

WINNERS OF THE 61st SoCal JOURNALISM AWARDS 2019

A. JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

A1. PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — Over 50,000 circulation

Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*

<https://bit.ly/2Eybk3b>, <https://bit.ly/2Hflall>, <https://bit.ly/2sQFbeU>,
<https://bit.ly/2FuXXxr>

Judges' comment: We are always wiser for reading his incisive work and we are grateful for it!

2nd Michael Idato, *The Sydney Morning Herald and Melbourne Age*

3rd Lina Lecaro, *LA Weekly*

A2. PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — Under 50,000 circulation

Jon Regardie, *LA Downtown News*

<https://bit.ly/2Rx2kxY>, <https://bit.ly/2qkuzEA>, <https://bit.ly/2MI4N6j>,
<https://bit.ly/2YHL0KL>

Judges' comment: His smart and poignant writing is a clarion of truth.

2nd Brent Lang, *Variety*

3rd Andre Coleman, *Pasadena Weekly*

A3. TELEVISION JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Karen Foshay, *KCET*

<https://youtu.be/VB1sfYczvnk>, <https://bit.ly/2z3qmc2>, <https://bit.ly/2TduvqD>,
<https://bit.ly/2TqHC7b>, <https://bit.ly/2OeBMnR>

Judges' comment: Karen Foshay is a towering force in producing important and meaningful stories. Her work is a mirror to life in Los Angeles.

2nd Tom Walters, *CTV - Canadian Television*

3rd Gigi Graciette, *KTTV Fox 11*

A4. RADIO JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Deepa Fernandes, *Freelance for PRI's The World and KCRW*

<https://bit.ly/2VvpZ3G>, <https://bit.ly/2T89KfT>, <https://bit.ly/2IH9CiM>

Judges' comment: The extensive work that Deepa Fernandes has produced in America and around the world makes her a top choice. Not only where she has reported from but the types of stories she has covered and the variety of voices that are brought to the airwaves is refreshing. Plus, I'm sure people are educated by what she shares and I bet quite often take away something new. All of these qualities make her a top candidate!

2nd Morris O'Kelly (Mo'Kelly), *KFI AM640/iHeartRadio*

3rd Lance Orozco, *KCLU AM/FM*

A5. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Nick Gerda, *Voice of OC*

<https://twitter.com/nicholasgerda>

Judges' comment: Nick Gerda is truly a passionate defender of the voiceless. His work is admirable proof of commitment to investigation and the truth. Gerda recognizes some of the most important issues in his community with a powerful voice, making him a standout and deserving choice for Online Journalist of the Year.

2nd Lesley Goldberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*

3rd Jessica Goodheart, *Capital & Main*

A6. ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*

<https://bit.ly/2y4TvTP>, <https://bit.ly/2C3H0gu>, <https://bit.ly/2HTKzU5>,
<https://bit.ly/2PYRPIP>

Judges' comment: His excellent writing is always chock full of insight and wisdom.

2nd Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*

3rd Chris Willman, *Variety*

A7. SPORTS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

David Pingalore, *KTLA 5 News*

<https://bit.ly/2G6WPSe>, <https://bit.ly/2G8ygV9>, <https://bit.ly/2v3pRNo>,
<https://bit.ly/2DcWeh9>

Judges' comment: His love of sports and athletes is imbued with insight and deep knowledge.

2nd Aitana Vargas, *HITN TV Network & DirecTV Sports*

A8. PHOTOJOURNALIST/VIDEOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Ernesto Torres, *KNBC TV4*

<https://vimeo.com/268842047>, <https://vimeo.com/285710784>,
<https://vimeo.com/302460923>, <https://vimeo.com/309294061>

Judges' comment: Torres manages to capture stories from many different angles, which add dimension and more meaning for the viewers. He is a very creative video journalist.

2nd Osceola Refetoff, *KCETlink*

3rd Thomas Cordova, *Long Beach Post*

B. ALL MEDIA PLATFORMS – Print, Radio, TV or Online

B1. HUMOR/SATIRE WRITING

Austin Bragg, Meredith Bragg and Andrew Heaton, *ReasonTV*, “Groundhog Day: 2018”
<https://bit.ly/2uzaxbc>

Judges' comment: Tightly written, devastatingly funny and spot on media critique.

2nd Ryan Gajewski, *Playboy Winter Issue*, “Celebrities Are Super Cool”

3rd David Jerome, *Orange County Register*, “2018: My End of the Year Clean-Up Project”

B2. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION – TV/Film Personalities

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, “Burt Reynolds: A Movie Star Who Refused to Take Stardom Seriously”

<https://bit.ly/2QbiRHK>

Judges’ comment: Crisp, detailed and nuanced writing brings Burt Reynolds back to life so we can appreciate him one more time.

2nd Todd Krainin, *ReasonTV*, “Travel Shows Were Boring as F*ck. Then Came Anthony Bourdain.”

3rd Steven Gaydos, *Variety*, “Ermanno Olmi Appreciation: An Art-House Giant Who Deserved More Attention”

B3. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION – Politics/Business/Arts

Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV – Canadian Television*, “The Queen of Soul”

<https://bit.ly/2IaPd4P>

Judges’ comment: Incredible use of clips, and potent distillation of a life. Dammit, you made the judge cry!

2nd Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*, “Neil Simon: How the playwright wrote his own second act and finally won over critics”

3rd Meghan McCarron, *Eater*, “What Will Los Angeles Do Without Jonathan Gold?”

B4. ACTIVISM JOURNALISM

Joanna Sokolowski, Kate Trumbull-LaValle, Justin Cram, Kelly Parker and Pascale Joassart-Marcelli, *KCET*, “City Rising: The Informal Economy”

<https://bit.ly/2HerkHW>

Judges’ comment: Massive subject brilliantly explained. Smart, emotional, a great mix of human stories and big picture breakdown. Just a great piece of journalism.

2nd Dina Demetrius and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*, “L.A. Teen Takes on the Oil Industry”

3rd Michael Goldstein, *Forbes.com*, “Could A Glass Of Wine On An Emirates A380 Put You In A Dubai Jail?”

B5. PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS or FEATURE

Deepa Fernandes, Lata Pandya, Alberto Arce, Austin Stoecklein and Dennis Nishi, KCET, “Stolen Paychecks”
<https://bit.ly/2UePegL>

Judges’ comment: The winner gives a voice to the economically abused. Very well told.

2nd Garrett Therolf, *Investigative Reporting Program at UC Berkeley*, “Why did no one save Gabriel?”

3rd Larry Buhl, *Capital & Main*, “Do Incarcerated Firefighters Deserve a Path to Employment?”

B6. CONSUMER NEWS or FEATURE

Katie Cooper, Karen Foshay, Eduardo Gil de Montes, Michael Ray and Tori Edgar, KCET, “Blood Money”
<https://bit.ly/2T7aZMy>

Judges’ comment: This story shined a light on a growing, large scale problem with effects millions of families. We found the story interesting, compelling and easy follow.

2nd Tom Zoellner, *The Economic Hardship Reporting Project & The Los Angeles Times*, “Dollar General throws a lifeline to hard-pressed communities. Not all welcome it”

3rd Ellen Brown, *Truthdig*, “Banks Are Becoming Obsolete in China—Could the U.S. Be Next?”

B7. SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM

Damien Newton, Streetsblog LA, “Safe Parking”
<https://bit.ly/2Em1Oh0>, <https://bit.ly/2IL1I87>, <https://bit.ly/2TeZ1kc>

Judges’ comment: This three-part series on safe parking lots for people living in their cars is exemplary solutions journalism. Safe Park is an emergency stopgap, and the reporter is clear with readers about that point and does not overclaim, writing about both what is and is not working. The author’s writing style is engaging, building trust and interest by acting as the reader’s surrogate in investigating Safe Park, and in highlighting the humanity of the program's participants. The reporting explores in depth what many readers might assume is the big challenge for Safe Park lots: how to convince neighbors to say yes.

2nd Deepa Fernandes, *KCRW*, “Motel owners see altruism and opportunity in sheltering the homeless”

3rd Jenny Hamel, *KCRW*, “LA seniors find housing solution with home share program”

B8. MEDICAL/HEALTH REPORTING

Harriet Ryan and Matt Hamilton, *Los Angeles Times*, “More than 20 women accused a prominent Pasadena obstetrician of mistreating them. He denied claims and was able to continue practicing”

<https://lat.ms/2BZX28V>

Judges’ comment: Winning entry was exhaustively researched, hauntingly rendered.

2nd Steve Burrows, *HBO*, “Bleed Out”

3rd Stuart Sender, Grisha Alasadi, Guy Livneh, Tori Edgar and Michael Ray, *KCET*, “Heat”

B9. SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY REPORTING

Keith Wagstaff, *Mashable*, “Dark Matter”

<https://bit.ly/2EER3Ia>

Judges’ comment: Judges had a very difficult time deciding among the top three finishers, all were terrific stories with interesting insights. Overall, this was an extremely competitive category with a great deal of quality science/technology stories being done. Nine different stories received strong support in voting.

2nd Debra Greene, *KCLU AM/FM*, “Technology Helping To Catch Rare Turtle Poachers”

3rd Brittany Beckman, *Mashable*, “Rise of the Terpenes”

B10. LOCAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Jack Dolan, Ryan Menezes and Gus Garcia-Roberts, *Los Angeles Times*, “Gaming the System: How Cops and Firefighters Cashed In on L.A.’s Pension Program”

<https://lat.ms/2KsvpeZ>, <https://lat.ms/2X0qTWn>, <https://lat.ms/2G7MZiO>,
<https://lat.ms/2U9R5Mx>, <https://lat.ms/2UNsRMs>

Judges’ comment: This series was sophisticated, clear and shocking. It was downright maddening, even. The reporters nailed the story on a culture of pension abuse that ultimately robs the public.

2nd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, “Battery Blood: How California Health Agencies Failed Exide Workers”

3rd Los Angeles Times staff, *Los Angeles Times*, “How California Law Shielded Dishonest Cops”

B11. NATIONAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Staff, *Variety* and *Rolling Stone*, “American InJustice”
<https://www.american-in-justice.com/>

Judges’ comment: The writers hit this story from every angle, digging deeply into a subject often neglected in the media. With compelling writing, striking statistics and masterful illustrations, American (In)Justice draws the reader in and delivers a devastating dose of reality.

2nd David Sirota, *Capital & Main*, “Beto vs. Democrats: Texas Lawmaker Frequently Voted to Help Trump and GOP”

3rd Joanna Sokolowski, Kate Trumbull-LaValle, Juan Devis, Justin Cram and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, “City Rising - The Informal Economy”

B12. EDUCATIONAL REPORTING

Deepa Fernandes, *KCRW*, “How to make sure your school is teaching your child to read”
<https://kcrw.co/2Ts0miE>

Judges’ comment: Excellent story which outlines a problem, then effectively lists ways to address the problem.

2nd Andrew J. Campa, *Glendale News-Press*, “Glendale Unified board admits to ‘racism problem’ at high school, apologizes”

3rd Bill Raden, *Capital & Main*, “Mentors Under Siege: California’s DACA Teachers”

B13. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Alleen Brown, Eric Preven and Joshua Preven, *The Intercept*, “Los Angeles Blames Wildfire on Homeless...”
<https://bit.ly/2FBuYun>

Judges’ comment: A top notch job of investigative reporting that goes behind a press release to uncover the real causes of wildfires in Los Angeles.

