

WINNERS 62ND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS

A. JOURNALISTS OF THE YEAR

IN ORDER TO COMPETE IN THIS CATEGORY, YOU NEED TO ENTER A MINIMUM OF TWO ENTRIES IN OTHER CATEGORIES. ONLY ONE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR CATEGORY PER PERSON (OK to enter multiple people from the same outlet).

PRINT: Provide up to four samples, plus supporting materials. Print includes newspapers, wire services, magazines and news bureaus.

BROADCAST: Provide short URLs (or DVDs for TV; CDs for radio) that showcase nominee in less than 10 minutes, plus supporting materials.

A1. PRINT — Over 50,000 Circulation

Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*

<https://lat.ms/2v5pLIJ> ; <https://lat.ms/2vUtMQd> ; <https://lat.ms/2B5hDrc> ;
<https://lat.ms/2VDXjXw> ; <https://lat.ms/2HFToTA> ; <https://lat.ms/2Pbs7N8> ;
<https://lat.ms/35s2Apu> ; <https://lat.ms/31699dS> ; <https://lat.ms/2vQQF7g>

Judges' comment: With his incisive writing and observations, Randy Lewis thoroughly illuminates his subjects, whether sitting with musician John Prine during a tribute concert, describing the origins of the Coachella festival, or enduring at a theater a 65-hour, 22-movie Marvel movie marathon.

2nd Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*

A2. PRINT — Under 50,000 Circulation

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*

<https://bit.ly/2SmUB8l> ; <https://bit.ly/35j445N> ; <https://bit.ly/2W962l8> ;
<https://bit.ly/2VPfHhE>

Judges' comment: In his must-read Regardie Report, Jon has his finger on the pulse of L.A. politics and government. His superb analysis of the Garcetti years, the homelessness crisis, or pay-to-play politics earns him this award.

2nd Lina Lecaro, *LA Weekly*

3rd Hillary Davis, *Daily Pilot*

A3. TELEVISION JOURNALIST

Christina Pascucci, KTLA

<https://youtu.be/co6XChwgIvM> ; <https://bit.ly/2PZu8wn> ; <https://bit.ly/2wInioh> ;
<https://bit.ly/2TY1Eo2>

Judges' comment: Whether reporting from Antarctica, a military training base, or the streets of L.A. at night, Christina Pascucci gives the viewers a "you are there" feeling. Compelling, outstanding TV reporting.

2nd Lisa McRee, *Spectrum News 1*

3rd Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1*

A4. RADIO JOURNALIST

Steve Chiotakis, KCRW

<https://kcrw.co/2Yn9hIrr> ; <https://kcrw.co/3fa6qZ0> ; <https://kcrw.co/2zHbuUx> ;
<https://kcrw.co/2SnNZgg> ; <https://kcrw.co/3aUvFeA> ; <https://kcrw.co/3aZIFB7>

Judges' comment: With wry comments and revealing interviews, Steve Chiotakis provides the listener with fascinating explorations of both familiar and unfamiliar topics. Whether interviewing Dr. Lucy Jones about the impact of earthquakes on L.A.'s water supply, tracing the history of the Apollo space program, or waiting for a "grunion run" with a naturalist, Chiotakis is a terrific radio journalist.

2nd Deborah Zara Kobylt, *Deborah Kobylt LIVE*

3rd Deepa Fernandes, *PRI'S THE WORLD, KCRW and KQED*

A5. ONLINE JOURNALIST

Joe Rubin, Capital & Main

<https://bit.ly/3esMZKC> ; <https://bit.ly/34DGIYa> ; <https://bit.ly/2K7T9C9>

Judges' comment: Joe Rubin and Capital & Main are lauded for their public health investigations of lead contamination, which resulted in the closing of a Bay Area gun range and criticism of a lead-battery legislative bill. Excellent work.

2nd Spencer Custodio, *Voice of OC*

3rd Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*

A6. ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST — Any platform

Chris Willman, *Variety*

<http://bit.ly/2Lcvku9>

Judges' comment: With a deep understanding of the music industry, Chris Willman is able to write wonderful, in-depth portraits, such as his article on Brandi Carlisle. A terrific writer and observer, Willman is indeed the Entertainment Journalist of the Year.

2nd Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*

3rd Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*

A7. SPORTS JOURNALIST — Any platform

Michael J. Duarte, *NBC LA*

<https://bit.ly/2QGov6D> ; <https://bit.ly/2QNMTmN> ; <https://bit.ly/2KFPPym> ;
<https://bit.ly/2QLcmNw> ; <https://bit.ly/2wCkvx5> ; <https://bit.ly/33KtGb3> ;
<https://bit.ly/2QNDUBY> ; <https://bit.ly/2WIGygj> ; <https://bit.ly/2UI209i> ;
<https://bit.ly/39qdOvD> ; <https://bit.ly/3aiDhrS> ; <https://bit.ly/2wBgF7i>

Judges' comment: Whether documenting L.A.'s year of heart-breaking athletics or portraying individual sports personalities, Duarte combines compelling quotes with expert analysis both in print and on-camera. An excellent sports journalist deserving this award.

2nd Bill Shaikin, *Los Angeles Times*

3rd David Jerome, *Orange County Register*

A8. PHOTOJOURNALIST/VIDEOGRAPHER

Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*

<https://bit.ly/35i6unp>

Judges' comment: The terrific, stunning news shots of Ringo Chiu stop you in your tracks, no matter whether they are entertainment, sports or news photos. Outstanding captures of passing moments.

2nd Ernesto Torres, *NBC LA*

3rd Osceola Refetoff, *KCET*

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

B1. HUMOR/SATIRE WRITING

Austin Bragg and Andrew Heaton, *Reason*, “2020 Presidential Candidate Blowout!”

<https://bit.ly/2WkC9yq>

Judges’ comment: Bragg and Heaton’s writing is timely, balanced, well-written and laugh-out-loud funny.

2nd Rick Adams, *Spectrum News 1*, “Robot Banker”

3rd Joel Stein, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Breakup Letter to My Agent”

B2. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION – Film/TV Personalities

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, “John Simon: Now That He's Gone, the Image of the Critic as Hater May Have Died Out Too”

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

Judges’ comment: Gleiberman’s wit captures a convincing vision of Simon in this excellent appreciation of his life.

2nd Alonso Duralde, *TheWrap*, “Doris Day Appreciation: Sweetness and Light Met Grit and Tenacity, Both on Screen and Off”

3rd Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1*, “Nipsey Hussle”

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

Aitana Vargas, *Público*, “Entre Bordados y Alfileres”

<https://bit.ly/33CSnGb>

Judges’ comment: A powerful, personal reminiscence of the writer's grandmother that weaves the tragic history of Spain's Franco into the woman's life. Some beautiful images and imaginative writing.

2nd Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV National News - Canadian Television*, “Toni Morrison Obit”

3rd Carribean Fragoza, *KCET*, “Artbound: I Am a Mexicano: The Legacy of Chicano Journalist and Activist Raul Ruiz”

B4a. ACTIVISM JOURNALISM — Print, Online

Patrick Range McDonald, *Housing Is A Human Right*, “Garcetti-fication: A Gentrification Cautionary Tale”

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

Judges' comment: This article does a great job of presenting a complex topic in a clear, understandable way.

2nd Angelika Albaladejo, *Capital & Main*, "Child Law Penalizes Moms for Abusive Partners"

3rd Vic Gerami, *The Blunt Post*, "LGBTQ Armenians Face Resign of Terror"

B4b. ACTIVISM JOURNALISM — Broadcast

KCET, Tastemade and Roy Choi, *KCET*, "Broken Bread"

<https://bit.ly/2Yhqv9O>

Judges' comment: This episode does a great job of showing the restaurant's impact on the community and its employees, all while exploring the history of Watts.

2nd Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser, Andy Viner and Dennis Nishi, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: Who Killed Josiah?"

3rd Anna Buss and Sonali Kolhatkar, *Free Speech TV and Pacifica Radio*, "The Fight to End Urban Oil Drilling in Los Angeles"

B5. PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS or FEATURE

Zach Weissmueller, *Reason*, "We Shut Down State Mental Hospitals. Some Want to Bring Them Back"

<https://bit.ly/3f0qugu>

Judges' comment: Weissmueller's balanced and well-sourced piece covers in an engaging way a topic that has been taboo and a huge impact on the public.

2nd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Larger Than Life"

3rd Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser and Andy Viner, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: It's Not Easy Being Green"

B6. CONSUMER NEWS or FEATURE

Leslie Berestein Rojas, *KPCC/LAist*, "LA street vendors can sell legally now, but costs tied to new program are a worry"

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

Judges' comment: The real cost of being "legal" for immigrant street vendors is nearly impossible for some. The issue is well-told in human terms by this excellent report.

2nd Anna Scott, *KCRW*, "Effort to Make L.A. More Eco-Friendly Means Foreclosure for One Homeowner"

3rd Steve Appleford, *Capital & Main*, "Are Offshore Aircraft-Repair Stations the New Normal?"

B7A. SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM, Print/Online: Rigorous reporting on a response to a problem and its associated evidence. Series or single story.

Alena Maschke, *Long Beach Business Journal*, "Smart Cities: Civic Evolution Or Tech Dystopia?"
<https://bit.ly/2XYUCTA>

Judges' comment: An excellent, comprehensive look at affordable housing issues in Long Beach, with close-ups of proposed improvements such as relocation assistance and "granny flats."

2nd Michaela Haas, *New York Times*, "Would You Open Your Home to an Ex-Prisoner?"

3rd Jessica Goodheart, *Capital & Main*, "Rent Law Offers Reprieve to Some of Los Angeles' Most Vulnerable Families"

B7B. SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM, Broadcast: Rigorous reporting on a response to a problem and its associated evidence. Series or single story.

Anna Scott, *KCRW*, "How do you solve the toughest cases of homelessness?"
<https://kcrw.co/3bep4Nh>

Judges' comment: A nuanced examination of a modest yet effective program that is succeeding in helping people typically written off as "too difficult." This in-depth report provides both a model for other communities to follow and a clear-eyed account of the obstacles and the political will required to stick with this kind of long-term approach.

2nd KCET, Tastemade and Roy Choi, *KCET*, "Broken Bread: Waste"

3rd Deepa Fernandes, *KPCC*, "Preschool Doesn't Have to Be So Segregated: Here's How"

B8. MEDICAL/HEALTH REPORTING

Rachel Kraus, *Mashable*, "The troubling world of WiFi toxicity truthers on Instagram"
<http://bit.ly/wifi-toxicity>

Judges' comment: A new concern over Wi-Fi toxicity and the "profiteering of people's fears and misunderstandings" are exposed in this excellent, informative report.

