the hospital that will replace the MLK center and delays into its opening. Shows the facility will lack important medical services.

2nd Kate Parkinson-Morgan, *Daily Bruin*, “UCLA, Student Groups Combat College Sexual Assault”

3rd Annie Yu, *The Clause*, “Student Health Insurance Fees to Triple Under Obamacare”

L6A. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE

Olga Grigoryants and Daina Beth Solomon, *Intersections South LA*, “40 Years for Four Shots”

<http://bit.ly/1KNsx4J>

Comment: A fine and nuanced look at what we did not know about the young man behind the USC shootings on Halloween of 2012, but thought we did. Beautifully written and thoughtfully reported, well beyond college level.

2nd Jackson Prince, *Highlights*, “How to Be Funny in An Oversensitive Society”

3rd *Neon Tommy* Staff Reporters, *Neon Tommy*, “More Than Overcrowding: A Deeper Look at the Problem with Prisons”

L6B. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Elizabeth Case, *Daily Bruin*, “Coming Up For Air”

<http://bit.ly/1gAzblI>

Comment: Beautiful writing and in-depth reporting from a far-off locale place this college reporting – about a selfless UCLA nursing director who tries to save Third World divers from the bends – among the ranks of professional foreign correspondence. Bravo!

2nd Annie Yu, *The Clause*, “Former APU Prof to Try Year Without God”

3rd Jessica Brecker, *Los Angeles Collegian*, “Jerzy Poglodzinski: Pool Man with a Past”

L7. BEST REPORTING – BROADCAST, PODCAST or STREAM

Eldrin Masangkay and Francesca Manto, *Daily Bruin*, “Maxlove”

<http://bit.ly/1Cn5Uhs>

Comment: Great story telling emotional and well executed promising storyteller.

2nd Kelsey Cruz, *Daily 49er*, “30 Years of Legend”

3rd Kelly Reinke, *Annenberg TV News*, “LAFD Looks to Add More Women to Fire Department”