2nd Stuart Sender, Grisha Alasadi, Guy Livneh, Tori Edgar and Michael Ray, *KCET*, “Heat”

3rd Christopher Langley, *KCET Artbound*, “Whittaker Bermite: Environmental Redemption in Santa Clarita, California”

B14. MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE

JOVRNALISM staff, *JOVRNALISM*, “Homeless Realities”

<http://bit.ly/jovrnalism-homeless-realities>

Judges’ comment: Wonderfully varied and interesting multimedia package. So many compelling human stories, well packaged and easily accessible.

2nd KPCC & LAist, @KPCC, “Voter Game Plan”

3rd Itay Hod and Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*, “#AfterMeToo: 12 Accusers Share What Happened Next, From Firing to More Trauma”

B15. TRAVEL REPORTING

Christopher Reynolds, *Los Angeles Times*, “Mexico City for beginners”

<https://lat.ms/2X60reh>

Judges’ comment: Literally a perfect travel story. Discoveries, finds, recommendations... Everything a traveler would need to know.

2nd Zoe Buck, Rosey Alvero, Bijan Rezvani, Justin Cram and Juan Devis, *KCET*, “SoCal Wanderer - Anacapa to Ojai”

3rd Tom Teicholz, *Medium*, “Astana Days: Kazakhstan's Excellent Financial Adventure”

B16. COMMENTARY/ANALYSIS ON TV/FILM

Greg Braxton, *Los Angeles Times*, “Bill Cosby and the complicated heart-break of a hero’s fall from grace”

<https://lat.ms/2HYCC4k>

Judges’ comment: This commentary discusses Bill Cosby’s fall from American cultural popularity from the somewhat mixed perspectives of an African-American journalist who not only admired Cosby, but also interviewed him at different points in the comedian’s career. Interesting and unique insights.

2nd Kristin Marguerite Doidge, *The Atlantic*, “The Pop Innovations of a 50-Year-Old Soundtrack”

3rd Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Critic’s Notebook”

B17. REVIEWS – TV/Film

Simi Horwitz, *Film Journal International*, "On Chesil Beach," "The Wife," and "Disobedience"
<https://bit.ly/2JXvtCf>, <https://bit.ly/2XrzhPA>, <https://bit.ly/2Ilsnon>

Judges' comment: Detailed, nuanced film reviews that not only inform the reader, but gets him to think about what goes into a film and what it means.

2nd Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, "Reviews by Variety Chief Film Critic Owen Gleiberman"

3rd Chauncey K. Robinson, *People's World*, "'Sorry to Bother You', 'On Her Shoulders' 'Cargo'"

B18. REVIEWS – Theater/Performing Arts

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Reviews by Variety's Chris Willman"
<https://wp.me/p2WgDE-1jpLuo>, <http://bit.ly/2L7196S>, <https://wp.me/p2WgDE-1joUHW>

Judges' comment: Detailed, interesting reviews that cover various angles.

2nd Thom Geier, *TheWrap*, "Theater Reviews"

3rd Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "David Byrne's American Utopia tour at the Shrine: The same, and not the same, as he ever was," "Cuba's Omara Portuondo comes to the aid of L.A. Phil, Dudamel at the Bowl," "Even at the Rose Bowl, Taylor Swift forges an intimate bond with fans"

B19. REVIEWS – Books/Art/Architecture/Design

Eunice Wong, *Truthdig*, "Demonic Possession in a Chinese Family"
<https://tdig.it/2YPPKOv>

Judges' comment: This review explores the essence of the book without giving away too many details. It is well-written and holds your attention until the end. It makes you want to read the book.

2nd Shana Nys Dambrot, *Art & Cake*, "Todd Gray at Meliksetian Briggs Gallery"

3rd Evelyn McDonnell, *The New York Times*, "Rock-Your-World Moments Fill New Music Memoirs from Tina Turner and a Disillusioned Hit Maker"

B20. REVIEWS – Food/Culture

Jonathan Gold, *Los Angeles Times*, “Counter Intelligence”

<https://lat.ms/2A1D8TG>, <https://lat.ms/2IbSBfC>, <https://lat.ms/2IoCGKd>

Judges’ comment: I think I read Mr. Gold's obit in the obituaries, but... OMG, I am in awe of his skill and his ability to make you imagine what he's tasting. But he does not fall into the trap of overwriting... Simply superb!

2nd Brad A. Johnson, *Orange County Register*, “Restaurant reviews: Journeyman, Southern Spice, Left Coast BBQ”

3rd Ruksana Hussain, *Cuisine Noir*, “Bringing West African Cuisine to the West Coast: Afia Anabasua”

C. PRINT - Any outlet

C1. HARD NEWS

Los Angeles Times Staff, *Los Angeles Times*, “Borderline Shooting”

<https://lat.ms/2Z5ZFjg>, <https://lat.ms/2Z5ZMvc>, <https://lat.ms/2v06xR8>,
<https://lat.ms/2KsomTz>, <https://lat.ms/2DjAksT>, <https://lat.ms/2P0IvyR>,
<https://lat.ms/2GivYl>, <https://lat.ms/2WYMVZD>, <https://lat.ms/2UvWliq>

Judges’ comment: This is a beautifully crafted package with excellent photos and graphics showcasing a devastating day for this community. The Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest festival connection was a troubling illustration of how common mass shootings have become. This is a well-crafted profile on deadline of the shooter and the deputy killed in the shooting, and it did an excellent job illustrating the fear of those who were in the bar as well as their families. The stories were built on a strong foundation of sourcing and reporting.

2nd John Loesing, *The Acorn*, “The Worst 72 Hours”

3rd Andy Nguyen, *Glendale News-Press*, “‘They want to be seen and heard’: Volunteers help track Glendale’s homeless in annual count”

C2. HEADLINE

Steve Horn, *Los Angeles Times*, “Unrelievable”

<https://bit.ly/2Qpo538>

Judges’ comment: When you can sum up a story in a single word that resonates like this one, game over.

2nd Kevin Leung, *Los Angeles Times*, “Say aloha to their little friends”

3rd Jared Servantez, *Los Angeles Times*, “Coyotes spill their guts”

C3. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING

Shikha Dalmia, *Reason*, “Sanctuary Churches Take in Immigrants and Take on Trump”
<http://bit.ly/2CYQ0BF>

Judges’ comment: This is the most thorough and complete entry, although it lacks the humanity of the second-place finisher. In fact, this was a toss-up to decide, because each story expertly hit the mark it was aiming for. But given the immigration news of the past year, a deep policy dive might be the more crucial journalism.

2nd Esmeralda Bermudez, *Los Angeles Times*, “‘I’m here. I’m here.’ Father reunited with son amid tears, relief and fear of what’s next.”

3rd Roxana Kopetman, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*, “For immigrant families without biological parents, separation might be permanent”

C4. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Laura Newberry, *Los Angeles Times*, “Can L.A.’s only LGBTQ-focused coffee shop survive?”
<https://lat.ms/2Imz6QI>

Judges’ comment: The smallest and most intimate entry in this category also speaks louder than the others about our cultural moment. It’s both a business story and much more than that.

2nd Soumya Karlamangla, *Los Angeles Times*, “Male doctors are disappearing from gynecology. Not everybody is thrilled about it”

3rd Chris Willman, *Variety*, “Country Music Dials Down on Girl Power as Nashville’s Women Find Even Fewer Slots”

C5. CRIME REPORTING

Stacy Perman, *Los Angeles Magazine*, “Searching for The Salomons”
<https://bit.ly/2G3Hlu2>

Judges’ comment: ‘Searching for the Salomons’ is perfect in every way. We had to scroll back to the top many times to reassure ourselves this was a news story and not a bestselling novel. (Perhaps that’s something for the writer to consider.) Fascinating from the first word, deeply reported and personal -- a powerful narrative with simple and masterful storytelling. We cannot

tell you how much we enjoyed this piece.

2nd Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Hunting the Con Queen of Hollywood”

3rd Soumya Karlamangla and Brittney Mejia, *Los Angeles Times*, “Friends took this photo at their favorite bar in Thousand Oaks. Minutes later, the shooting started”

C6. SPORTS

Peter Flax, Michael Kessler, Nora O’Donnell and Cheryl Angelheart, *The Red Bulletin Magazine*, “Completely Driven”
<https://win.gs/2CDgIzq>

Judges’ comment: A high-octane story, telling a story of will, life and drive. The writing is sharp and fresh, and zeroes in on the soul of the subject. A fun ride.

2nd Nathan Fenno, *Los Angeles Times*, “He was a first-round draft pick in the NBA. 14 years later, he was found dead. Who killed Lorenzen Wright?”

3rd Ryan Kartje, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*, “NBA All-Star weekend: L.A. is already the center of the hoop world”

C7. EDITORIALS

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “Inaction and Frustration With a Shuttered Plaza”
<https://bit.ly/2qkuzEA>

Judges’ comment: This was simple and straightforward, but had the strongest voice and the clearest argument. What happened here makes no sense; there is no excuse for it. Agitation by the news might have helped fix it. The photos are a great supplement to help any reader understand the situation.

2nd Katherine Mangu-Ward, *Reason*, “When Fixing the Problem Makes It Worse”

3rd Joe Piasecki, *The Argonaut*, “The Dirty War on the Free Press”

C8. DESIGN—N/A

C9. PAGE DESIGN – N/A

D. ART/PHOTOGRAPHY – All platforms

D1. NEWS PHOTO

Thomas Cordova, *Long Beach Post*, “Police suspect elderly man set blaze before shooting firefighters in Long Beach”

<http://bit.ly/2H6b6Rf>

Judges’ comment: Real health implications. An important topic beyond L.A.

2nd Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, “Fishing While Holy Fire Burns”

3rd Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*, “Firefighters Battle Woolsey Fires”

D2. FEATURE PHOTO

Osceola Refetoff, *KCETlink*, “Boarded Up Farmhouse”

<https://bit.ly/2Xs6Gti>

Judges’ comment: A stark, almost haunting scene with detail sharply captured through black and white photography.

2nd Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, “Surfer and Super Blue Blood Moon”

3rd Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*, “Firefighters Save the Mustang”

D3. PORTRAIT PHOTO

Matt Sayles and Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, “Spike Lee”

<https://bit.ly/2VLxHWV>

Judges’ comment: The Director’s probing, off-beat artistic vision is fully realized in this shot.

2nd Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, “Gaga”

3rd Michelle Ho, *El Camino Real*, “Take a Second Look: Alyssa Bao”

D4. SPORTS PHOTO

Lucy Nicholson, *Reuters*, “PyeongChang Olympics”

<https://bit.ly/2X5stXt>

Judges' comment: Photo not only captures the spinning of the female skater in mid-air, but the almost fearful look on her partner's face. A memorable moment frozen in time.

2nd Keith Birmingham, *Pasadena Star-News/Southern California News Group*, "Safe at Home"

3rd William Odis Martin, *Downey Patriot*, "Welcome to King Cobra"

D5. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO

Allen J. Schaben, *Los Angeles Times*, "Garth Brooks"

<https://bit.ly/2VR9u1w>

Judges' comment: This photo captures the excitement and action of a performance as the singer and fans appear to interact. A lot of energy here.