2nd Jillian Keenan, *Reason*, "Meet the Teens Who Want to Get Vaccinated Against Their Parents' Wishes"

3rd Eric Pape, *Capital & Main*, "Scared to Death: Immigrants in Need of Health Care Face Perilous Choices"

B9. SCIENCE REPORTING

Rosanna Xia, Carolyn Cole, Paul Duginski and Sean Greene, *Los Angeles Times*, "Can the long-lost abalone make a comeback in California?"

<https://lat.ms/2Var6lr>

Judges' comment: : Comparing the rich history of the vanishing abalone with the plight of the American buffalo is an example of the kind of humanistic writing that brings to life science and environmental issues. Superb reporting by the *Los Angeles Times* writers.

2nd Judith Lewis Mernit, *KCET*, "Earth Focus: Thick and Viscous: California Oil Production Among the Dirtiest in the Country"

3rd Dan Ross, *Capital & Main*, "Topic of Cancer: How PFAS Threaten Our Water"

B10. TECHNOLOGY REPORTING

Ruksana Hussain, *Econtent magazine*, "Personalization and technology"

<http://bit.ly/3aeRMg0>

Judges' comment: Hussain's well-written article is thorough and detailed. A well-deserved award.

2nd Natalie Jarvey, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Spotify the Storyteller"

3rd Peter Jones, Brian Tessier, Juan Devis, Michael Riley and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, "Blue Sky Metropolis: Space Technology Innovation"

B11. LOCAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, "The Gun Range Next Door: A Public Health Failure"

<https://bit.ly/2PFVxDq> ; <https://bit.ly/32LRuLe>

Judges' comment: Rubin's damning portrait of two public health agencies' failure to protect the public, especially children, from the gun range's lead contamination is a fine piece of public service writing.

2nd Justin Kloczko, *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, "Los Angeles Department of Water & Power Scandal"

3rd Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser and Andy Viner, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: It's Not Easy Being Green"

B12. NATIONAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

John Fecile, Elizabeth Nakano, Jesse Dukes and Sonya Geis, *KCRW*, "Two Years: Diaries of a Divided Nation"

<https://kcrw.co/2wG3pyk>

Judges' comment: The KCRW reporters produced a thought-provoking, concise and politically neutral report about a national problem.

2nd Anna Scott, *KCRW*, "The Price of a Green Card"

3rd Sarah D. Wire, *Los Angeles Times*, "Thanks to Nancy Pelosi, Californians Dominate the New House Like Never Before"

B13. EDUCATIONAL REPORTING

Theresa Marie Moreau, *American Greatness*, "Juilliard Goes to China"

<https://bit.ly/2vWj9gr>

Judges' comment: Fantastic job exploring an unlikely relationship. Very thorough and likely answered a lot of questions readers had about this partnership.

2nd Larry Buhl, *Capital & Main*, "When Charter Schools Fail, Parents Are Left Scrambling"

3rd Andrew J. Campa, *Glendale News-Press*, "Glendale Community College to Return Fees for Student IDs It Likely Shouldn't Have Collected"

B14a. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING, Print/Online

Susanne Rust, Carolyn Cole, Ali Raj and Lorena Iñiguez Elebee, *Los Angeles Times*, "American Fallout: The Marshall Islands"

<https://lat.ms/2RGwm4J> ; <https://lat.ms/2Vf8uax> ; <https://lat.ms/2K9rXTK> ;
<https://lat.ms/2yX0gLG> ; <https://lat.ms/2yhFHOG> ; <https://lat.ms/3esxJNV> ;

<https://lat.ms/3biT2Qk> ; <https://lat.ms/2Va1D1Z> ; <https://lat.ms/2VaWgzo> ;
<https://lat.ms/2RE8LRY>

Judges' comment: The Los Angeles Times reporters produced a stunning, well-written and researched report, combining facts with heart-wrenching stories about the impact of nuclear bomb testing.

2nd Rosanna Xia, Swetha Kanna and Terry Castleman, *Los Angeles Times*, "California Against the Sea"

3rd Michele Stueven, *LA Weekly*, "Environmental Charter Schools"

B14b. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING, Broadcast

Christina Pascucci, Armando Moncayo and Andre Cox, *KTLA 5 News*, "Journey to the End of the Earth"

<https://bit.ly/2PZu8wn>

Judges' comment: The KTLA 5 News crew told a compelling, beautiful story about their sometimes challenging voyage to Antarctica.

2nd Jacob Soboroff, Aarne Heikkila, Mitchell Koss, Betsy Korona and Julia Ainsley, *NBC News*, "Climate in Crisis"

3rd Ben Bergman, Michael Bloecher and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: Access Denied"

B15. MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE: Presentation of any combination of text, graphics, audio, video, etc.

Andrea Roberson, Kyle Kim, Maloy Moore and Christie D'Zurilla, *Los Angeles Times*, "Hollywood primary"

<https://lat.ms/3eokGgp>

Judges' comment: Excellent way to showcase a lot of data in an interesting new way.

2nd Alexandra Bell, Jose Castillo and Justino Mora, *JOVRNALISM*, "Trashed: The Tijuana River Valley Pollution Crisis"

3rd Randall Roberts and Priya Krishnakumar, *Los Angeles Times*, "50 Songs for a New L.A."

B16. TRAVEL REPORTING

Eater, *Eater*, "The Eater Guide to Taipei"

<https://bit.ly/3el6lBu>

Judges' comment: An ambitious, comprehensive travel story told from different viewpoints.

2nd Elizabeth Suman and Adam Skolnick, *Playboy Magazine*, "Wasteland Wonderland"

3rd Michele Stueven, *LA Weekly*, "Road Trip: It's Harvest Time in Temecula"

B17. COMMENTARY/ANALYSIS OF TV/FILM: Based on up to 4 samples.

Pete Keeley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Big Little Lions: Disney's New 'Lion King' Dodges the 'Kimba' Similarity Issue"

<https://bit.ly/2K6mvRi>

Judges' comment: A reveling look at a virulent type of artistic/cultural plagiarism-- or is that appropriation-- that sparks outrage at a media giant's injustice and indifference when it comes to using their cadre of lawyers to protect massive profits.

2nd Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*, "Rip Torn's 'Larry Sanders' Performance Was the Best of Old-School Hollywood"

3rd Tim Gray, *Variety*, "Oscar and Hollywood's Nearly 'Invisible' People with Disabilities"

B18. CRITICISM OF TV: Based on up to 4 samples.

Siddhant Adlakha, *IGN*, "Watchmen Reviews"

<https://bit.ly/2I3RKvi> ; <https://bit.ly/2TkjoJT> ; <https://bit.ly/3c9U1Db> ;

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

Judges' comment: Adlakha's columns feel essential to understanding such a potent, relevant and complicated series. His clear writing, intriguing insight and application of relevant history help decipher this series and our current moment in history.

2nd Lorraine Ali, *Los Angeles Times*, "Lorraine Ali, TV Criticism"

3rd Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Daniel Fienberg, TV Criticism"

B19. CRITICISM OF FILM: Based on up to 4 samples.

Jon Frosch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Film Reviews of 'Marriage Story,' 'Honey Boy,' and 'The Beach Bum'"

<https://bit.ly/2XC7Llk> ; <http://bit.ly/2IC2XDZ> ; <http://bit.ly/312m68q>

Judges' comment: A great combination of good writing and film knowledge, informative without being didactic.

2nd Lina Lecaro, *LA Weekly*, "Movie Reviews for LA Weekly"

3rd Luke Y. Thompson, *Forbes*, "Luke Y. Thompson Movie Reviews"

B20. CRITICISM OF THEATER/PERFORMING ARTS: Based on up to 4 samples.

Robert Hofler, *TheWrap*, "Theater Reviews"

<https://bit.ly/2yY89jD> ; <https://bit.ly/2RD7meo> ; <https://bit.ly/2K6jCjC> ;
<https://bit.ly/3bb1u3J>

Judges' comment: Hofler combines lively, conversational writing with a keen understanding of the theater.

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

3rd Cate Young, *Ampersand*, "Sell Buy Date Sells Sex Workers Down the River"

B21. CRITICISM OF MUSIC: Based on up to 4 samples.

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Music Reviews"

<http://bit.ly/2xnxliG> ; <http://bit.ly/2TXovQr> ; <http://bit.ly/2IGI8am>

Judges' comment: Willman's criticism showcases thorough reporting and a nuanced understanding of pop history, buoyed by a flair for scene-setting and playful descriptions of artists such as Billie Eilish

2nd Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "Lady Gaga, Gwen Stefani and when pop music works in Las Vegas"

3rd Andrew Barker, *Variety*, "Album Review: Kanye West's 'Jesus Is King'"

B22. CRITICISM OF BOOKS/ART/ARCHITECTURE/DESIGN: Based on up to 4 samples.

Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*, "Art and architecture criticism: LACMA"

<https://lat.ms/2ycmGbg> ; <https://lat.ms/2wEaorx> ; <https://lat.ms/3bdQjaw> ;
<https://lat.ms/3aaQ5Qi>

Judge's comment: Knight makes a bold, spirited critique of public art gone mismanaged, documenting logistical nightmares, conflicting strategies and, ultimately, the unraveling a museum.

2nd Shana Nys Dambrot, *Art & Cake*, "Andrea Chung at Klowden Mann Gallery"

3rd Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*, "Review: Charles White Show at LACMA Pinpoints the Power of an Underappreciated Black Artist"

B23. CRITICISM OF FOOD/CULTURE: Based on up to 4 samples.

Patricia Escárcega, *Los Angeles Times*, "Patricia Escárcega's restaurant reviews"
<https://lat.ms/3alc3uW> ; <https://lat.ms/2XDFpan> ; <https://lat.ms/2XDFYkv> ;
<https://lat.ms/3a6tVi4>

Judges' comments: Escárcega's critiques shine brightest in telling the stories of people and the food culture, highlighted by the histories of Sonoratown tortillas and the Spago restaurant.

2nd Brad A. Johnson, *Orange County Register*, "Restaurant Reviews: Knife Pleat, Louie's by the Bay, Henry's"

3rd Farley Elliott, *LA Eater*, "The Fast-Food Diner Is LA's True Regional Specialty Restaurant, and It's All Thanks to Pastrami"

C. PRINT – Any outlet

Includes news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

C1. HARD NEWS: One day's coverage of a hard news story.

Hillary Davis, *Daily Pilot*, "Newport Beach residents ready to sue over possible homeless shelter"
<https://lat.ms/3eAhcl2>

Judges' comment: The tension between local residents and the homeless is depicted well in Davis' coverage of a possible homeless shelter in Newport Beach.