2nd Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Kate Pappa and Ramona Rosales, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Crazy Rich Asians"

3rd Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Tracy's Back!"

D6a. PHOTO ESSAY, Culture/Entertainment

Osceola Refetoff, *KCETlink*, "Land Artifacts: A Didactic of Ruins"

<https://bit.ly/2D5aj2r>

Judges' comment: Fantastic black and white photos captures the starkness and mood of the story. Shows the power of black and white photography.

2nd Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Kate Pappa and Miller Mobley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Oscar Actress Roundtable"

3rd Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "TIFF Portrait Studio"

D6b. PHOTO ESSAY, News/News Feature

Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*, "The Woolsey Fire"

<https://bit.ly/2FcAJ1v>

Judges' comment: The photographer got close and captured the action in detail. You could see and almost feel the heat from the flames.

2nd Michael Nigro, *Truthdig*, “The Border in Black and White”

3rd Arturo Talavera, *Capital & Main*, “Epicenters of Refuge: A Tale of Two Cities”

D7. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Lalo Alcaraz, *Andrews McMeel Syndication*, “Prototypes Exhibit in Mexico”
<https://www.gocomics.com/laloalcaraz/2018/12/28>

Judges’ comment: This was just funny. The best editorial cartoons are often the ones that make us laugh hardest, and this one was.

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

3rd Dwayne Booth (Mr. Fish), *Truthdig*, “Mr. Fish's Political Cartoons”

D8. ILLUSTRATION

Brian Stauffer and Shanti Marlar, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “I’m a Sex Assault Accuser and I’m Anonymous. Here’s Why”
<https://bit.ly/2HRJSwu>, <https://bit.ly/2YLLuDv>

Judges’ comment: Incredibly frightening illustration — obviously that was the point.

2nd Jeremy Encio and Nicholas Brawley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Stan Lee's New Villains”

3rd Sarah Hofstedt, *The Sundial*, “English department introduces Pop Culture as new minor”

D9. GRAPHIC

Angie Wang, *Eater*, “In Search of Water-Boiled Fish”
<https://bit.ly/2me8JQA>

Judges’ comment: Wonderful, whimsical, and really well done. A really fun story told through perfect graphics.

2nd Matt Stiles, Ryan Menezes and Jon Schleuss, *Los Angeles Times*, “A century of Malibu wildfires”

3rd Priya Krishnakumar, Maloy Moore, Ryan Menezes and Seema Mehta, *Los Angeles Times*, “Gavin Newsom’s Loyal Supporters”

D10. ANIMATION/MOVING GRAPHIC

Al Kamalizad, *Mother Jones Magazine*, “Down the Line”
<https://bit.ly/2MHwdZT>

Judges’ comment: The animation perfectly fit the mood and character of the story. It married perfectly with the storytelling. Excellent work.

2nd Dennis Nishi, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected”

3rd Henry Cram, *KCET*, “Immigration 101”

D11. COVER ART

Robert Festino and Jennifer Dorn, *Variety*, “Variety Magazine Power of Women- Lena Waithe Cover”
<https://bit.ly/2WqODX8>

Judges’ comment: A captivating and elegant iconic image of Female Power.

2nd Robert Festino and Richard Maltz, *Variety*, “Variety Jordan Peele Cover”

3rd Letty Avila, *USC Dornsife Magazine*, “The Los Angeles Issue”

E. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS – Over 50K

E1. NEWS FEATURE – Environment/Science/Technology N/A
see B9 and B13

E2. NEWS FEATURE – Society/Culture/History

Kurtis Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, ” In Detroit's busiest ER, a man with his own dark past tries to halt a cycle of violence”
<https://lat.ms/2K9J1M4>

Judges’ comment: There's a reason this story in particular, and the LA Times in general, excelled in this category – which is called News Feature, and while many entries were superbly written and meticulously reported, they lacked the "news." Others were much more newsy than featurey.

This story provided the best balance of human detail and social significance. It's not just one man's story. It says something about many people.

2nd Hailey Branson-Potts, *Los Angeles Times*, "In California's rural, conservative north, there are big dreams for cleaving the state"

3rd Maria L. LaGanga, *Los Angeles Times*, "If you stay, you're dead. How a Paradise nursing home evacuated"

E3. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, "MacArthur fellow Vijay Gupta is sparking change on skid row with his Street Symphony"

<https://lat.ms/2GWDLYZ>

Judges' comment: Well-constructed, eloquently written, down-to-earth yet with an air of intentional sophistication with this piece, Vankin manages to fulfill the credo or "mission statement" of all good journalists: "show don't tell," and "aspire to inspire." She also raises awareness and sheds light on a subject in the shadows, like homelessness. She transports us to Skid Row with her descriptive details and subtle strokes of color and makes the reader feel like they are there, standing beside Gupta and seeing his vision with him and hearing the cacophony of the streets and the Street Symphony. This story becomes the very thing Gupta refers to as his purpose: a "conduit" to distribute the creativity of the Skid Row community into the mainstream of the art and music world.

Not only is this a solid, entertaining and informative feature, it is a stellar profile of an amazing man who deserves to be brought into the light and recognized for his accomplishments and contributions. We need more people like Vijay Gupta and more journalists like Vankin to tell us about them. Bravo!

2nd Jessica Gelt, *Los Angeles Times*, "Want your own Dumbo from Disneyland? An authentic Skyway car? Why park history is headed to auction"

3rd Michael Idato, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *Melbourne Age*, "Game Changer: How House of Cards Altered The Course of TV History"

E4. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Shana Nys Dambrot, *LA Weekly*, "Viggo Mortensen: The Book of Viggo"

<https://bit.ly/2Vczox1>

Judges' comment: The actor's deep roots in poetry and art are revealed in this in-depth portrait.

2nd Glenn Whipp, *Los Angeles Times*, "Nicole Kidman almost gave up acting. She stars in three movies this month"

3rd Michael Idato, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *Melbourne Age*, “The Fonda Effect: Why Life at 80 Is Better Than Ever”

E5. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

Harriet Ryan, Matt Hamilton and Paul Pringle, *Los Angeles Times*, “A Scandal at USC”
<https://lat.ms/2rRyMiV>, <https://lat.ms/2G4qfR6>, <https://lat.ms/2UKLPn4>,
<https://lat.ms/2P5Xw2s>, <https://lat.ms/2v0EPne>

Judges’ comment: The Los Angeles Times’ investigation into George Tyndell and USC’s role in his continued access to young women, have already rightly earned national honors and praise. There is the shoe-leather reporting, the meticulous documentation and on-the-record interviews which, piece by piece, built a horrifying picture.

There is the thought that clearly went into deciding how to detail the doctor’s invasive exams. There is power in how the stories of students and medical staff were told simply and clearly.

There was courage in challenging a respected figure at a major institution, especially given the doctor’s supporters, including students.

There is another kind of fearlessness, too. A paper’s uncertain future can leave a reporter’s own future in doubt, and there is courage in the willingness to set that aside in order to do the hard, good work of journalism, to remain focused on what is important — what newspapers are here for to begin with.

The LA Times reporters, their editors and the paper did just that, and their community, and untold numbers of young students, are the better for it.

2nd Scott M. Reid, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*, “Investigation into USA Swimming and USA Gymnastics”

3rd Jack Dolan, Ryan Menezes and Gus Garcia-Roberts, *Los Angeles Times*, “Gaming the System: How Cops and Firefighters Cashed In on L.A.’s Pension Program”

E6. BUSINESS

Sara Randazzo, *Wall Street Journal*, “The Sexting Scandal That Toppled One of America’s Most Powerful Lawyers”
<https://on.wsj.com/2NsWHzQ>

Judges’ comment: Sara Randazzo’s nuanced and meticulously reported account of a high-powered attorney’s fall from grace was elevated by detail, context and the ability to carefully pull apart the threads of a confounding tale. Shaping the narrative with telling details, Randazzo revealed two complex, flawed characters. The chronology of the piece unwound at exactly the right pace: at no time did I consider stopping before I reached the end of the story.

Her account deftly illustrated how the business of big law could be influenced by an even bigger

social movement. And in a time of headlines describing powerful men falling victim to their worst judgment, Randazzo's is that rare piece which fully described both parties' assessment of their own role in the scandal, and, even more unusually, both parties' regrets -or perhaps, second-guessing.

It would be hard to overstate how much of a villain-laden cliché this story could have been in lesser hands. But if Randazzo was tempted to go for the low hanging fruit offered by the over-the-top melodrama of the event, it did not show in her skilled and sophisticated story. Excellent work.

2nd Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "When pop music got big: 1968 and the birth of arena rock"

3rd Gerrick Kennedy, *Los Angeles Times*, "Rhythm and Beats: Examining the state of R&B in a hip-hop world"

E7. COMMENTARY

Chandra Bozelko and Ryan Lo, *USA Today*, "We worked for nothing. We deserved better."
<http://bit.ly/2THyK9u>

Judges' comment: Powerful commentary that motivates on a subject for which it can be difficult to do so.

2nd Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*, "As artists fall into disgrace, must their art be consigned to oblivion?"

3rd Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*, "LAUSD caves to claims of racism on a school mural. It's deplorable"

E8. COLUMNIST

David Lazarus, *Los Angeles Times*, "Consumer Columns, David Lazarus"
<https://lat.ms/2Gfxzur>, <https://lat.ms/2v07rgu>, <https://lat.ms/2D2mrPx>

Judges' comment: This entry stands out for the difficulty of the reporting and the clarity of the writing. The writer clearly works hard to understand the subject matter but takes no crap from those who try to spin the information. As a consumer, I would definitely want him on my side.

2nd Chris Erskine, *Los Angeles Times*, "The Most Awful Kind of Grief"

3rd Steve Lopez, *Los Angeles Times*, "Children in poverty in the land of plenty"

F. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS – Under 50K

F1. NEWS FEATURE

Priscella Vega and Julia Sclafani, *Daily Pilot*, “Arrests of white power leaders are a reminder of Huntington Beach's painful past”

<https://lat.ms/2NzBX9q>

Judges’ comment: This is well-handled storytelling on a difficult topic. This conversation has become quite common in news. This feature is immediately inviting to the reader, signaling it was not going to be typical coverage of white supremacy.

2nd Gabriel San Roman, *OC Weekly*, “Orange County's Home-Care Program is Plagued With Poor Pay and Shortages”

3rd Nicholas Slayton, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “Skid Row Faces Record Number of Homeless Children”

F2. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Alexander Hamilton Cherin, *OC Weekly*, “The Mighty 690”

<https://bit.ly/2TRrkEy>

Judges’ comment: "The Mighty 690" married style and content. It read like a narrator's voice -- a narrator one might hear on a bygone radio show that made listeners gather around their sets. Fresh, funny, witty, charming and smart, it was easy to follow and easy to love. By far the favorite in a highly competitive category.

2nd Priscella Vega, *Daily Pilot*, “Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe tradition lives on in H.B. neighborhood despite death of mother who inspired it”

3rd Christina Campodonico, *The Argonaut*, “A Place to Play: 50 Years of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Venice”

F3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

George Toshio Johnston, *Pacific Citizen*, “Still Hovering: Ex-Door Gunner’s Vietnam Memories Never Far Away”

<https://bit.ly/2FCykvZ> ; <https://bit.ly/2FKbzrc>

Judges’ comment: The piece is personal, factual and poignant. That combination makes for a powerful human interest personality profile. It represents thorough journalism.

2nd Theresa Marie Moreau, *The Remnant Newspaper*, “Father Timothy Peter Leonard: Pioneer of the Underground Church in China”

3rd Gary Metzker, *Grunion Gazette*, “Hiker”

F4. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

Joe Nelson, Scott Schwebke and Beau Yarbrough, *Redlands Daily Facts/Southern California News Group*, “Bad Apples: How a culture of covering up sex abuse at public schools is hurting children — and costing taxpayers millions”

<https://bit.ly/2G4HS4r>

Judges’ comment: Deeply reported and deeply sourced investigation into bad teachers and how school districts continued to let them operate. Superb digital presence with original documents.

2nd Jeffrey Gottlieb, *The Signal*, “Developer’s nonprofit educational foundation gave scholarships to students of well-connected families”

3rd Andre Coleman, *Pasadena Weekly*, “Guns”

F5. BUSINESS

Martin L. Jacobs, *The Argonaut*, “Buy, Scrape, Build, Repeat”

<http://bit.ly/BuyScrapeBuildRepeat>

Judges’ comment: Well-researched, and written with an attitude. Great insight into the Venice Real Estate market.

2nd Michael Aushenker, *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*, “Dealing’s Done at Charles Dunn”

3rd Nicholas Slayton, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “The Booming Business of ‘Experiences’”

F6. COMMENTARY

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “Why I’m Done With ALOUD”

<https://bit.ly/2Q12mIC>

Judges’ comment: Insightful work about a beloved cultural program questioning “personnel problems” that are shrouded in secrecy.

2nd Thomas Elias, *California Focus syndicated column*, “Trump’s EPA keeps nerve gas pesticide in use here”

3rd Alex Dominguez, *Downey Patriot*, “Downey gadfly tests the boundaries of free speech”

F7. COLUMNIST

Ellen Snortland, *Pasadena Weekly*, “I Feel Pretty...Angry”
<https://bit.ly/2JEptOM>

Judges’ comment: Deeply personal column with humor and insight. Terrific writing.

2nd Kevin Uhrich, *Pasadena Weekly*, “Need to Know”

3rd Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “The Regardie Report Takes on the L.A. Political Scene”

G. MAGAZINES

G1. INVESTIGATIVE

Jacob Sullum, *Reason*, “America's War on Pain Pills Is Killing Addicts and Leaving Patients in Agony”
<http://bit.ly/2WG9tOW>

Judges’ comment: A well-researched poignant story on the impact on the war on pain pills that unwittingly affects patients who really need them.

2nd Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Hunting the Con Queen of Hollywood”

3rd Brent Lang and David Lieberman, *Variety*, “Do Media Chiefs Deserve the Lavish Pay Packages They Rake In?”

G2. COMMENTARY

Noah Buhayar and Esmé E Deprez, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, “Unsheltered in the Land of Plenty”
<https://bloom.bg/2PKcnDj>

Judges’ comment: The commentary, backed by personal interviews and solid data, provides an insight into the growing crisis of homelessness. The lucid writing makes it a compelling read.

2nd Ryan Lo and Chandra Bozelko, *Newsweek*, “Why Prison Reform Could Hold the Key to 2020”

3rd Lynell George, Freelance for *LMU Magazine*, “Sweet Hope”

G3. COLUMNIST

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, *The Hollywood Reporter*
<https://bit.ly/2luvmwt>, <https://bit.ly/2VB1TEZ>, <https://bit.ly/2CGxs9M>

Judges’ comment: Being a good columnist means writing well AND having something meaningful to say. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar does both with a column that is well-written, insightful, timely, and pulls no punches.

2nd J.D. Tuccille, *Reason*, “Embrace the Dirt Nap”

3rd Naiia Lajoie, *Manila Up Magazine*, “Glass Half Fil: Manila Up Magazine's Half-Filipina Columnist”

G4. FEATURE – Business/Government, over 1,000 words

Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Kenya Barris: A Showrunner's Fight to Stay 'Loud, Bold and Unapologetic”
<https://bit.ly/2M9hono>

Judges’ comment: This well-written article gives readers the first behind-the-scenes account of what led to the departure from ABC of a very successful and influential figure in the entertainment industry, Kenya Barris. Because of the subject matter, the writer is able to explore a broad range of current and relevant issues of public interest, including the current political climate, race, and the disruption taking place within the television industry.

2nd John Gittelsohn, *Bloomberg Markets*, “How Southern California Became Home to Bond Kings”

3rd Linda Bloodworth Thomason, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Designing Women' Creator Goes Public with Les Moonves War: Not All Harassment Is Sexual”

G5. FEATURE – Culture/Arts, over 1,000 words

Tatiana Siegel, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Ultimate Vulnerability”
<https://bit.ly/2QpSZbs>

Judges' comment: Ms. Siegel's story was a timely and altogether surprising revelation, told with obvious pathos for the tragedies that were all the more heartbreaking because they could not or would not be shared by those in pain. Ms. Siegel's work shined brightest in a category that was full of wonderful reads.

2nd Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Young Harvey Weinstein"

3rd Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "They Got the Wrong Envelope"

G6. FEATURE, under 1,000 words

Tatiana Siegel, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Year After #MeToo, Have Talent Agencies Actually Changed?"

<https://bit.ly/2AACvXN>

Judges' comment: Interesting, compact coverage of a timely social issue that provides strong reporting, solid writing, and unrivaled knowledge of the beat."

2nd Rudi Uebelhoer, Florian Obkircher, Jim Krantz, Peter Flax and Nora O'Donnell, *The Red Bulletin magazine*, "Like Burning Man, But More Badass"

3rd Scott Johnson and Bryn Sandberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Wildfire Devastation Forces Hollywood Productions to Scramble"

G7. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Evelyn McDonnell, *Billboard*, "The Role of Struggle In Aretha Franklin's Path to Greatness"

<https://bit.ly/2osJII9>

Judges' comment: It totally bowled us over. This piece is expertly researched, and extraordinarily well written. This is a masterful and poetic analysis of Aretha's impact not just on the music world but on this nation and its history.

2nd Katie Kilkenny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "L.A.'s Housing Crisis Hits Hollywood: The Entertainment Workers Living in Their Cars"

3rd Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "Can a New President and Streaming Service Help ESPN Win Again?"

G8. PERSONALITY PROFILE – TV/Film Personalities

Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Kathy Griffin: Can a Comic in Exile Come Back?”

<https://bit.ly/2QpV4Ev>

Judges’ comment: It remains best to fight with words in this country than portray a horrific idea that could inspire someone to take a copy-cat action. Seth Abramovitch’s profile on Kathy Griffin, “Kathy Griffin: Can a Comic in Exile Come Back?” is a well written testament to the effects of crossing the high profile line in American society when a joke goes rogue on the Presidency. This is usually determined not so much by today’s social media (yes, it matters), but when the FBI and United States Secret Service arrive at your door to investigate if you seriously want the President dead, you might have a problem. A consequence from which one can quickly determine if a line may have been crossed. A point that Griffin acknowledges, but Abramovitch elucidates with doubt. Despite losing friends and gigs in the U.S., Griffin remains steadfast and unapologetic for the seriousness of the joke that decapitated her career. The author exposes Griffin for what she is – bitter and angry, yet remains secure in knowing she will be a post-humorous legend when she is deceased. Abramovitch’s writing is fluid and poignant in an entwined tale of a wounded Hollywood comic providing the reader to speculate if the star was sucked into a black hole until her own judgement day.

2nd Gino Terrell, *#In-Depth/MCXV*, “Enter the “Kimpire”: Creating a lifestyle out of creating hairstyles”

3rd Brent Lang, *Variety*, “Viola Davis Knows What’s Wrong With Hollywood... and How to Fix It”

G9. PERSONALITY PROFILE – Politics/Business/Arts Personalities

Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Hollywood Royalty (No Actual Nobility Included)”

<https://bit.ly/30JT5zx>

Judges’ comment: The finest achievement is that it gets to the bottom of an enthralling tale told by an unreliable narrator.

2nd Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Ellen Pompeo, TV’s \$20 Million Woman, Reveals Her Behind-The-Scenes Fight for ‘What I Deserve’”

3rd Matt Welch, *Reason*, “Jordan Peterson Is Not the Second Coming”

G10. IN-HOUSE or CORPORATE PUBLICATION

Lance Igon, Letty Avila and Dennis Lan, *USC Dornsife Magazine*, “The Los Angeles Issue”

<https://dornsife.usc.edu/magazine/>

Judges' comment: Well-designed, well-written and filled with an interesting mix of thoughtful content, this publication goes well beyond expectations for a college magazine.

2nd Peter Flax, Nora O'Donnell, Tara Thompson, Rudi Uebelhoer and Cheryl Angelheart, *The Red Bulletin magazine*, "The Social Impact Issue"

3rd Collegian Times Staff, *Collegian Times*, "The June 1st Issue"

G11. DESIGN

Shanti Marlar, Peter Cury and Kelsey Stefanson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Anxiety Issue"
<https://bit.ly/2K4LkhC>, <https://bit.ly/30MYYfc>

Judges' comment: The illustrations are on target, expressing how anxiety has formed and grown. They blend well with actual photos, giving the eyes a variety of visuals. The copy is broken up well by blocks of color and lines between briefs, making it easier to consume in small doses. The art of people crawling out of the walk of fame brings to mind a zombie apocalypse scenario, in which people are afraid to emerge for fear of what awaits, demonstrating how anxiety feels.

2nd Staff, *USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism*, "USC Annenberg Magazine"

3rd Robert Festino and Jennie Chang, *Variety*, "Variety Music Mogul of the Year Issue"

G12. PAGE DESIGN

Letty Avila and Dennis Lan, *Dornsife Magazine*, "Talk the Talk"
<https://bit.ly/2Imqw4p>

Judges' comment: Excellent use of color, design and layout. Would draw any reader to the story regardless of their interest level in the topic.

2nd Robert Festino and Jennie Chang, *Variety*, "Lady Gaga On the Edge"

3rd Tara Thompson, Rudi Uebelhoer, Nora O'Donnell, Peter Flax and Cheryl Angelheart, *The Red Bulletin Magazine*, "All Is Not Lost"

H. BROADCAST - Any outlet TV/Film/Radio/Podcast

H1. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING

Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Laura Purdy and Dignicraft, KCET, “La Raza”
<https://bit.ly/2rZZxlq>

Judges’ comment: A deeply poetic exploration of La Raza’s connection to the Chicano community through art and activism. Beautiful work.

2nd Peter Masurlian, Roupen Berberian and Maggie Goshin, *Globalist Films*, “Armenian-Americans in Politics”

3rd Deepa Fernandes, Lata Pandya, Alberto Arce, Sustin Stoecklein and Dennis Nishi, *KCET*, “Stolen Paychecks”

H2. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Joanna Sokolowski, Kate Trumbull-LaValle, Matthew Crotty and Kelly Parker and Jori Finkel, KCET, ”Artist and Mother”
<https://bit.ly/2JV3u2W>

Judges’ comment: Absolutely stunningly shot, told and edited. Wonderful interviews appropriately accompanied by a beautiful score.

2nd Valerie Defert, *France 24*, “For her pleasure: Is 'feminist porn' a contradiction?”