C2. HEADLINE: A single headline (may include a deck) that is dramatic/witty/smart.

Blake Hennon, *Los Angeles Times*, "She is 100% that niche"
shes_100_percent_that_niche.pdf

Judges' comment: Absolute cleverness! That is, of course, if you pronounce niche the right way.

2nd Mesfin Fekadu, *The Associated Press*, "Regina is Already a King, but What About President?"

3rd Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Barbie Gets Ziggy With It as Mattel Introduces a David Bowie-Inspired Doll"

C3. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING

Jaweed Kaleem, Claire Collins and Irfan Khan, *Los Angeles Times*, “Sikh drivers are transforming U.S. trucking. Take a ride along the Punjabi American Highway”

<https://lat.ms/3ciVPdO>

Judges’ comment: The writers manage to take the reader along for the ride on this engaging, excellent story that looks at immigration, culture, family, religion, and business.

2nd Anh Do, *Los Angeles Times*, “In Little Saigon, This Newspaper Has Been Giving a Community a Voice for 40 Years”

3rd Cindy Carcamo, *Los Angeles Times*, “Love in the time of DACA”

C4. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Emily Rasmussen, *Long Beach Press-Telegram/SCNG*, “Club Ripples, Long Beach’s oldest gay club, celebrates last Pride weekend with plans to close this summer”

<https://bit.ly/2KJmq6C>

Judges’ comment: An American Dream story of love and standing up to the violent biases of much of America told with insight, heart and a happy if bittersweet ending.

2nd Jessica Gelt, *Los Angeles Times*, “Why the Gay Men's Chorus of L.A. is Singing for Survival”

3rd Ramin Setoodeh and Elizabeth Wagmeister, *Variety*, “How Hollywood Is (and Isn’t) Getting Better at LGBTQ Inclusion”

C5. CRIME REPORTING

Kate Linthicum and Gary Coronado, *Los Angeles Times*, “Meth and murder: A new kind of drug war has made Tijuana one of the deadliest cities on Earth”

<https://lat.ms/3erDlrZ>

Judges’ comment: Linthicum and Coronado have penned an in-depth, graphic and raw story about the tragic consequences of a Mexican drug war.

2nd Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “The Perfect Obsession”

3rd Olga Grigoryants and Sarah Favot, *LA Daily News/SCNG*, “These Sexual Predators Carried Guns and Badges”

C6. SPORTS: Any news or feature on sports.

Neal Rogers, Peter Flax and Nora O'Donnell, *The Red Bulletin*, "Recovery Ride"

<https://bit.ly/2V9oxGK>

Judges' comment: This remarkable sports story told by *The Red Bulletin* writers is a must-read for both sports and general readers.

2nd Eric Sondheimer, *Los Angeles Times*, "High School Football Culture Exchange Brings Hope from Chicago"

3rd Bill Shaikin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Many Try, but Few Finish, the World's Toughest Baseball Quiz"

C7. EDITORIALS

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, "Downtown Garbage Disaster"

<https://bit.ly/35hh37T>

Judges' comment: Regardie's editorial about an ongoing issue with the homeless in downtown L.A. and the city's response is convincing in his suggestion of specific actions to take.

2nd Chandra Bozelko, *Creators Syndicate*, "Prison Rape Rates Remain a Mystery"

3rd Chandra Bozelko, *Creators Syndicate*, "American Death Penalty Is Like Sharia"

D. ARTS/PHOTOGRAPHY — All platforms

D1. NEWS PHOTO: A single image relating to a breaking story.

Gina Ferazzi, *Los Angeles Times*, "Rescuing the Infirm"

rescuing_the_infirm_gmfmin.jpg ; fire_newsphoto_gmf.pdf

Judges' comment: Ferazzi captured a strong image in low visibility as health care workers evacuate residents in a tense situation. Excellent photo.

2nd Ringo Chiu, *The Associated Press*, "Santa Clarita School Shooting"

3rd Ted Soqui, *Freelance*, "Los Angeles Teachers' Strike"

D2. FEATURE PHOTO: A single image created for a feature story, or as a stand-alone.

Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*, "A wildfire evacuation"

animals_rc003.jpg

Judges' comment: Chiu's stunning photo taken during a wildfire easily earns him this first-place award.

2nd Jim Krantz, Tara Thompson, Rudi Uebelhoer and Peter Flax, *The Red Bulletin*, “Freedom by Design”

3rd Erica Loewy, Anna Wilson and Scottie Cameron, *Playboy Magazine*, “The Future of Sex Toys is Gender Neutral”

D3. PORTRAIT PHOTO

Ringo Chiu, *Associated Press*, “Los Angeles County Firefighter Collin Bashara”
fires_rc001.jpg

Judges’ comment: Beautifully captured scene with that portray a quiet intensity and emotion.

2nd Tara Pixley, *Loyola Marymount University*, “Women Aren’t the Only People Who Get Abortions”

3rd Mark Von Holden, *Associated Press*, “Apollonia Koteru: A Portrait with Prince”

D4. SPORTS PHOTO: A single sports image.

Ling Luo, *USC Annenberg Media*, “Women of Troy take Trojan invitational in convincing fashion”

<https://bit.ly/2VL7pGz>

Judges’ comment: Capturing two different emotions in a single photo demonstrates the ability of Luo to find the right moment and place.

2nd Miko Lim, Tara Thompson, Rudi Uebelhoer and Peter Flax, *The Red Bulletin*, “Body of Work”

3rd Lucy Nicholson, *Reuters*, “Masters Victory”

D5. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO: A single entertainment image.

Erica Loewy, Anna Wilson and Adrienne Raquel, *Playboy Magazine*, “Lizzo the Incomparable”
playboy_q2_lizzo05.jpg

Judges’ comment: With the beautiful use of color and light, including a subtle sparkle that gives a dreamy effect, the Playboy crew produced an award-winning photo of Lizzo.

2nd HollenderX2 and Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, “Trevor Noah”

3rd Elisabeth Caren and Ada Guerin, *TheWrap*, “Sophie Turner as Selena Meyer”

D6. PHOTO ESSAY (Single Topic) Culture/Entertainment: At least two images published the same day, or as a series.

Jim Krantz, Tara Thompson, Rudi Uebelhoer and Peter Flax, *The Red Bulletin*, “Once Upon a Time in Agua Dolce”

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

Judges’ comment: *The Red Bulletin* crew has produced a wonderful mix of a family’s panache and professionalism.

Amazing project.

2nd Jennifer Laski, Peter Cury, Michelle Stark and Alexandra Gavillet, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Comedy Actress Roundtable”

3rd Kwasi Boyd-Bouldin, *KCET*, “Nightshift: In the Dark: Los Angeles at Night”

D7. PHOTO ESSAY (Single Topic) News/News Feature: At least two images published the same day, or as a series.

Osceola Refetoff, *KCET*, “Trona's Boom, Bust and Uncertain Future”

<https://bit.ly/37PIV2D>

Judges’ comment: Wonderful, strong compositions. Refetoff’s portraits are presented in a simple, beautiful and human way, and the viewer thus understands the essence of the place portrayed.

2nd Joanne Kim, *Capital & Main*, “Portraits of Erie, Pennsylvania”

3rd Tara Pixley, *Loyola Marymount University*, “The Human Costs of Kamala Harris’ War on Truancy”

D8. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Lalo Alcaraz, *Andrews McMeel Syndication*, “Evolution of Anti-Latino Hate”

Judges’ comment: With a sardonic eye, Alcaraz uses the traditional “evolution of man” graphic to sketch the evolution of anti-Latino attitudes among several political figures. An editorial cartoon not soon to be forgotten.

2nd Steven Adamo, *East Los Angeles College*, “Social Media Advertises Fake News”

D9. ILLUSTRATION

Henry Cram, KCET, “Blue Sky Metropolis: An Illustrated History of Aviation in Southern California”

<https://bit.ly/2lgKXPc>; <https://bit.ly/2PC4i1h>; <https://bit.ly/3cACAfg>;
<https://bit.ly/32IOlq1>

Judges’ comment: These illustrations show a great deal of detail and are very well done while including a playful, adventure-filled nature as well.

2nd Kelsey Stefanson and Chris Buzelli, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Baby Yoda”

3rd Erica Loewy and Joyce Lee, *Playboy Magazine*, “Doctor Fuck”

D10. GRAPHIC

Priya Krishnakumar, Los Angeles Times, “We mapped every wine country fire. They’re larger and more destructive than ever”

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

Judges’ comment: The mesmerizing graphics of wine country fires are informative and well-done in this award-winning entry by Krishnakumar.

2nd Kyle Kim, Lorena Iñiguez Elebee, Ryan Murphy and Ben Welsh, *Los Angeles Times*, “What We Know About the Conception's Escape Routes”

3rd Sonya Quick, *Voice of OC*, “Angels Make \$100 Million a Year at Stadium While Anaheim Barely Gets a Slice”

D11. ANIMATION/MOVING GRAPHIC

Jennifer Laski, Peter Cury, Miller Mobley, Stephanie Fischette and Victor Klaus, The Hollywood Reporter, “Actor Roundtable Cover”

<https://bit.ly/3cjN9Co>

Judges’ comment: This cover by *The Hollywood Reporter* group is a compelling one that readers will view many times.

2nd Kyle Kim, Andrea Roberson, Ryan Murphy and Joseph Serna, *Los Angeles Times*, “A 3-D Guide to Fireproofing Your House”

D12. COVER ART

Ada Guerin and Shayan Asgharnia, *TheWrap*, “Emmy Magazine Comedy/Drama/Actors Issue”
fc_ew_061919_comedy.pdf

Judges’ comment: The cover art for *TheWrap’s* winning entry is striking and lures the reader inside to read the whole issue.

2nd Peter B. Cury and Alexandra Gavillet, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Trevor Noah/Comedy Issue”
3rd Robert Festino, Jennifer Dorn and Kelia Anne, *Variety*, “Variety Hitmakers Cover with Billie Eilish”

D13. PAGE DESIGN: Demonstrating outstanding art direction and layout, graphics.

John Goecke, *Journal of Alta California*, “The Hummingbird Whisperer”
d13_hummingbirds_fall2019.pdf

Judges’ comment: Goecke’s practical layout has strong photos with properly wrapped text, making this entry a sure winner.