3rd Jenny Hamel, *KCRW*, “The Pansy Craze”

H3. CRIME REPORTING

Gina Pollack, Andy Viner, Karen Foshay, Luisa Conlon and Helki Frantzen, KCET, “The People v Kiera Newsome”
<https://bit.ly/2TduvqD>

Judges’ comment: A teenage girl’s murder conviction is powerfully examined through the eyes of those seeking her exoneration in the face of an indifferent justice system.

2nd Josh Mankewicz, Karen Israel, Susan Leibowitz and Chetna Joshi, *NBC News*, “Unraveled”

3rd Keith Morrison, Michelle Madigan, David Ketterling, Haylee Barber and Joe Delmonico, *NBC Dateline*, Dateline NBC: The Women and Dirty John”

I. TELEVISION/FILM

I1. REGULARLY SCHEDULED NEWSCAST

KTLA 5 News at 10pm Team, *KTLA*, “KTLA 5 News at 10”
<https://bit.ly/2v2a41v>

Judges’ comment: KTLA-slickly produced newscast, used ample resources. Anchors presented well along with reporters/live.

2nd Chris Cheshire, Courtney Burke, Nick Alfano and Cici Pan, *USC Annenberg Media*, “ATVN Newscast: Woolsey Fire”

3rd Savannah Sinfield, Keith Demolder and Raina Singh, *USC Annenberg Media*, “See It Live: Borderline Shooting”

I2. ANCHOR/HOST

Val Zavala, *KCET*, “SoCal connected”
<https://bit.ly/2Esfo2v>

Judges’ comment: Val is quite simply a genuine paragon of journalistic professionalism. Our Life and Times are grateful for her.

2nd Cher Calvin and Micah Ohlman, *KTLA*, “KTLA 5 News at 10”

3rd Leon Krauze, *KMEX*

I3. VIDEOGRAPHER

Peter Musurlian, *KLCS & Globalist Films*, “Holocaust Soliloquy”
<https://bit.ly/2y7Yin9>

Judges’ comment: This is a deeply moving story that makes an effective use of archival and contemporary images to tell the story of the greatest crime of the 20th century.

2nd Travis LaBella, *KCET*, “That Far Corner: Frank Lloyd Wright in Los Angeles”

3rd Matt Bass, *KCET*, “Open Your Eyes: Lula Washington Dance Theatre”

I4. BREAKING NEWS

Ernesto Torres and Tony Shin, *KNBC TV 4*, “The fire is erupting”
<https://vimeo.com/285713126>, <https://vimeo.com/285722556>

Judges' comment: Good reporting and amazing visuals. You brought viewers real-time information while keeping your delivery calm and measured. Kudos!

2nd Steve Kuzj, *KTLA 5 News*, "Racing to Find Survivors: The Deadly Montecito Mudslide"

3rd Antonio R Valverde, *KMEX Univision*, "Anaheim Fires"

15. INVESTIGATIVE

Jim Epstein, *Reason TV*, "The \$15 Minimum Wage Is Turning Hard Workers Into Black Market Lawbreakers"

<http://bit.ly/2JWSmXA>

Judges' comment: Great story. It goes past the coverage of one event and shows its future effects. Good use of visuals and a strong narrative.

2nd Deepa Fernandes, Lata Pandya, Alberto Arce, Austin Stoecklein and Dennis Nishi, *KCET*, "Stolen Paychecks"

3rd Cole Sullivan, Sam Bergum, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Warning Signs: Student threatened USC professor more than a year before killing him"

16. NEWS FEATURE, over 5 minutes

Karen Foshay, Andy Viner and David Egen, *KCET*, "The News Blues"

<https://bit.ly/2OeBMnR>

Judges' comment: Exceptionally sourced. The story was captivating, the in-depth material presented was interspersed seamlessly, and the videography was compelling.

2nd Katie Cooper, Karen Foshay, Eduardo Gil de Montes, Michael Ray and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, "Blood Money"

3rd Zach Weissmueller, *ReasonTV*, "Trump, Ryan, and Walker Want to Seize Wisconsin Homes to Build a Foxconn Plant"

17. NEWS FEATURE, under 5 minutes

Karen Foshay, Michael Ray and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, "What Happened to 'LA Weekly'?"

<https://bit.ly/2C1AMev>

Judges' comment: Wow! Very dramatic and intriguing. There were many sourced data inputs and the story felt well-researched and succinctly reported.

2nd Andres Pruna, Fritz Coleman, *KNBC – TV*, “Sea Levels and Los Angeles”

3rd Lizzie Pearl and Richard Moran, *Nine Network Australia*, “Trouble on the US-Mexico border”

18. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, over 5 minutes

Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser, David Egen and Dan Leonard, *KCET*, “Out of Bounds”
<https://bit.ly/2z3qmc2>

Judges' comment: “Out of Bounds” is a masterful piece of videographic storytelling. From the haunting, minimalist opening featuring a mother tearfully searching among L.A.'s homeless for her one-time athletic star son, to the crescendo of truth-telling about California's –and the nation's– mental healthcare failures, to its hopeful ending, this piece artfully weaves together multiple strands of a story with which most are familiar, but which here is brought into high relief. The videography is excellent, the music score is effective and well-chosen, supporting the story's many emotional highs and lows. The narration becomes more than spoken words designed to bridge from one piece of video to another. Rather, it becomes the weaver of the tale, creating a magnificent piece of whole cloth from one young man's terrible tragedy.

2nd Andres Pruna, Oswaldo Borraez, Milli Delgado, Stephanie Martinez, Chris Cabezas and Marco Flores, *KMEX/Univison34*, “Somos Mas”

3rd Lindsay Flader, Stephen Galloway, Jennifer Laski, Stephanie Fischette and Laela Zadeh, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Women In Entertainment Mentorship Program”

19. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, under 5 minutes

Christopher Lam, Quyen Lovrich and Traci Lee, *NBC News*, “At Koda Farms, a legacy endures beyond exclusion, internment”
<https://nbcnews.to/2mfX4Al>

Judges' comment: “At Koda Farms” is an interesting take on an important piece of American history—the internment of Asian-Americans during World War II. The difference here, and what makes it human interest-worthy, is the focus. Rather than producing a story that speaks to the ethics or morality of the action at the time, this brief story puts it all into a broad, informative context. It includes facts preceding the internments, laws that prevented Asians from buying land, moves into how the entrepreneurial farm's founder overcame them, and weaves these into the finish -- the real-life story of how the internments ended up affecting the family for two generations.

2nd Lizzie Pearl, Adam Bovino, *Nine Network Australia*, “Time ticks on California's Salton Sea”

3rd Dave Mecham and Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*, “Construction on Kagel Canyon Home Leads to ‘Nuts’ Discovery Hidden in the Walls”

I10. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Antonio Diaz, Stef Ferrari, Jacqueline Reyno, James Mann and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, “The Migrant Kitchen”

<https://bit.ly/2WSQsZn>

Judges’ comment: A program that uses masterful images of food to tell the story of the migrant experience in the U.S., and the ties between food and culture.

2nd Gina Pollack, Andy Viner, Michael Ray, Tori Edgar and Helki Frantzen, *KCET*, “Under the Influence”

3rd Victoria Mckillop, Francine Nazario, Ryan Heraly, Vince Patrick and Minh Bui, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Where Hollywood Eats: New Orleans – Compere Lapin”

I11. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Gina Pollack, Andy Viner, Michael Ray, Tori Edgar and Helki Frantzen, *KCET*, “Under the Influence”

<https://bit.ly/2T8rF6h>

Judges’ comment: This piece had it all - images, interviews, information and a very relevant topic. The pace was good, and the segment flowed very well. Great job!

2nd Steve Appleford, *Revolver*, “Nick Oliveri: "Rock & Roll Komodo Dragon" of Kyuss, Queens of the Stone Age”

3rd Natalie Heltzel, Victoria McKillop, Leslie Bumgarner, Alfred Aquino, Jeanie Pyun and Stephanie Fischette, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Women of Action”

I12. ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Susan Leibowitz, Josh Mankewicz, David Ketterling and Terrell Tangonan, *NBC News - Dateline*, “Michael Connelly”

<https://nbcnews.to/2UNqeGT>

Judges' comment: Excellent way to explore where reality and fiction intersect. The presentation has a noir feel which adds to the effect.

2nd Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Adebukola Bodunrin, Angela Boisvert and Matt Bass, *KCET*, "Open Your Eyes: Lula Washington Dance Theatre"

3rd Karen Foshay, Linda Burns, Kathy Kasaba, Robert McDonnell and David Egen, *KCET*, "30 Years with Val Zavala"

I13. NON-ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Austin Simons, Lance Drake and Charlie Balch, *KCET*, "Artbound - Electric Earth: The Art of Doug Aitken"
<https://bit.ly/2ptTGV5>

Judges' comment: Exceptional examination of the exceptional work of a unique artist. Beautifully constructed and edited.

2nd Nick Gillespie, Justin Monticello and Todd Krainin, *ReasonTV*, "Theranos, Elizabeth Holmes, and the Cult of Silicon Valley"

3rd Nic Cha Kim, Dina Demetrius and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*, "Made in L.A."

I14. SPORTS

Jessica Q. Chen and Claire Hannah Collins, *Los Angeles Times*, "Caroline Marks makes surfing history"
<https://lat.ms/2TYnKon>

Judges' comment: An illuminating portrait of a 16 year old surfing prodigy whose competitive spirit burns bright at a world class level.

2nd Victoria McKillop, Stephanie Fischette, Jon Alain Guzik, Erin Hughes, Ryan Heraly and Victor Klaus, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Michael Fassbender Race Prep at Laguna Seca"

I15. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Karen Foshay, Deepa Fernandes, Nic Cha Kim, Dina Demetrius and Kathy Kasaba, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected"
<https://bit.ly/2E0JwUy>

Judges' comment: What an absolutely excellent program. Both segments (Freelance Nation and Made in LA) were so very well-produced, shot, edited, and written. They were both honest, touching, informative, and thought provoking. This is everything that great TV should be!

2nd Ryan Thompson, Taylor Edghill and Ali Main, *USC Annenberg Media*, "The Current International: The War In Yemen"

3rd Sonali Kolhatkar and Anna Buss, *Free Speech TV and KPFK Pacifica Radio*, "Rising Up with Sonali - Election Postmortem"

I16. FEATURE DOCUMENTARY, over 25 minutes

Steve Burrows, *HBO*, "Bleed Out"

<https://bit.ly/2VcGqLL>

Judges' comment: 'Bleed Out' is absolutely mind-blowing. It is one of those documentaries you can't stop thinking about once you've seen it. Great story telling and informational about the current state of health care.

2nd Pamela Tom, Laurie Parker, Brenda Brkusic, Karen Hunte and Michelle Merker, *PBS SoCal*, "Finding Home: A Foster Youth Story"

3rd Juan Devis, Christopher Hawthorne, Matthew Crotty, Jacqueline Reyno and Travis LaBella, *KCET*, "That Far Corner: Frank Lloyd Wright in Los Angeles"

I17. DOCUMENTARY, SHORT, under 25 minutes

Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Adebukola Bodunrin, Angela Boisvert and Matt Bass, *KCET*, "Open Your Eyes: Lula Washington Dance Theatre"

<https://bit.ly/2phWGU2>

Judges' comment: Lula Washington Dance Theatre is a great show. Recorded and produced in a way that lovingly demonstrates the history, artistry and passion of Lula Washington and her partner Erwin. The cinematography, edit, score, mix, pacing and story is about pitch perfect in portraying an important story on the intersection of artistry and community. A story worth telling, about people, perseverance and passion worth knowing.