2nd Kelsey Stefanson and Chris Buzelli, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Baby Yoda”
3rd Tara Thompson, *The Red Bulletin*, “Cuco on the Rise”

E. NEWSPAPERS — Over 50,000 Circulation.

Includes news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

E1. NEWS FEATURE – General News/Hard News

Thomas Curwen, *Los Angeles Times*, “The Street Within”
<https://lat.ms/387yKqn> ; <https://lat.ms/2Vs7JLL> ; <https://lat.ms/38f7Pcs> ;
<https://lat.ms/2T7Ye2t> ; <https://lat.ms/2vhPnm2> ; <https://lat.ms/2VD6Hwe>

Judges’ comment: Curwen’s series is a masterpiece, informing the reader what street life feels like and to understand the challenges facing the homeless, such as “Big Mama” and “Top Shelf,” truly giving voice to the voiceless.

2nd Jeff Collins, Nikie Johnson and Alicia Robinson, *Southern California News Group*, “SoCal Losing Battle for Places to Live”

3rd Erika Ritchie, *Orange County Register*, “Young Love Lost, an Only Son Gone, After Fatal Training Accident at Camp Pendleton”

E2. NEWS FEATURE — Society/Culture/History

(For reporting on the Environment, Science, Education, Technology, see category B)

Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, “Confederate statue, plantation, prison: Artists reclaim sites with ‘Battlegrounds’”

<https://lat.ms/3erBwv9>

Judges’ comment: In a highly competitive category, Vankin’s article about augmented-reality public art in New Orleans stood out, with a great lead into an engaging article intertwining art and history and the importance of public discussion.

2nd Emily Baumgaertner and Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, “Notre Dame May Take Decades to Fix. The First Concerns Are Water and Soot”

3rd John Penner, *Los Angeles Times*, “Milos Forman, Ivan Passer and Their 73-Year Friendship”

E3. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Kelly Hartog, *Jewish Journal*, “Frank Gehry's Vision for the World's Jewish Museum in Tel Aviv”

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

Judges’ comment: Hartog does an excellent job in contrasting opinions and beliefs about the famous architect and his view on his work and the faith it represents.

2nd Stephanie Mendez, *Los Angeles Times*, “Las Fotos Project Gives Girls a Mission: Grab a Camera and Shoot Your World”

3rd David Jerome, *Orange County Register*, “Extra Innings: Three Fullertonians Make Major League Baseball's Oldest Players List”

E4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Makeda Easter, *Los Angeles Times*, “Destination Crenshaw art project aims to reclaim the neighborhood for black L.A.”

<https://lat.ms/2K4W8uX>

Judges’ comment: This article paints a vivid picture of Destination Crenshaw, along with explaining the project's impact on the local community.

2nd Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "Linda Ronstadt Leads Kids to the Intersection of Arts and Understanding Across the Border"

3rd Ashley Lee, *Los Angeles Times*, "Projection Design Is Reinventing Theater, and Not Just Broadway"

E5. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Jenn Harris and Andrea Chang, *Los Angeles Times*, "From Kim Kardashian's bestie to dining deity: The rise of Foodgod"

<https://lat.ms/2XC1uGk>

Judges' comment: The tone of this story matches the topic, and the writing in this piece - a combination of admiration and hatred - truly captures the Millennial ethos.

2nd Lisa Fung, *Los Angeles Times*, "Tyler Bates' Surprising Next Gig: Cirque du Soleil's 'R.U.N'"

3rd Esther Kustanowitz, *Jewish Journal*, "Mohammed al Samawi: How Interfaith Activism Became and Saved His Life"

E6. INVESTIGATIVE: May include relevant information on the story's impact or supporting editorials and letters to the editor. Series accepted.

Chris Palmeri, *Bloomberg*, "Bob Iger Tears Up Disney's Playbook for High-Risk Bet on Streaming"

<https://bloom.bg/3aCliwJ>

Judges' comment: Palmeri's investigative piece about Disney is an absorbing, well-written story that is also delightfully comprehensive.

2nd Meg James, *Los Angeles Times*, "Troubles at CBS Ran Deep"

E7. BUSINESS: An article or series.

Thomas Curwen, Katie Falkenberg, Al Seib, Priya Krishnakumar and Sean Greene, *Los Angeles Times*, "A historic oil platform off Santa Barbara turns into a rusty ghost ship"

<https://lat.ms/2lhJGHH> ; ESSAY: <https://lat.ms/38eMJLj> ; VIDEO: <https://bit.ly/2I1CCPc>

Judges' comment: The descriptive language in the beginning really draws the reader in. The topic is thoroughly researched and accompanied by great art and a good headline.

2nd Stacy Perman, Meg James, Ryan Faughnder and Josh Rottenberg, *Los Angeles Times*, "Fox-Disney Merger"

3rd Jeff Collins, Nikie Johnson and Alicia Robinson, *Southern California News Group*, "SoCal Losing Battle for Places to Live"

E8. COMMENTARY: On political, social, cultural, investigative, judicial, economic or other serious subjects.

Patricia Bunin, *Southern California News Group*, "Senior Moments"
bunin03172019.pdf ; bunin03312019.pdf ; bunin05192019.pdf ; bunin11102019.pdf

Judges' comment: Among the excellent columns by Bunin is "A phone call triggers a flood of memories," which brings the reader to tears, proving that a piece does not have to be lengthy to be great.

2nd David Jerome, *Orange County Register*, "Mr. Bucketlist"
3rd David Suissa, *Jewish Journal*, "Finding Love in the Era of Hate"

E9. COLUMNIST: One person's viewpoint. Up to 4 samples.

Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "Taylor Swift, entitled millionaire, is the labor activist the music industry needs"
<https://lat.ms/2vUtMQd>

Judges' comment: A detailed and illuminating roadmap of a young artist's evolution and her battles to protect and promote creative freedom.

2nd Annabelle Gurwitch, *Los Angeles Times*, "They Were Homeless. I Took Them In. Would You?"
3rd Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*, "As Center Theatre Group Sputters, L.A. Struggles to Realize Its Artistic Potential"

F. NEWSPAPERS — Under 50,000 circulations

Includes news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

F1. NEWS FEATURE

George Johnston, *Pacific Citizen*, "Go for Gold: Delayed Recognition for a Vet's Family's Quest"
<https://bit.ly/2I6xQQk>

Judges' comment: Johnston's compelling well-researched feature has a lot of human insight.

2nd Gary Metzker, *Grunion Gazette*, "Club Ripples Closes Doors After Decades"

3rd Ariella Plachta and Elizabeth Chou, *Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG*, "A Sepulveda Basin Encampment Fire Left Dozens of Homeless People Displaced, but Service Providers Have Little to Offer Them"

F2. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Lina Lecaro, *LA Weekly*, "L.A. (L)INKED: Cultural Expression and the Art of Tattoo in Los Angeles"
<https://bit.ly/2K9gO5c>

Judges' comment: With the popularity of tattoos, Lecaro has tackled this topic well by observing its place in culture today.

2nd Gary Metzker, *Grunion Gazette*, "Christmas Store Spreads Holiday Cheer"

3rd Anthony Pignataro, *OC Weekly*, "Dice Are How You Flex"

F3. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Steve Appleford, *The Argonaut*, "Where Music Lives"
<https://bit.ly/2IqSgUj>

Judges' comment: An involving tale with many significant characters, told in a way that made us feel like we were there.

2nd Brett Callwood, *LA Weekly*, "No Access: Why Rising Concert Prices Increasingly Put Big Shows Out of Our Reach"

3rd George Johnston, *Pacific Citizen*, "George Takei's Life, Career Move at Warp Speed"

F4. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Kevin Modesti, *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, "Long Beach Mayor's Rising Political Star Raises Questions and, for Some, Hope"
<https://bit.ly/2WnsYNB>

Judges' comment: This lucidly written profile vividly captures the challenges faced by a young mayor, who is gay and an immigrant from Peru.

2nd Hillary Davis, *Daily Pilot*, "Sing a Song in the Key of T: Tony Cappa Retires After 37 Years Leading the Oasis Senior Center Ukulele Club"

3rd Gabriel San Roman, *OC Weekly*, "Is Dwight Manley Brea's Native Son Savior or Its Mad Monarch?"

F5. INVESTIGATIVE: May include relevant information on the impact, or supporting editorials and letters to the editor. Series accepted.

Scott Schwebke, *Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG*, “Prosecutors allege sexual harassment retribution at Los Angeles County DA’s Office”

<https://bit.ly/3bc8LjT> ; <https://bit.ly/2VpYTwi> ; <https://bit.ly/2yjZwzq> ;
<https://bit.ly/2yZCf6l> ; <https://bit.ly/34CT1ny>

Judges’ comment: This compelling piece investigates one of the most important issues today and is especially poignant given that it shines a light on those public officials we expect to uphold the law.

2nd Jason Henry, *Torrance Daily Breeze/SCNG*, “Investigation into Inglewood’s Finances, Lavish Spending”

3rd Jason Henry, *San Gabriel Valley Tribune/SCNG*, “City of Industry Misused Subsidized Housing to Reward Allies, Force Out Dissenters”

F6. BUSINESS: An article or series.

Chris Lindahl, *San Gabriel Valley Tribune/SCNG*, “The groups against El Monte’s marijuana projects keep growing and suing; here’s the scorecard”

<https://bit.ly/35mPEsc>

Judges’ comments: Lindahl’s excellent description of groups opposed to the marijuana projects, as well as to each other, provides an important understanding of the issue.

2nd Alena Maschke, *Long Beach Business Journal*, “Is a New Entertainment District Blossoming in Central Long Beach?”

3rd Andrew Asch, *California Apparel News*, “Trinidad3 Plans to Serve Wounded Warriors with Fashion and Function”

F7. COMMENTARY: On political, social, cultural, investigative, judicial, economic or other serious subjects.

Thomas Elias, *California Focus*, “Solid standards needed for pre-fire power cutoffs”

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

Judges’ comment: Elias provides excellent commentary, bringing important details to the readers.

2nd Chandra Bozelko and Ryan Lo, *Long Beach Press Telegram*, "California's Private Prison Ban Isn't a Ban at All"

3rd Christina Campodonico, *The Argonaut*, "Badass Chicks"

F8. COLUMNIST: One person's viewpoint. Up to 4 samples

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, "Regardie Report Columns"

<https://bit.ly/2W7vKX2> ; <https://bit.ly/35fXooZ> ; <https://bit.ly/2zl7Fi5> ;
<https://bit.ly/2VNySbF>

Judges' comment: Jon Regardie is the hard-boiled, seen-everything, knows-everybody straight-shooting observer of local money, power and politics that every city needs.

2nd Gabriel San Román, *OC Weekly*, "Alt-Disney"

3rd Patricia Bunin, *California News Group*, "Senior Moments"

G. MAGAZINES — Includes magazines with L.A. bureaus

G1. INVESTIGATIVE: Reporting by an individual or team.

Ryan Bradley, *Robb Report*, "In the Line of Fire"

<https://bit.ly/2R6LQyD>

Judges' comment: Reading about any type of devastation is at times difficult, but Bradley's well-told personal story in exploring the impact of fire is moving.

2nd Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Fire in the House of Dreams"

3rd Matt Smith, *Reveal/The Center for Investigative Reporting*, "The Happiest Cats on Earth – Disneyland"

G2. COMMENTARY: On political, social, cultural, investigative, judicial, economic or other serious subjects, including editorials.

Denise Hamilton, *Journal of Alta California*, "Manson, Inc."

g2_commentary_manson_inc_.pdf

Judges' comment: With new facts, anecdotes and quotes that elevate the "shock and awe" of the 50-year-old Manson chronicle, Hamilton provides an outstanding and compelling commentary.

2nd Tara Pixley, *Loyola Marymount University*, "Photographing Domestic Violence: Showing Uncomfortable Truths"

3rd Kim Masters, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Has Me Too Gone Too Far?"

G3. COLUMNIST: One person's point of view on any subject.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, *The Hollywood Reporter*

"Green Book" - <http://bit.ly/2lyx92W>

"Once Upon A Time in Hollywood" - <https://bit.ly/2y3WiAv>

"Joker" - <https://bit.ly/2zvJKlK>

Judges' comment: Kareem's writing is involving, nuanced and revelatory all at once. His arguments are well-reasoned and well-written – whether you agree with them or not – which is the hallmark of excellent commentary.

2nd Katherine Mangu-Ward, *Reason*

3rd Naiia Lajoie, *Manila Up! International Magazine*

G4. FEATURE – Business/Government, Over 1,000 Words

Francine Kiefer, *The Christian Science Monitor*, "Latino Power"

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

Judges' comment: Kiefer's feature succinctly summarizes legislative policy and traces Latinos' growing political activism over the past 25 years and speculates whether the Latinx community may push other states Democratic in the 2020 election, just as they previously turned California blue.

2nd Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "TV's Emmy Arms Race: Why This Could Be the Most Expensive Season Ever"

3rd Chris Palmeri, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "A Live Reality Cop Show Is Cable TV's Best Bet to Compete with Streaming"

G5. FEATURE — Culture/Arts, Over 1,000 Words

Lynell George, *Journal of Alta California*, "Listen for the Word, the Bird is Playing Tonight"

d13_jacks_basket_julsep2019.pdf

Judges' comment: To put it briefly (and mildly): There's music in this piece. It was a true pleasure to read.

2nd Ari Altstedter and Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "Inside the Most Watched YouTube Channel in the World"

3rd Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Tiger and the Tragic Trick"

G6. FEATURE, Under 1,000 Words: Any feature.

Celine Teo-Blockey, Peter Flax and Nora O'Donnell, *The Red Bulletin*, "Heart And Soul"

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

Judges' comment: Written so well that you can see the singer perform; extremely well written and imaginative.

2nd Peter Savodnik, *Journal of Alta California*, "The Lost Galleon of the California Desert"

3rd Lisa Niver, *Hemispheres Magazine for United Airlines*, "Painter by the Numbers, Rembrandt"

G7. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE: Coverage of any entertainment subject by a person or a team.

Daniel Holloway and Matt Donnelly, *Variety*, "Does Kevin Feige's Marvel Promotion Mean Ike Perlmutter's Endgame?"

<https://bit.ly/39yUtIN>

Judges' comment: Great look at the behind-the-scenes turmoil and wrangling at one of the major movers in entertainment. Well-researched and great writing in a very tough category.

2nd Rebecca Keegan, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "In Baby Yoda, Hollywood Sees Its Past, Present and Meme-able Future"

3rd Kate Aurthur, *Variety*, "After Decades of Stagnation, Women Film Directors See Major Gains in Hollywood"

G8. PERSONALITY PROFILE, Film/TV Personalities

Daniel D'Addario, *Variety*, "Don Lemon, CNN's 'Unicorn,' on Facing Racism and Homophobia"

<https://bit.ly/37NNNFn>

Judges' comment: D'Addario's profile of Don Lemon is a terrific piece about a journalist personally facing issues that he normally discusses with others as a network anchor.

2nd Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "How the Danish Justin Bieber Made It Big in China"

3rd Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Samuel L. Jackson: Mr. Box Office"

G9. PERSONALITY PROFILE, Politics/Business/Arts Personalities

Scott Johnson, Peter Flax and Nora O'Donnell, *The Red Bulletin*, "Freedom by Design"
<https://bit.ly/2RDrHQH>

Judges' comment: It's one thing to craft an opener that's pure adrenaline (as is the case here). It's quite another to sustain that piqued interest, to keep the reader hooked, (which, again, was undoubtedly the case here). Keeping you hooked to the end.

2nd Anita Little and James Rickman, *Playboy Magazine*, "A Very Millennial Scandal"
3rd Tatiana Siegel, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How to Give Away \$420 Million: Cheryl and Haim Saban on Hollywood Philanthropy, Israel and 2020 Politics"

G10. IN-HOUSE or CORPORATE PUBLICATION: Single-best issue published by a company, agency or organization, for internal or external distribution.

Variety and Rolling Stone, *Variety*, "American (In)Justice"
<https://bit.ly/3emtJ1x>

Judges' comment: Beautiful designs, easy to read and exceptional content about all aspects of a topic that isn't covered nearly enough.

2nd Staff, *Collegian Times*, "Collegian Times"
3rd Letty Avila and Susan Bell, *USC Dornsife Office of Communication*, "USC Dornsife Magazine: The Happiness Issue"

G11. DESIGN: A publication or special issue from a single day, demonstrating outstanding art direction, layout and/or graphics.
(Also see D. ART/PHOTOGRAPHY.)

Peter Cury and Kelsey Stefanson, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "New York Issue"
<https://bit.ly/2VNkcsW>

Judges' comment: Cury and Stefanson's design is well-organized, interspersed with punchy, playful elements, and has beautiful type, photography and infographics.

2nd Joanna Andreasson, *Reason*, "SPECIAL ISSUE DESIGN: The Good/Bad Issue"
3rd Jarrett Ramones and Maria Torres, *Calafia*, "Intersectional Feminism"

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

H1a. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING, Radio

Leslie Berestein Rojas, *KPCC/LAist*, “White or ‘other?’ With no census category for 2020, Arab-Americans debate which box to check”

<https://bit.ly/2Kbot2O>

Judges’ comment: This is a fantastic exploration of a minority that receives little public service coverage.

2nd Jesse Hardman, Steve Chiotakis, Sonya Geis, Ray Guarna and Christian Bordal, *KCRW*, “Crossing the Mexican Border, Twice a Day, to Get to High School”

3rd Deepa Fernandes, *PRI’S The World*, “The DACA Recipient Who Is Suing the President”

H1b. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING, TV

Jacob Soboroff, Aarne Heikkila, Mitchell Koss, Betsy Korona and Haimy Assefa, *NBC News*, “Human Trafficking in Los Angeles - Hiding in Plain Sight”

<https://on.today.com/344VzdM>

Judges’ comment: The evil of human trafficking is made crystal clear in this absorbing report by the NBC News writers.

2nd Matt Bass, Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Nathan Masters and Angela Boisvert, *KCET*, “Lost LA: Operation Bootstrap and the Shindana Toy Company”

3rd Ellina Abovian, *KTLA 5 News*, “On Armenian Genocide’s 104th Anniversary, Montebello Woman Tells Grandmother’s Story of Survival”

H2. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Courtney Kocak, Steve Chiotakis, Sonya Geis, Phillip Richards and Christian Bordal, *KCRW*, “Silver Lake council member Maebe A. Girl”

<https://kcrw.co/2VS2CEf>

Judges’ comment: This story was captivating, well-produced, and thoroughly enjoyable. A great job pairing journalism and human interest.

2nd Jesús Alvarado, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, “The World’s First-Ever LGBTQ Mariachi Band”

3rd Peter Jones, Brian Tessier, Juan Devis, Michael Riley and Matthew Crotty, *KCET*, “Blue Sky Metropolis: Women in Aerospace”

H3. CRIME REPORTING

Joe Delmonico, Josh Mankiewicz, Jessica de Vera, Alvaro Trenchi and Paul Nichols, *Dateline NBC, NBC News, "Out of the Darkness"*

<https://vimeo.com/394989079>

Judges' comment: Great storytelling! Most True Crime shows follow a basic pattern that can be both vague and bloodless. Not so when investigated by Josh Mankiewicz whose work is filled with details and nuance. His interviewing skills remind us of what used to be said of baseball great Willie Mays' amazing ability to make impossible catches seem routine. So effortless and relatable is Mankiewicz when asking questions, he never fails to elicit honest and meaning answers.

2nd Inside the Issues with Alex Cohen, *Spectrum News 1, "Ed Buck"*

3rd Ben Bergman, Karen Foshay, Andy Viner and Denise Chan, *KCET, "SoCal Connected: Cannabis Country"*

I. TELEVISION/FILM BROADCAST, including online and cable TV, produced in Southern California.

I1. REGULARLY SCHEDULED NEWSCAST

Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1, "Your Morning on Spectrum News 1"*

<https://vimeo.com/411652280>

Judges' comment: This anchor team feels very authentic, likeable and knowledgeable. They did a great job with newscast flow and the behind-the-scenes directing/editing was very clean. The reporter stories were also good. Strong content and well done.

2nd Zoe Ginsberg, Nikki Walker and Yannie Hoang, *USC Annenberg Media, "California in Flames"*

3rd Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1, "Your Evening on Spectrum News 1"*

I2. ANCHOR/HOST: Any anchor or host, single or team.

Roy Choi, *KCET, "Broken Bread"*

<https://bit.ly/3bbhMKc>

Judges' comment: This anchor/host has a unique point of view that attracts viewers and is very knowledgeable and passionate about the subject matter.

2nd Kelvin Washington, *Spectrum News 1*, “Kelvin Washington”

3rd Keith Morrison, Joe Delmonico and Susan Leibowitz, *Dateline NBC, NBC News*, “Robert Durst: The Secret Tapes”

13. VIDEOGRAPHER: Any news, feature, sports or documentary videographer.

Dennis Nishi, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: The New Normal”

<https://bit.ly/2I9K22O>

Judges’ comment: Nishi brings a passion to shooting his videos that greatly enhance the stories being reported.

2nd Phil Ige, *KTLA 5 News*, “The Heroes Ride”

3rd Ernesto Torres, *KNBC 4*, “A True Blessing”

14. BREAKING NEWS: One news story, by an individual or team.

Ernesto Torres and Tony Shin, *KNBC 4*, “Protect Homes”

<https://vimeo.com/390976760>

Judges’ comment: With all the “Breaking News” stories these days, Torres and Shin bring expert, calm reporting segments that are informative without being too repetitive or dramatic.