2nd Gina Pollack, Andy Viner, Karen Foshay, Luisa Conlon and Helki Frantzen, *KCET*, "The People v Kiera Newsome"

3rd Jennifer Laski, Stephanie Fischette, Victoria McKillop, Vince Patrick and Pablo Teysier-Verger, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Magic Hour - Mary Zophres"

J. RADIO

J1. ANCHOR/HOST

Mike Simpson and Chris Sedens, *KNX AM*, “KNX Afternoon News”
<https://bit.ly/2EFGqVy>

Judges’ comment: Calm, clear, confident news delivery with comprehensive coverage of local disaster.

2nd Madeleine Brand, *KCRW*, “Press Play with Madeleine Brand”

3rd Gordon Cox, *Variety*, “Stagecraft With Gordon Cox”

J2. NEWS or FEATURE — Short form

Craig Fiegner, *KNX AM*, “Toe to Toe with Dana Rohrabacher”
<https://bit.ly/2FcOrRY>

Judges’ comment: Nice job making a congressman very interesting!

2nd Emily Guerin, *KPCC*, “LA Football Club diehards wanted a stadium that was loud, intimidating and never let you sit down”

J3. BREAKING NEWS

KNX News Team, *KNX AM*, “SoCal Fires”
<https://bit.ly/2JhkPa6>

Judges’ comment: This is thorough and diverse coverage of an emergency.

2nd Lance Orozco, *KCLU AM/FM*, “Ventura County Hit By Simultaneous Disasters”

J4. NEWS FEATURE

Anna Scott, *KCRW*, “Renting out an apartment -- Airbnb style”
<https://kcrw.co/2YjqcsJ>

Judges’ comment: Captivating lead that made me want to listen. Story was 10 minutes, but I would have listened much longer--so many voices and characters that the reporter got me to care about. I felt frustrated for them. Great "sound waterfall" listing the complaints about the building. A very full story that fit in a lot of information and elements.

2nd Saul Gonzalez, *KCRW*, “Robert Kennedy and California’s Farm Labor Movement”

3rd Caleigh Wells, *KPCC*, “Why this house is still standing among the ruins of the Woolsey fire”

J5. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Deepa Fernandes, *KCRW*, “How motel vouchers are keeping homeless families off the streets”
<https://kcrw.co/2Uacl8S>

Judges’ comment: What could have been an unpleasant journey to roadside motels turns into a touching and worthy story of real people making life work with motel vouchers. Nice storytelling.

2nd Lori Galarreta, Austin Cross and Megan Larson, *KPCC*, “This LA bike tour serves up Boyle Heights history — and tacos”

3rd Jasmine Espy, *Ampersand, of Annenberg Media*, “To the Buddha Bowl and Beyond”

J6. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW, over 20 minutes

Jenelle Riley, *Variety*, “Stagecraft Special Edition: Tom Hiddleston Talks Shakespeare, ‘Avengers’”
<http://bit.ly/2qShp1L>

Judges’ comment: The host engages Tom Hiddleston effectively, while keeping it entertaining and moving forward.

2nd Kim Masters and Kaitlin Parker, *KCRW*, “Ethan Hawke on following his heart and his new movie ‘Blaze’”

3rd Micheal Silverblatt, *KCRW*, “Victor Terán and David Shook: Like A New Sun: New Indigenous Mexican Poetry”

J7. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW, under 20 minutes

Rico Gagliano, *KCRW - Press Play*, “83-Year-Old Almond Seller At Hollywood Farmers’ Market Has a Rich Musical History”
<https://kcrw.co/2MZlhbq>

Judges’ comment: Great nat pop open at the beginning. Overall, it was a great scene to introduce the subject. The story was interesting and kept my attention. Often times, a good subject makes a good story and this was a very unique find. Great mix of conversation, interview and music.

2nd Sarah Sweeney and Madeleine Brand, *KCRW*, “LA's Gavlyn and Reverie, female rappers trying to make it in a man's hip-hop world”

3rd Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*, “Jim Carrey takes up political cartooning”

J8. INVESTIGATIVE

Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*, “Bridges and Walls”

<https://kcrw.co/2Vwb0Xd>

Judges’ comment: Very well done. I appreciate hearing about the brother and sister who were part of the Door of Hope program, and their experience while trying to reunite with their mother. Even learning over time that the program no longer exists was informative. I appreciate the attention to detail. The border patrol officer was also interesting, sharing the story that resonated with him, the man who wanted to demonstrate he simply wanted to work. The additional information about bridges and the history of walls built around the world was interesting too. Again, the effort showed in this detailed piece. Great work!

2nd Saul Gonzalez, *KCRW*, “Should homeless housing cost half a million dollars a unit?”

3rd David Gorn, *KPCC/CALmatters collaboration*, “California’s push to make people healthy—and save taxpayers money”

J9. ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

Drew Tewksbury, *NPR Weekend Edition*, “At One NASA Lab, Art and Science Share the Same Orbit”

<https://n.pr/2FowsVP>

Judges’ comment: The NASA Artists was a well-produced piece! The listener is taken on a journey inside the artwork. Also, hearing about the Ham operators worldwide signaling at the same time, Hi in Morse code was very interesting. Great use of sound throughout the piece and the information shared.

2nd Devika Girish and Melissa Duenas, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, “Demystifying Bollywood”

3rd Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*, “Bringing back ‘70s-era Mexico City in ‘Roma’”

J10. SPORTS

Susan Valot, *NPR's "Only A Game"*, "The Story Of The First Climbers To Scale Yosemite's El Capitan"

<https://wbur.fm/2EgUkfc>

Judges' comment: Great adventure story told with current voices and voices from the past. Wonderful storytelling.

2nd Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*, "Designing a soccer stadium, with help from fans"

3rd Susan Valot, *NPR's "Only A Game"*, "The Judo Tournaments That Brought LA Kids To A Japanese Internment Camp"

J11. USE OF SOUND

Tena Rubio and Danny Bringer, *KSJV Radio Bilingue*, "Drumming in Corrections"

<https://bit.ly/2libHQk>

Judges' comment: The 'Drumming in Corrections' piece showed a good use of sound. You felt like you were in the room with the drummers. The sound was very effective as punctuation during the story and to change scenes. It was interesting to also learn the impact drumming has had in the lives of the prison population.

2nd Lance Orozco, *KCLU AM/FM*, "The Violin Maker"

3rd Megan Manata, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "Synthesizer sound bath turns up the volume for a vibrating meditation"

J12. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jonathan Bastian and Kathryn Barnes, *KCRW*, "KCRW's The 805: Cleanup and healing after Montecito mudslides"

<https://kcrw.co/2GQKZOY>

Judges' comment: The program provides great, varied reporting on the human toll of a disaster. It holds the listener's attention well, without making them over-think it.

2nd Howard Blume/Deadline L.A., *KPFK 90.7 FM Los Angeles*, "The public and private struggles of Connie Rice"

3rd Take Two, *KPCC*, "The Thousand Oaks Shooting"

J13. DOCUMENTARY

Carla Green and Tara Walker, *KCRW*, “Haunted”

<https://kcrw.co/2H15PpS>

Judges’ comment: The documentary has nice production value, including use of sound that did not go over-the-top, as one might expect in a piece about haunting.

2nd Aric Allen, *KCRW*, “Bay of Smokes: The Day Smog Showed Up In LA”

3rd Deepa Fernandes, *PRI’s The World*, “Grandma versus Goliath”

K. ONLINE

K1. NEWS – Government/Politics

Colleen Shalby and Priya Krishnakumar, *Los Angeles Times*, “For many women across the U.S., it’s already a post-Roe vs. Wade reality”

<https://lat.ms/2FHfsOK>

Judges’ comment: A thorough account of an important issue facing the country at this moment in time. It showcases the fact that many women already struggle to get the help they need. It’s also an interesting dichotomy on display, when the trends toward progressive agenda ideas are put up against public opinion on abortion. While there were many great pieces in this category, I also wanted to reward people for visual representation. Online news needs to be engaging through interactive links, videos, photographs, charts, giving readers context to the sometimes deep and heavy issues they are diving into. The LA Times story and the four others mentioned all stood out in that respect.

2nd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, “Battery Blood: How California Health Agencies Failed Exide Workers”

3rd Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*, “Rallygoers Demanding Justice for Hit-and-Run Victim Frederick “Woon” Frazier Crash Community Meeting on Safe Streets”

K2. NEWS – Culture

Gustavo Arellano, *Capital & Main*, “Orange County Parents: Change Name of School That Honors Klan Member”

<https://bit.ly/2Vy8qAg>

Judges’ comment: What’s in a name? Clearly, a lot more than meets the eye. Well told story

about a history that is revealing itself in this country more and more as every day passes.

2nd Stephanie Rivera, *Long Beach Post*, “Ugandan LGBTQ refugees find a home in Long Beach’s ‘gayborhood’”

3rd Carol Mithers, *Capital & Main*, “Los Angeles Renters Fight Back to Keep Their Pets — and Homes”

K3. HARD NEWS – General

Gustavo Arellano, *Capital & Main*, “Feds Charge Violent Neo-Nazis — But Orange County D.A. Only Charges One of Their Victims”

<https://bit.ly/2UGDUHk>

Judges’ comment: Thorough report on a controversial prosecution that looks at both sides of a complicated issue.

2nd Elizabeth Wagmeister and Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*, “Tom Brokaw Accused of Sexual Harassment By Former NBC Anchor”

3rd Spencer Custodio, *Voice of OC*, “Armory Homeless Shelters Close, Many Unsure What’s Next”

K4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Mike Roe, *LAist*, “30 Rock's Werewolf Bar Mitzvah: An Oral History”

<https://bit.ly/2tRGHhJ>

Judges’ comment: This feature was informative and entertaining. This wasn’t just an article; it was a slick package that combined video elements with an in-depth interview that its core readers would clearly find interesting. Bravo on a job well done.

2nd Thania Garcia, *The Sundial*, “John Murdy talks about ‘Stranger Things’ maze at Halloween Horror Nights”

3rd Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, “Trump and Technology Force TV News Shake Up”

K5. INVESTIGATIVE

Robin Urevich, *Capital & Main*, “Deadly Detention”

<https://bit.ly/2uSs525>, <https://bit.ly/2uU3U3o>, <https://bit.ly/2FWxnPp>,
<https://bit.ly/2OXFeAf>, <https://bit.ly/2IiLS7G>, <https://bit.ly/2XDWOgF>

Judges' comment: A sobering, shocking story that succeeds on many different levels. A great topic, coupled with interviews asking all the right questions to all the right people, make this a worthy first-place winner among a crowded field of candidates.

2nd Aaron Mendelson and Mary Plummer, *LAist*, "134 Cases, \$36 Million: Inside Sexual Misconduct at America's Biggest County Government"

3rd Shane Singh, *Playboy Magazine*, "A Veteran in Crisis"

K6. HARD NEWS FEATURE

Alleen Brown, Eric Preven and Joshua Preven, *The Intercept*, "Los Angeles Blames Wildfire on Homeless, But Evicting Them Won't Solve The Real Problems: Climate Change and Urban Sprawl"

<https://bit.ly/2FBuYun>

Judges' comment: One of the jobs of journalists is to seek the truth, and this piece does a tremendous job of that. The very people complaining and pointing fingers —politicians and residents in affluent neighborhoods— are as much to blame for the fires as anyone. But the reporters here make excellent use of experts to go beyond the finger pointing, and instead do a fascinating deep dive into the subtle causes of California's hellish wildfires.

2nd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, "Battery Blood: How California Health Agencies Failed Exide Workers"

3rd Melissa Evans, *Long Beach Post*, "Their homes are sinking into a closed North Long Beach landfill, so they sued"

K7a. SOFT NEWS FEATURE – Culture/Entertainment

Lesley Goldberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How 'Grey's Anatomy' Wants to Change the Portrayal of Trans Characters on TV"

<https://bit.ly/2rp4uYa>

Judges' comment: This was a supremely well-written piece that broaches a sensitive topic with grace, and ties television with very real political issues of today.

2nd C.J. Ciaramella, *Reason*, "The Radical Freedom of Dungeons & Dragons"

3rd Agnes Constante, *NBC News*, "Hollywood is having a #MeToo moment. Women of color have fought this battle for decades."

K7b. SOFT NEWS FEATURE – General News

Eric Pape, *Capital & Main*, “Will the Cost of Living Push Millennials Into a Generation War With Baby Boomers?”

<https://bit.ly/2NxPbSw>

Judges’ comment: Excellent data-based reporting supported by smart voices who simplify and explain a complex, important topic. Despite being a wonky story about financial policy, it's consistently entertaining. A fun read that would certainly make great fodder for dinner table conversation.

2nd Alastair Bland, *KCET*, “100,000 Residents In Bountiful Central Valley Still Lack Access to Clean Water”

3rd Jason Y. Lee, Ien Chi, Traci Lee, TwinTaoers and Agnes Constante, *NBC News*, “Talking about depression can be hard for Asian Americans, but services can help”

K8. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Carribbean Fragoza, *KCET*, “La Raza: The Community Newspaper That Became a Political Platform”

<https://bit.ly/2Hf44rD>

Judges’ comment: Relentless research and reporting drives this powerful, detailed history of a Chicano publication that shaped the communities it covered for the better, and empowered a generation to organize.

2nd Jean Trinh, *KCET*, “The Decades-Long Evolution of Thai Cuisine in Los Angeles”

3rd Caitlin Yoshiko Kandil and Audrey Cleo Yap, *NBC News*, “How a Sikh tradition inspired a program that gives 1,000 burritos to the homeless each week”

K9. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE

Makeda Easter, *Los Angeles Times*, “The black hair revolution is happening now on a screen near you”

<https://lat.ms/2Kk4FNQ>, <https://lat.ms/2InRXLd>

Judges’ comment: This is not a superficial story about Hollywood hair trends; it's a well written exploration of cultural parity decades overdue. From start to finish, the story is informative, engaging, and without doubt, in need of being told.

2nd Charles Davis, *Capital & Main*, “Freeway Robbery: Confronting Hollywood’s Wage-Theft Culture”

3rd Asia Morris, *Long Beach Post*, “Oaxaca-born artist paints life in the fields in first solo exhibition at Long Beach museum”

K10. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING

JOVRNALISM, “The Deported: Life Beyond the Border”

<http://bit.ly/jovrnalism-the-deported>

Judges’ comment: What a creative, authentic use of the online storytelling platform to give viewers access inside a rarely-visible system. The contestant stood above in a tough competition for this inspiring, informative project that made such great use of virtual reality technology. Each piece weaved together narrative, interviews, and sound to show the impact of immigration policy – especially hitting home with the personal story of Destinee in chapter five.

2nd Robin Urevich, *Capital & Main*, “Deadly Detention: Self-Portrait of a Tragedy”

3rd Roxana Kopetman, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*, “For some caravan migrant moms, and babies, the future might be Mexico”

K11. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Stephanie Rivera, *Long Beach Post*, “Ugandan LGBTQ refugees find a home in Long Beach’s ‘gayborhood’”

<http://bit.ly/2Bqa65Y>

Judges’ comment: The winner offered the best combination of storytelling, sourcing and historical context. The story offered an important recounting of Uganda’s horrific history with gay rights, found a face to showcase that impact and, ultimately, showed what a community was doing to help refugees find a home in the United States.

2nd Shane Singh, *Playboy Magazine*, “Gay Pride in the Arab Nation”

3rd Lata Pandya, *KCET*, “Hundreds of Torture Survivors Adjust to New Life in SoCal with Organization’s Help”

K12. CRIME REPORTING

Jason Kandel, *NBC LA*, “Twisted”

<http://4.nbcla.com/kzIXqq0>

Judges’ comment: This is the clear winner. A gripping, well-researched, well-told tale.

2nd Shawna Kenney, *Narratively*, “I Was a Black Nazi Skinhead”

3rd Jeremiah Dobruck, *Long Beach Post*, “Warrant reveals ‘extremely high’ tension at Cabrillo High before drive-by killed grandfather”

K13. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Celeste Fremon, *Witness LA*, “THE WRITER, The Sequel: A Confused Teenager, A Shooting, A Long Prison Sentence—& An Unusual Opportunity”

<https://bit.ly/2uXt68Z>

Judges’ comment: “The Writer” was full of unexpected turns and a gripping narrative that starts with a tale of a Thanksgiving email to an editor. From there we meet a protagonist, who as a teenager had shot a man outside a bar. How did this happen? What became of the gifted student-turned-shooter? This story is a sequel to one told years earlier by an English teacher who lost a favorite student to prison. Among its unexpected gifts: a famed activist who helped change the narrative.

(TIE). Ryan Gajewski, *Playboy Magazine*, “The Magic of Ezra Miller”

<https://bit.ly/2zTwrYY>

Judges’ comment: “The Magic of Ezra Miller” is also about the unexpected. From the photographs of a male star posed in fishnets, stilettos and bunny costume, to the witty outline of the reporting process, this story was a joy. It intrigued from the start: Why was the journalist crying? How did they end up in Miller's hotel room smoking weed? Who brought up cross dressing? An entertaining story told with skill, style and flair.

2nd Alex Demyanenko, *Capital & Main*, “Negotiating Trauma: How Susan Burton Gave Discarded Women a Tomorrow”

3rd Jem Aswad, *Variety*, “Prince the Prankster: Marc Anthony, Bobby Z and More Remember His Humor (and an Epic Food Fight)”

K14. COLUMNIST

Michael Hiltzik, *Los Angeles Times*, “Stem cell therapy’s costly charade”

<https://lat.ms/2VBeY19>, <https://lat.ms/2IdvdOE>, <https://lat.ms/2VAkd12>

Judges’ comment: Real health implications. An important topic beyond LA.

2nd Norberto Santana, Jr., *Voice of OC*, “Homelessness in Orange County and Accountability”

3rd Major Danny Sjursen, *Truthdig*, “Maj. Danny Sjursen's Truthdig Columns”

K15. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, National

Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*, “The Kavanaugh Hearings Were Pitched at One Viewer — Trump”
<https://bit.ly/2NIIkL4>

Judges’ comment: The writer's view, that the Kavanaugh hearings were a well-choreographed, cinematic dance to please the President, offered a clear and piercing commentary.

2nd Ryan Lo and Chandra Bozelko, *NBC News Think*, “The criminal justice reform bill is a solid first step”

3rd Daniel Heimpel, *The Chronicle of Social Change*, “Foster Care, Hamilton and America’s Devolving Compact with Vulnerable People”

K16. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, Local

Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*, “‘Burn the Witch!’: Public Enthusiasm for Dragging Rude Youth from Trains Highlights Gap in Metro’s Equity Platform”
<https://bit.ly/2XxL13e>

Judges’ comment: The writer posed legitimate questions and offered a thought-provoking review of an incident that gained wide-spread media attention. Her writing was crisp, and her commentary was sharp.

2nd Norberto Santana, Jr., *Voice of OC*, “Protecting Public Safety”

3rd Judith Lewis Mernit, *Capital & Main*, “Four Ways California Can Beat Trump’s Solar Tariff”

K17. NON-POLITICAL COMMENTARY

Eriq Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Why Hollywood's 'Inclusion Rider' Mania Could Hurt the Equality Cause”
<http://bit.ly/2VosMvA>

Judges’ comment: An excellent to-the-point of the topic and why it may not succeed the way it is hoped to.

2nd Bennet Kelley, *Internet Law Center*, “Time to Question ‘The Internet of Hal’: The Facebook Scandal and the Dawn of Internet Skepticism”

3rd Brian Addison, *Long Beach Post*, “How immigrant food taught me to stop coddling this American palate”

K18. SPORTS NEWS or FEATURE

Mirin Fader, *Bleacher Report*, “The LaMelo Show”
<https://bit.ly/2DT3I8F>

Judges’ comment: A revealing look at the drama of the Ball family’s exploits. We’ve heard the headlines — this story painted the full picture, through great access, thoughtful observation and compelling writing. It was thorough, but not judgmental, letting readers form their own opinions.

2nd JOVRNALISM Staff, *JOVRNALISM*, “Immersed in the Winter Games”

3rd JJ Fiddler and Mike Guardabascio, *The 562.org*, “‘10 fingers are overrated’: Cabrillo High basketball player leads team in scoring despite disability”

K19. SPORTS COMMENTARY

Bill Plaschke, *Los Angeles Times*, “The Stories Hiding in Plain Sight”
<https://lat.ms/2Ib1JRN>, <https://lat.ms/2X5be8t>, <https://lat.ms/2KrynQM>,
<https://lat.ms/2X3Yn6b>, <https://lat.ms/2DQbQcl>

Judges’ comment: There is wonderful humanity and understanding these pieces. The column about his mother was a moving tribute — sweet and honest, but not excessive. The profiles behind the scenes — a prominent announcer’s hidden volunteer work; the “mother hen” at the stadium; the Unknown Horseman — resonate and tell poignant stories that otherwise might go untold.

2nd Eric Boehm, *Reason*, “Curling Is the Closest the Olympics Ever Get to Anarchy”

3rd Aitana Vargas, *Hoy*, “La leyenda de Nadal se agranda y ensombrece a Thiem en 5 apoteósicos sets”

K20. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, “How Michael Moore Lost His Audience”
<https://bit.ly/2PYRPIP>

Judges’ comment: This commentary looks at why Michael Moore’s documentaries have been consistently been playing to smaller audiences. It analyzes the subject and provides various changing social trends that are possible explanations as to why this is happening.

2nd Angie Han, *Mashable*, “Crazy Rich Asians' and the immense pressure to feel seen”

3rd Katie Kilkeny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Romanoffs Satirizes the Desperation of White Privilege in Decline”

K21. BLOG, INDEPENDENT by one person – N/A see K22

K22. BLOG, INDIVIDUAL by one person

Brian Addison, *Longbeachize, Long Beach Post*, “The 710 project isn't just about expanding a freeway—it is about decreasing livability in marginalized communities”

<http://bit.ly/2C2eMm9>

Judges' comment: Addison's hard work shows on this blog. He apparently read those thousands of pages of reports so we don't have to. Better still, he explained them in a way those affected could grasp. The many links and references to background, including the visuals, provide a fine supplement to Addison's main piece.