2nd Steve Kuzj and Darren Phan, *KTLA 5 News*, “Pet Panic: Wildfire Threatens Pet Shelter”

3rd Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1*, “Breaking News: Wildfires”

15. INVESTIGATIVE: Reports showing enterprise, initiative, research. Single report or a series.

Ben Bergman, Michael Bloecher and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: Access Denied”

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

Judges’ comment: An unbelievable look at the struggle to keep California's beaches public. In-depth and informative reporting at its best.

2nd Paul Detrick, *Reason*, “The War on Backpage.com Is a War on Sex Workers”

3rd Susan Leibowitz, David Ketterling and Natalie Morales, *Dateline NBC, NBC News*, “The Prussian Blue Mystery”

16. NEWS FEATURE, Over 5 Minutes

Itay Hod, Spectrum News 1, "24 hours on the streets of Hollywood"
<https://vimeo.com/411650525> ; <https://vimeo.com/411650566>

Judges' comment: A complete presentation, from the anchors, to the set, to the editing, to the passion of the reporter, it all came together with beauty and emotion.

2nd Karen Foshay, Michael Bloecher, Dennis Nishi and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: The New Normal"

3rd Gabriela Teissier and Andres Pruna, *KMEX*, "Dinosaur Hunter"

17. NEWS FEATURE, Under 5 Minutes

Steve Kuzj and Dave Lopez, KTLA 5 News, "Learning to Chase: How the CHP Sharpens their Skills"

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

Judges' comment: Among ride-alongs with police officers, this was a great way to get out of the box and explore an aspect of police work that is, as one of the officers said, glamorized by Hollywood blockbusters. Great work!

2nd Christina Pascucci, Dave Lopez and Nick Simpson, *KTLA 5 News*, "The Mojave Desert Battlefield"

3rd Denise Chan, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: The Power & Influence Behind the World of Recycling"

18. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, Over 5 Minutes

Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser, Andy Viner and Dennis Nishi, KCET, "SoCal Connected: Who Killed Josiah?"

<https://bit.ly/3akFoes>

Judges' comment: Not only does this story include great content, it is told in a way that invokes passion and emotion. It is written and edited very well.

2nd Artifact Nonfiction and KCET, *KCET*, "Nightshift"

3rd Zoe Ginsberg, Nikki Walker, Yannie Hoang, Chris Cheshire and Genevieve Glass, *USC Annenberg Media*, "USC Responds to the Dangers of Fentanyl"

19. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, Under 5 Minutes

Itay Hod, Spectrum News 1, "Touched by an Angel"

<https://bit.ly/3aPNyeK>

Judges' comment: This is a heartwarming redemption story with an emotional and powerful use of before and after visuals. It's touching that this man walked away from the initial interview wanting to write a different ending to his story. The gratitude displayed in his eyes is moving. Great storytelling with a hopeful and humanizing message. As journalists we need to do more of this to give our audiences insight into how a story comes together.

2nd Michael Ray and Tori Edgar, *KCET*, "Local Heroes: Pastor Stephen Cue In-Marie"

3rd Kacey Montoya and Paul Sanchez, *KTLA 5 News*, "Navy Veteran Shares Story of Struggle in Hopes of Helping Other Warriors"

I10. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

KCET, Tastemade and Roy Choi, *KCET*, "Broken Bread: Future of Food"

<https://bit.ly/2Wc9on8>

Judges' comment: KCET and Tastemade make excellent use of visuals and commentary in looking at the future of food in these intense times.

2nd Dignicraft, Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty and Jacqueline Reyno, *KCET*, "Artbound: Día de Los Muertos"

3rd Artifact Nonfiction and KCET, *KCET*, "Nightshift"

I11. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE: Coverage of any entertainment subject.

Dr. Daniel E. Walker, Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Jacqueline Reyno and Wrong Creative, *KCET*, "Artbound: How Sweet The Sound - Gospel In Los Angeles"

<https://bit.ly/34EqQEQ>

Judges' comment: In examining how gospel has an impact on Los Angeles, the KCET reporters and staff have produced an excellent report about a captivating subject.

2nd Eric Fernandez, Michael Bloecher and Michael Ray, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: Jazz City"

3rd Itay Hod, *Spectrum News 1*, "Surviving #MeToo"

I12. ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Angelique Jackson, Mackenzie Johnson and Meredith Woerner, *Variety*, "Meet Victoria Mahoney: The First Woman to Direct a 'Star Wars' Film"

<https://bit.ly/39WBg4G>

Judges' comment: In a compelling interview with the first woman to direct a *Star Wars* film, the *Variety* staff provide lovely insight into Mahoney's achievement.

2nd Audrey Yap, Tucker Morrison and Greg Georgianna, *Variety*, "'Watchmen' Star Yahya Abdul-Mateen II Talks Playing Doctor Manhattan and 'Matrix 4' Role"

3rd Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1*, "Frank Gehry"

I13. NON-ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Justin Monticello, *Reason*, "'One Child Nation' Exposes the Tragic Consequences of Chinese Population Control"

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

Judges' comment: Monticello's exploration of the consequences of China's "one-child" rule described in a documentary makes for terrific viewing.

2nd Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1*, "Chaz Guest"

3rd Matt Bass, Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Nathan Masters and Angela Boisvert, *KCET*, "Lost LA: Paul Revere Williams"

I14. SPORTS

Karen Foshay, Michael Ray and Helki Frantzen, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: Born to Run"

<https://bit.ly/2vzj69V>

Judges' comment: KCET's staff produced a terrific sports report with so many storylines that are well-connected.

2nd Beyond the Sport Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Local Wrestler Fights for a Cause"

3rd Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV National News - Canadian Television*, "Battle of the Ages"

I15. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Single program on news, talk or public affairs.

Los Angeles Times Today with Lisa McRee Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Los Angeles Times Today with Lisa McRee"

<https://vimeo.com/411643806> ; <https://vimeo.com/411643820> ;

<https://vimeo.com/411643838> ; <https://vimeo.com/411643768> ;

<https://vimeo.com/411643786> ; <https://vimeo.com/411643802>

Judges' comment: Very well-rounded coverage presented in a well-spoken manner.

2nd In Focus Team, *Spectrum News 1*, "Chemical Concerns"

3rd Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser and Andy Viner, *KCET*, "SoCal Connected: It's Not Easy Being Green"

I16. FEATURE DOCUMENTARY — Over 25 Minutes

Artifact Nonfiction and KCET, *KCET*, "Nightshift"

<https://bit.ly/2K8II6P>

Judges' comment: Captivating and a great story that might otherwise remain untold.

2nd Erik Himmelsbach-Weinstein and Jessica Q. Chen, *Los Angeles Times*, "L.A. in the Time of Charles Manson"

3rd Tom Donahue, *STARZ*, "This Changes Everything"

I17. DOCUMENTARY SHORT — Under 25 Minutes

Genia Dulot, *Voice of America*, "Love and Ballots"

<https://www.voanews.com/episode/opposites-attract-love-and-politics-4189541>

Judges' comment: In a report about how a married California couple – one a Trump supporter, the other not – work together to leave water for Mexican migrants at the border, Dulot nicely captures how opposites can find common ground.

2nd Elizabeth Lee, *Voice of America*, "Paradise Lost, Regained and Rebuilding"

3rd Matt Bass, Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Nathan Masters and Angela Boisvert, *KCET*, "Lost LA: Three Views of Manzanar"

J. RADIO

Broadcast, podcast or stream produced in Southern California.

J1. ANCHOR/HOST: Any anchor or host, single or team.

Sandro Monetti, *Who's The Best?*, "Sandro Monetti, host of pop culture podcast Who's the Best"

<http://bit.ly/39vxxe2>

Judges' comment Being whimsical and entertaining, Monetti is a wonderful podcast host, earning this First Place award.

2nd Gordon Cox, *Variety*, "Gordon Cox, Host of Variety's Stagecraft"

3rd Vicky Moore and Dick Helton, *KNX AM*, "KNX Morning News"

J2. NEWS or FEATURE, Short Form: N/A

J3. BREAKING NEWS

KNX News Team, *KNX AM*, "Saugus High School Shooting"

<https://bit.ly/3blz8Ud>

Judges' comment: This is a great example of breaking news coverage during a high-pressure event. The on-air personalities deal well with the changing event and provide clear updates to a terrifying situation.

2nd Jon Reed, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "Kaiser Permanente Mental Health Care Workers Go on Strike in Pasadena"

J4. NEWS FEATURE

Kerstin Zilm and Sonya Geis, *KCRW*, "Far from recovered: A woman's life 1 year after Woolsey Fire"

<http://bit.ly/AfterFire>

Judges' comment: This story was interesting, featured great sound and had solid production values.

2nd Steve Chiotakis, Christian Bordial, Ray Guarna and Sonya Geis, *KCRW*, "Why Do Angelenos Love Grunion Runs?"

3rd Kim Brunhuber, *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation*, "Black Girl Hockey Club"

J5. LIFESTYLE FEATURE: Lifestyle or special topics.

Carla Green, *KCRW*, "For many homeless Angelenos, the gym is critical to survival"

<https://kcrw.co/3b83p9t>

Judges' comment: Green's excellent use of language, descriptive writing, and sound described the similarities and contrasts between two featured people, the severity of the L.A. homeless problem, and the efforts to overcome it.

2nd Caleigh Wells, *KCRW*, "How to Afford LA? Get 24 Roommates"

3rd Caleigh Wells, *KCRW*, "Money Over Privacy: More Adults Are Living with Their Parents"

J6. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW, Over 20 Minutes

Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "'Awards Chatter' Podcast— George Clooney ('Catch 22')"

<https://bit.ly/2VxZg7Y>

Judges' comment: In his first podcast, Feinberg showcases actor George Clooney's candidness without getting in the way.

2nd Vic Gerami, *The Blunt Post*, "Interviewed Presidential Candidate Marianne Williamson"

3rd Jeff Goldsmith, *The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith Podcast (also Backstory Magazine)*, "Eighth Grade Q&A – Bo Burnham"

J7. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW, Under 20 Minutes

Jackson Cantrell, Steve Chiotakis, Sonya Geis, Ray Guarna and Christian Bordial, *KCRW*, "Once a successful singer, Jonny Fair struggles with mental health and housing"

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

Judges' comment: This absorbing piece by the KCRW staffers addresses a serious issue with an unexpected and creative twist, holding the listeners' attention to the end.

2nd Kerstin Zilm, Steve Chiotakis, Sonya Geis, Phillip Richards and Christian Bordial, *KCRW*, "Mayor Max: Top Dog of Idyllwild"

3rd Steve Chiotakis, Christian Bordial, Jenna Kagel and Phil Richards, *KCRW*, "Celebrating the Dearly Departed with Mo Rocca"

J8. INVESTIGATIVE: Reports showing enterprise, initiative, research. Single report or a series.

Anna Scott, Steve Chiotakis, Sonya Geis, Phillip Richards and Christian Bordial, *KCRW*, "Solar Eviction"

<https://kcrw.co/31ugfJw>

Judges' comment: An excellent investigative report. Made a complicated issue easy to understand and care about.

2nd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Larger than Life"

3rd Abdullah Saaed, Steve Chiotakis, Jenna Kagel, Sonya Geis and Ray Guarna, *KCRW*, "Pot Seshes"

J9. ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING: Coverage or commentary on any entertainment subject.

David Weinberg, *KCRW*, "How black men and women fought to become stunt doubles in Hollywood"

<https://kcrw.co/3ehLkYv>

Judges' comment: Excellent story that likely hasn't been told as many times as it should be.

2nd Steve Chiotakis, Christian Bordial, Sonya Geis, Jenna Kagel, Ray Guarna and Amy Ta, *KCRW*, "Chronicling LA's Drug Dens and Punk Rock Music of the '80s and '90s"

3rd Brandon Reynolds, Sonya Geis, Steve Chiotakis, Ray Guarna and Christian Bordial, *KCRW*, "Immersive Theater"

J10. SPORTS: Any news or feature.

Susan Valot, *NPR's 'Only A Game,'* "#VegasStrong: How Shooting Survivor Nick Robone Healed with the Help of Hockey"

<https://wbur.fm/2Tpj4JN>

Judges' comment: Valot found a fascinating sports story about a shooting victim that she tells very well.

2nd Deborah Zara Kobylt, *Deborah Kobylt LIVE*, "Kathrine Switzer - Runner, Author & Public Speaker"

3rd Sarah Ko, Christian Colmenares and Hunter Patterson, *USC Annenberg Media*, "The K.O. Round Ep. 6: USC Student Journalists"

J11. USE OF SOUND: Include a brief letter on how it was done, if relevant. A single program or related series.

Susan Valot, *NPR's "Only A Game,"* "#VegasStrong: How Shooting Survivor Nick Robone Healed With The Help Of Hockey"

<https://wbur.fm/2Tpj4JN>

Judges' comment: Valot, who also won the best sports news or feature for this excellent story, is lauded for the use of sound in this shooting survivor's story.

2nd Matt Schrader, Peter Bawiec, Ryan Taubert, Benjamin Botkin and Elena Bawiec, *Epicleff Media*, "BLOCKBUSTER: George Lucas, Steven Spielberg and a 1970s Movie Revolution"

3rd Steve Chiotakis, Kathryn Barnes, Christian Bordal and Ray Guarna, *KCRW*, "Terminal Island: Where Cars Go to Die"

J12. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS: An episode of a locally produced news, talk, information, education or public affairs show.

Madeleine Brand, Sarah Sweeney and Michell Eloy, *KCRW*, "California's clout in the 2020 election"

<https://kcrw.co/3d5Q4z2>

Judges' comment: A fun, spirited and informative discussion of California politics. Good choice of topics and speakers. Host helps move the discussion forward while also keeping it on track.

2nd ZaZu Lippert, Aiyonna White, Isaiah Murtaugh and Yuki Liang, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "From Where We Are: From the Ashes of the Woolsey Fire, Malibu's True Colors Shine Through"

3rd Julia Pyper, Shane Skelton and Brandon Hurlbut, *Political Climate Podcast*, "Greta Thunberg on the Climate Crisis, Schwarzenegger, and Shnitzel"

J13. DOCUMENTARY: A single non-fiction program, 15 minutes or longer.

Jonathan Serviss, Charles Feldman, Rob Archer and Ken Charles, *KNX AM*, "KNX Indepth: Saugus High School Shooting"

<https://bit.ly/39a6F29>

Judges' comment: A delicate exploration of a horrible situation. Great work in telling a story through the eyes of those who were there during this awful event.

2nd Carla Green, *KCRW*, "Friends in Juggalo Places"

3rd Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*, "Larger Than Life"

K. ONLINE

Content originally published on the internet.

K1. NEWS - Government/Politics: A single news story originally written for and published on the Internet.

Nick Gerda, *Voice of OC*, "OC Moves Millions from Health Agency to Help Cover Sheriff Overruns"

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

Judges' comment: The winner showcases journalism's watchdog function and proves the importance of local reporting in government accountability. The reporter shows a depth of understanding of the topic and performs a real public service by explaining how certain government functions end up getting funded the way they do. Graphics and overall presentation make the piece even more informative.

2nd Morgan Stephens, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Bernie Sanders Ascends from 2016 Underdog to 2020 Front-Runner"

3rd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, "The Gun Range Next Door: A Public Health Failure"

K2. NEWS - Culture: A single news story originally written for and published on the Internet.

Morgan Sung, *Mashable*, "Storm Area 51: The meme came to life and it was actually kind of beautiful"

<http://bit.ly/alienstock>

Judges' comment: An excellent example of ethnographic journalism, this online news story about enthusiasts pursuing aliens in the Nevada desert by Sung is entertaining.

2nd Joe Rihn, *Capital & Main*, "Expiring Affordability Covenant Threatens Chinatown Tenants"

3rd Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "Coca-Cola Will Revive New Coke in Alliance with Netflix, 'Stranger Things'"

K3. HARD NEWS - General: A single news story originally written for and published on the Internet.

Spencer Custodio, *Voice of OC*, "Angels Make \$100 Million a Year at Stadium While Anaheim Barely Gets a Slice"

<http://bit.ly/30hrvMV>

Judges' comment: Well-written and researched, this story pulls back the veil to demonstrate how the city of Anaheim is losing big while the Angels run roughshod over any opposition to their maintenance plan. Great use of experts to show how the city is one of many municipalities to subsidize a ballpark and get nothing in return.

2nd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, “Lead Dust Closes Bay Area Gun Range and Kids’ Gymnastics Center”

3rd Spencer Custodio and Nick Gerda, *Voice of OC*, “Federal Judge Carter Calls OC’s Skyrocketing Homeless Deaths a ‘Public Health Crisis’”

K4a. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS, TV/Film

Chris Gardner and Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Jordan Peele on Making Movies After ‘Us’: ‘I Don’t See Myself Casting a White Dude As the Lead’”

<http://bit.ly/2p2dQIz>

Judges’ comment: Gardner and Abramovitch write a fascinating piece about one of the most popular black filmmakers today.

2nd Matt Donnelly, *Variety*, “Inside ‘America’s Got Talent’: Ousted Judges Had Complained of Toxic Culture”

3rd Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg News*, “Netflix Is Cutting Back on Standup Comedy Specials”

K4b. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS, Music/Performers: A single news story originally written for and published on the Internet.

Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg News*, “Bollywood Rapper Sets Viewer Record YouTube Isn’t Talking About”

<https://bloom.bg/3bljlin>

Judges’ comment: In an engaging piece about a new phenomenon in our digital age, Shaw succeeds in telling a story about an unusual rapper.

2nd Chris Willman, *Variety*, “Estranged from Mariah Carey, ‘All I Want for Christmas’ Co-Writer Calls No. 1 ‘Bittersweet’”

3rd Jem Aswad and Shirley Halperin, *Variety*, “Apple Is the Real Winner in Spotify’s Battle Against Songwriters’ Rate Hike”

K5. INVESTIGATIVE: Reports showing enterprise, initiative, research. Single report or a series.

Mark Bergen and Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg News*, “Are the Kids Alright?”

<https://bloom.bg/2xKa7Du> ; <https://bloom.bg/2wUfLDC> ; <https://bloom.bg/2Uxt8SJ> ; <https://bit.ly/3dOWhAi>

Judge's comment: Bergen and Shaw's winning entry exhibited enterprise, initiative and depth of research in bringing to light the complex challenges to YouTube and society.

2nd Daniel Heimpel, *The Chronicle of Social Change*, "L.A. Police Failed to Investigate 4,000 Serious Child Abuse Reports in 2018 and 2019"

3rd Celeste Fremon, *Witness LA*, "Facing the Inferno: Why Wasn't LA County Probation Prepared to Evacuate Kids & Staff at Campus Kilpatrick When a Monster Wildfire Struck?"

K6. HARD NEWS FEATURE

Lauren Lee White, *WitnessLA*, "#MeToo Behind Bars: Sexual Misconduct At The LA County Women's Jail"

<http://bit.ly/2PI0oDV>

Judges' comment: In a disturbing feature about a serious issue, White illuminates a difficult situation for inmates.

2nd Daniel Heimpel, *The Chronicle of Social Change*, "EXCLUSIVE: New Details Reveal How Two Social Workers Fought, But Failed, to Save 4-Year-Old Noah Cuatro"

3rd Joe Rubin, *Capital & Main*, "The Gun Range Next Door: A Public Health Failure"

K7a. NEWS FEATURE – Film

Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Meet the Writer of 'Gemini Man' (Who Didn't Actually Write 'Gemini Man')"

<https://bit.ly/34Mp2db>

Judges' comment: Kit tells the fascinating story about a credited writer who shouldn't have been in this classic Hollywood tale.

2nd Aaron Couch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "'He Had Death on His Face': Kubrick, 'Full Metal Jacket' and an Actor's Heartbreak"

3rd Jeff Goldsmith, *Backstory Magazine*, "Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood: The Writer-Director (Non-Spoilers)"

K7b. NEWS FEATURE – Radio/TV

Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, "In 2019, country music has a raging identity crisis. For Ken Burns, that's a 100-year-old story"

<https://lat.ms/2v5pLIJ>

Judges' comment: In telling a story about country music and filmmaker Ken Burns's documentary about its history, Lewis has created a thought-provoking piece.

2nd Mesfin Fekadu, *The Associated Press*, "The Talking Dead: Life During and After 'Game of Thrones'"

3rd Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Ken Burns on 'Country Music' and Why Merle, Hank, Dwight, Loretta and Lil Nas X Matter"

K7c. NEWS FEATURE – Music/Theater

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Interview with Radiohead's Thom Yorke"

<https://bit.ly/3ac3ese>

Judges' comment: In Willman's interview with a member of a legendary music group, he again enlightens readers with worthwhile information.

2nd Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Inside Tom's One-Hour Photo in L.A.'s Koreatown"

3rd Paul Hodgins, *Voice of OC*, "After 40 Years of Humbugging, O.C.'s Scrooge is Hanging Up His Top Hat"

K7d. NEWS FEATURE – Culture

Judith Lewis Mernit, *Capital & Main*, "Is the American Dream Drying Up in California's Central Valley?"