2nd Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Race”

3rd Bennet G Kelley, *Trophy Lives*, “Loyola Ramblers – The Team That Changed College Basketball”

K23. BLOG, GROUP

Joe Linton, Sahra Sulaiman, Damien Newton, Kris Fortin and Melanie Curry, *Streetsblog LA*, “November 28, 2018”

<https://bit.ly/2NASQkc>, <https://bit.ly/2VpKheA>, <https://bit.ly/2T5pznE>,
<https://bit.ly/2VxMUeK>, <https://bit.ly/2GT4giM>

Judges' comment: This blog is a great community resource. The team does a great job not only with the writing about the details and concerns related to projects, but also with the compilation of facts and figures, in a way that's reader and viewer-friendly.

2nd Aaron Couch and Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Heat Vision”

3rd JJ Fiddler and Mike Guardabascio, *The 562.org*, “‘10 fingers are overrated’: Cabrillo High basketball player leads team in scoring despite disability”

K24. WEBSITE, NEWS ORGANIZATION EXCLUSIVE TO THE INTERNET

JOVRNALISM, *jovrnalism.io/*
<https://jovrnalism.io/>

Judges' comment: Maybe it's not fair for this project-based site to compete against the other finalists who have broader and more constant responsibilities. And in fact, many of the finalists are amazing examples of the future of journalism looks like. But it's also true that JOVRNALISM is stunning, both in its reporting and writing, both in its design and its tech. If this is what the future will look like, the future is bright.

2nd Zuade Kaufman and Robert Scheer, *Truthdig*

3rd Sonya Quick, *Voice of OC*

K25. WEBSITE, TRADITIONAL NEWS ORGANIZATION

Variety, *Variety.com*
<https://variety.com>

Judges' comment: Online as in print, "readability" is key. If you can't intuitively navigate a site, understand a story's intent from its headline, and grasp the breadth of coverage from the hierarchy, it doesn't matter how solid the journalism is. Few will read it. Variety's site offers good balance, tight display text, and art that adds to the story instead of just being pretty pictures. Clickbait is at a minimum, news (for the fields it covers) is set at max.

2nd KTLA Digital Team, *KTLA 5 News*, KTLA.com

3rd Matthew Belloni and Tom Seeley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, THR.com

L. SOCIAL MEDIA

L1. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE AND/OR COVER A STORY – BY ONE PERSON NOT TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION – N/A, see L2

L2. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE AND/OR COVER A STORY– BY ONE PERSON

Gigi Graciette, *KTTV FOX 11*, "Woolsey Fire 2018 - Personalizing TV News Thru Social Media"
<https://bit.ly/2QpW6QT>

Judges' comment: This woman is a rock star. She went above and beyond as journalist, not only using social media for the public good, but as an outlet and thread for the community. Well done in every aspect.

2nd Ryan Fonseca, *LAist*, "Hollywood's Target Husk Tells Us How It Feels About Becoming A Real Store"

3rd Christina Schoellkopf, *Los Angeles Times*, "Why 'Crazy Rich Asians' Matters"

L3. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE AND/OR COVER A STORY – BY A GROUP

JOVRNALISM, "Homeless Realities: Snapchat experiences"

<http://bit.ly/jovrnalism-hr-snapchat>

Judges' comment: What a new and innovative way to reinvent the wheel. We have never seen anything like this before, and this should be applauded.

2nd *NBC LA*, "California Propositions on Social Media"

3rd *Voice of OC*, "November 2018 Election Updates"

M. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

M1. NEWS

Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV - Canadian Television*, "The Woolsey Fire"

<https://bit.ly/2WTjsjY>

Judges' comment: This was an easy to follow piece with solid shots and angles. It included dramatic footage and the acquired mobile video from a victim of the fire raised the level of drama within the piece and really showed the trauma of a victim. This is an all-around well-made proper news package.

2nd Mike Amor and Duncan McLeod, *7 Network Australia*, "Kilauea's Fury"

3rd Aviva Fried and Christèle Jaime, *Radio Télévision Suisse*, "The Rebirth of a City"

M2. FEATURE

Kerstin Zilm, Ellen Haering and Eberhard Schade, *Deutschlandfunk Kultur*, "Trump and The

Dreamers”

<https://bit.ly/2TuOUGW> (Translation: <https://bit.ly/2YTEeB3>)

Judges’ comment: In an extremely competitive category, this entry stood out. Months of reporting are distilled and woven into a tight narrative with lots of heart. There's a keen eye for the small details that illuminate the larger stories. It's a story about Dreamers, but it also taps into universal themes of coming-of-age and survival. Excellent work.

2nd Lizzie Pearl and Richard Moran, *Nine Network Australia*, “The Chicago nun fighting gun violence and saving lives”

3rd Aviva Fried and Christèle Jaime, *Radio Télévision Suisse*, “Jailhouse Horse”

M3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Chrissy Iley, *Sunday Times Magazine*, “Exclusive U2 interview: Chrissy Iley meets the band on tour to talk RSI, clean eating and Bono’s near-death experience”

<https://bit.ly/2JDWFwu>

Judges’ comment #1: Chrissy Iley meets the band on tour to talk RSI, clean eating and Bono’s near-death experience.

Judges’ comment #2: In a category where many submissions had impressive access to high-profile subjects, this profile stood out for its intimacy and compelling narrative. The author handled her relationship with the band with transparency. She captured moments both extraordinary and unglamorous. It's an engrossing read.

2nd Kjersti Flaa, *KK and Dagbladet*, “Jane Fonda profile: ‘I never felt like a sex symbol’”

3rd Lizzie Pearl and Adam Bovino, *Nine Network Australia*, “Aussie Rugby League star with NFL dreams”

M4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Hugo Daniel, *The Mail On Sunday*, “‘Tina turned her back on me:’ Singer's adopted son says she doesn't want anything to do with her old family as a musical celebrating soul legend's turbulent life rocks the West End”

<https://dailym.ai/2VpIhTX>

Judges’ comment: Tina Turner is a music icon, and there is a global interest in her life. She is the kind of star people feel like they know. With brilliant access to her immediate family, this article shed light on a side of her life we never knew and that her fans are likely to care about. I am not a massive fan of Tina's and I found this to be very interesting, revealing and a page-turner. This is the kind of daily reporting I'd like to see more of.

2nd Barbara Gasser, *Maxima*, “Cultural Revolution - Hollywood after Weinstein”

3rd Adam Tanswell, *SciFiNow*, “Avengers Set Visit”

M5. COLUMNIST or CRITIC

Tom Walters, *CTV News- Canadian TV*, “Out of the Dark”
<https://bit.ly/2VtcxO7>

Judges’ comment: This was well written and well produced. It thoughtfully helps us examine why and how we care about others, even when they are in a distant place.

2nd Mary O’Hara, *The Guardian*, “Everyone should be outraged by child poverty in Britain and the US”

3rd Natasha Hakimi Zapata, *Truthdig*, “Conservatives Own the Ongoing Disaster That Is Brexit”

N. STUDENT MEDIA

N1. BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

Dalton Turner and Ewan McNeil, *The Sundial*, “Sundial Borderline print edition”
<https://bit.ly/2JDX6jH>

Judges’ comment: Handled tragedy in unbiased and sympathetic manner.

2nd Ariel So, Hank Snowdon, Meghan Bobrowsky, Kellen Browning and Meghan Joyce, *The Student Life*, “The Student Life: Vol. CXXXI, No. 10”

3rd Daily 49er staff, *Daily 49er*, “Champs! Best newspaper – Daily 49er!”

N2. BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Kirsten Cintigo, *The Pearl Post*, “December, 2018”
<http://bit.ly/2H5cKU7>

Judges’ comment: Colorful, informative and entertaining for today’s readers.

2nd Kenny Lam, Eileen Ong, *The Matador, San Gabriel High School*, “The Matador: Volume 64, Issue 3, November, 9, 2018”

3rd Noah Somphone, *The Accolade*, “New Perspectives: October 26, 2018”

N3. BEST NEWS WEBSITE

Devika Girish and Vivian Medithi, *Ampersand*, USC Annenberg Media, AMPERSAND
<https://bit.ly/1r32LkL>

Judges’ comment: We loved this website. Well produced, great layout, interesting articles... We may have to put it on our Bookmark list!

2nd Meghan Bobrowsky, Ariel So, Hank Snowden, Kellen Browning and Meghan Joyce, *The Student Life*, The Student Life

3rd The Sundial 2018 staff, *The Sundial*, The Sundial

N4. BEST NEWS PHOTO

Adriana Ramirez, *Daily 49er*, “Long Beach State men win national championship”
<https://bit.ly/2HJskoF>

Judges’ comment: Winner captured the emotion of the moment. Great work.

2nd Alexandra Apatiga, *Daily 49er*, “When voices clash”

3rd Leo Yue, *El Camino Real*, “Prom Preview Assembly”

N5. BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Trevor Sena, *The Sundial*, “Matador Motorsports gets ready for spring competition”
<https://bit.ly/2Vc68tv>

Judges’ comment: Clever use of reflection and expression of hope.

2nd Michelle Ho, *El Camino Real*, “Take a Second Look: Alyssa Bao portrait”

3rd William Kwoon, *El Camino Real*, “Bright Lights, Night Lights at the LA Zoo”

N6. BEST NEWS WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE

Tanya Flowers and Melissa Crumby, *Los Angeles Collegian*, “Going, Going, Gone - Placement Tests, Remedial Courses Under the Knife”
<https://bit.ly/2Dt3aqQ>

Judges' comment: Important and timely information well conveyed.

2nd Ruby Yuan, *Annenberg Media at University of Southern California*, "Woman Sentenced to Life in Beating Death"

3rd James Chow, *Daily 49er*, "LBSU opts to move Prospector Pete statue and get a new mascot"

N7. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE

Ande Richards, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "It's the Principle of the Thing"
<https://bit.ly/2IaSUnx>

Judges' comment: A beautiful and inspiring piece.

N8. BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE – ANY PLATFORM

Hunter Lee, *Daily 49er*, "Lourdes Flores illuminates the darkness"
<https://bit.ly/2NJ7W78>

Judges' comment: A powerful profile of a woman who refuses to let her past define her. Very well written.

2nd Anwar Torres, *Collegian Times*, "Chuck the Condor Takes Flight"

3rd Trevor Sochocki, *Annenberg Media at University of Southern California*, "Los Angeles Artist"

N9a. BEST TV REPORTING

Juliette Boland, *The Anglophile Channel*, "The Dr. Who Review"
<https://wp.me/P3Ge8x-581>

Judges' comment: Fun and entertaining.

2nd Paula Kiley, *Daily 49er*, "Campus Couture Fashion Show"

3rd Savannah Sinfield, Keith Demolder and Raina Singh, *USC Annenberg Media*, "See It Live: Borderline Shooting"

N9b. BEST RADIO or PODCAST

Marcela Valdivia, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, “Día de los Muertos celebration at Hollywood Forever Cemetery”

<https://bit.ly/2I9t1aq>

Judges’ comment: Winner presented cultural sensitivity in a colorful manner.

2nd Jon Reed, *Ampersand, Annenberg Media*, “Between Music and Movies: How a Film Composer Works”

3rd Megan Manata, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, “Animals displaced by fires find shelter in animal sanctuaries”