<https://bit.ly/2RG2ZiU>

Judges' comment: Mernit presents a stunning and frightening story about groundwater supplies poisoning rural residents with high arsenic levels and parasitic intestinal worms in a San Joaquin Valley community founded by African Americans as a "black utopia," a "Tuskegee of the West." It pits local residents against large industrial scale farms that drain water from diminishing underground aquifers.

2nd Elaine Low, *Variety*, "The One Where 'Friends' Teaches Fans English, American Style"

3rd Deborah Zara Kobylt, *Deborah Kobylt LIVE*, "Deborah Kobylt LIVE: Sharon Feldstein and Patsy Noah"

K8. NEWS FEATURE - General News

Grayson Schmidt, *Cronkite News at Arizona State University*, "Role Reversal: Teen Caring for Father with Alzheimer's Shares Her Experience"

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

Judges' comment: This lede paints a good picture that hooks a reader into the story. A good mix of the first-hand account and research material.

2nd Patrick Shanley, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "'Sextortion' Via 'Fortnite': How Video Games Can Open Doors for Predators"

3rd Amy DePaul, Rian Dundon and Gema Galiana, *In These Times/Economic Hardship Reporting Project*, "Honoring the Workers Killed on the Job"

K9. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Cameron Crowe, *TheWrap*, "Read the Unpublished Cameron Crowe Story That Inspired 'Almost Famous'"

<https://bit.ly/3bRsntW>

Judges' comment: This is a standout among the entries in this category. It's surprising it went unpublished for so long. Intriguing from beginning to end.

2nd Farley Elliott, *Eater LA*, "Eggs Marks the Spot"

3rd Los Angeles Times Staff, *Los Angeles Times*, "101 Best Restaurants 2019"

K10. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE—see K7

K11. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING

Shaya Tayefe Mohajer, *Columbia Journalism Review*, "Unearthing the Black newspaper that sold the California dream to freed slaves"

<https://bit.ly/LALiberator>

Judges' comment: There's no better way to learn about history than through a newspaper. Fantastic story.

2nd Agnes Constante, *NBC News*, "'I Can't Find Any Peace Here': Raised in the U.S. and Deported to Cambodia, Refugees Struggle to Build a New Life"

3rd Shikha Dalmia, *Reason*, "ICE Used Dirty Tactics to Lure Foreign Students with a Fake University"

K12. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Sasha Urban, *uscannenbergmedia.com*, “48 male patients sexually abused by USC campus doctor”

<https://bit.ly/3bMpNWe>

Judges’ comment: This story was deeply investigative and very well-researched. It highlighted abuse in the LGBT community rather than giving too much spotlight to lurid details.

2nd Meghan McCarron, *Eater*, “The Death and Life of America’s Lesbian Bars”

3rd Angelika Albaladejo, *Capital & Main*, “Child Law Penalizes Moms for Abusive Partners”

K13. CRIME REPORTING

Kaidi "Ruby" Yuan, *USC Annenberg Media*, “Fourth and last defendant sentenced to life in prison in beating death of USC student”

<https://bit.ly/2zyK4QI>

Judges’ comment: A concise recounting of the tragic killing of a Chinese USC student and the punishment of the perpetrators reminding us of how we must be aware of the violence and criminality plaguing our college campuses. And how we must make institutions of education safe for all.

K14. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Susan Karlin, *Fast Company*, “How Poppy Northcutt cracked NASA’s boys’ club and became a feminist icon”

<http://bit.ly/32csBrr>

Judges’ comment: Very inspiring story. Everyone should read this. It gives the reader a great sense of history and provides highly illuminating quotes that give the reader an understanding of what makes Northcutt tick.

2nd Barbara Kingsley-Wilson, *Long Beach Post*, “Longtime Schools Chief Contemplating Retirement/When Is a Trick Question”

3rd Vic Gerami, *The Blunt Post*, “Social Justice Drives Sepi Shyne”

K15. COLUMNIST

Chandra Bozelko, *Creators Syndicate*, “The Outlaw - Insider Perspective on Criminal Justice”

<http://bit.ly/2I9qVGg> ; <http://bit.ly/3aiiDb6> ; <http://bit.ly/2wfn96D> ; <http://bit.ly/387vv2l>

Judges' comment: In a highly competitive category Chandra Bozelko lands on top of the heap. These stories about the criminal justice system, including a column about the rights of convicted felon being refused the right to rent an Airbnb, are enhanced by the fact that Bozelko herself spent six years in a maximum-security prison.

2nd Ruksana Hussain, *Cuisine Noir Magazine*, "African-American Entrepreneurs"

3rd Brian Addison, *Long Beach Post*, "Brian Addison of the Long Beach Post"

K16. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, National: One person's point of view.

Ryan Lo and Chandra Bozelko, *The Week*, "What Democratic candidates need to admit about criminal justice reform"

<http://bit.ly/38blv6M>

Judges' comment: This was a thoughtful, insightful, timely and educational piece that guided the public debate in a new direction. At its best, commentary doesn't just repeat talking points or bromides seen everywhere; it informs, educates, and makes you rethink, even if slightly, the best direction for society to go. Well-written and well-researched with the potential to be influential on the public conversation.

2nd Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, "What Barack Obama's Year-End Movie List Reveals About Him"

3rd Benjamin Chao, *VoiceWaves*, "California's Wall Between Immigrants and Health Care"

K17. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, Local: One person's point of view.

Norberto Santana, Jr., *Voice of OC*, "Quick Housing Options Needed to Spur OC Homelessness Efforts"

<http://bit.ly/2FREGcp> ; <http://bit.ly/2GCG6I5> ; <http://bit.ly/33lu3kL>

Judges' comment: This column excelled in so many ways: incisive reporting supported by extensive, balanced background and enhanced by the context, perspective and informed opinion by a journalist who appears to live and breathe his community and his profession. His superb reporting and writing allowed his readers and audience to draw enlightened conclusions of their own.

2nd Daniel Guss, *CityWatchLA*, "Love and Political Lessons from a Special Needs Rescue Dog"

3rd Vic Gerami, *The Blunt Post*, "Who is Councilmember Paul Krekorian Working For?"

K18. NON-POLITICAL COMMENTARY: One person's point of view.

Shannon O'Connor, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “How ‘Orange Is The New Black’ Helped Me Realize I Was Gay”

<https://bit.ly/3baqoRe>

Judges’ comment: A well-written, deeply personal essay that explained how a trail-blazing show changed the writer's life.

2nd Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*, “Homelessness Coverage that Punches Down: Could We Just Not?”

3rd M.G. Lord, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Captain Marvel Has Been Battling Misogyny Way Before the Current Trolls”

K19. SPORTS NEWS or FEATURE

Michael J. Duarte, *NBCLA*, “One Year After the Borderline Tragedy, Love and Sports Help Provide Strength to a Grieving Community”

<https://bit.ly/3allPIB>

Judges’ comment: Duarte’s poignant article about the Dodgers team hosting a luncheon, signing autographs, and providing comfort for the first responders, survivors and families of victims of the Thousand Oaks’ mass shooting at the country bar shows a community’s healing process. The Dodgers even did country line dancing with them to give them back a sense of normalcy.

2nd Evan Desai and Scott Rowe, *Cronkite News at Arizona State University*, “St. John Bosco: NCAA 'Football Factory' Is Based on Brotherhood”

3rd Mirin Fader, *Bleacher Report*, “The Life of LaMelo”

K20. SPORTS COMMENTARY

Mark E. Potts, *Los Angeles Times*, “How CTE changes everything about football”

<https://bit.ly/2K43WgD>

Judges’ comment: Great look into a controversial topic.

2nd Alex Demyanenko, *Capital & Main*, “Dodgers Baseball: The Blue and Very White”

3rd Michael J. Duarte, *NBCLA*, “Now That Game of Thrones is Over, Tune In to the Real Life Version: The Lakers”

K21. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY—please also see K16, K17 and K18

K21a. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY, TV/Film

Joshua Yehl, *IGN*, “How I Learned to Grieve and Heal Through Star Wars”

<https://bit.ly/39bJq8M>

Judges’ comment: A really moving and lovely story, well-told, personal but also thoughtful on its take on the industry, that stuck with me the most of all the entries.

2nd Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, “‘Yesterday’ and ‘Rocketman’ Are Pop-Music Fantasias That Never Touch the Greatness of Their Subjects”

3rd Jenelle Riley, *Variety*, “A Fat Girl’s Take on ‘Shrill’ (Column)”

K21b. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY, Music/Theater

Peter Lefevre, *Voice of OC*, “Does Opera Have a Future in Orange County?”

<http://bit.ly/2YLwm5N>

Judges’ comment: Thorough and interesting, even to readers who respects yet doesn't enjoy opera.

2nd Danielle Turchiano, *Variety*, “Why Mariah Carey’s ‘Never Too Far’ Could Have Been a Post-9/11 Anthem”

3rd Shirley Halperin, *Variety*, “Put a Fork in Woodstock 50, Please”

K22. BLOG, INDIVIDUAL

Bennet Kelley, *Internet Law Center’s Cyber Report*, “Six Things to Know About Devin Nunes’ Bizarre Lawsuit Against Twitter and a Tweeting Cow”

<https://bit.ly/2Xw2xYe>

Judges’ comment: Well-written and well-researched overview and presentation of facts. Thank you for not overusing “legalese” and for clarifying the case for the layperson without oversimplifying it.

2nd Brad A. Johnson, *Food & Travel Blog*, “Review: Lo Sereno Hotel in Troncones, Mexico”

3rd Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*, “The Decade When Hollywood Cracked Open – In Praise of the 2010s”

K23. BLOG, GROUP: Best collective or institutional blog; submit any single day.

Eriq Gardner and Ashley Cullins, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “THR, ESQ”

<http://bit.ly/2M3GS3D> ; <https://bit.ly/2Vvrq3w> ; <https://bit.ly/2V9mv9y> ;
<https://bit.ly/2XwcpRM> ; <https://bit.ly/2VsnFMm>

Judges' comment: Great use of a blog to tell the stories behind the stories.

2nd Joe Linton, Sahra Sulaiman, Damien Newton and Kris Fortin, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*,
"December 12, 2019"

3rd Overseen by Aaron Couch and Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Heat Vision"

K24. WEBSITE, NEWS ORGANIZATION EXCLUSIVE TO THE INTERNET

Capital & Main, *Capital & Main*
<https://capitalandmain.com/>

Judges' comment: Homepage is clearly sorted. Navigation menu works with any number of sub-menu items. Responsiveness flows nicely. Links throughout the site are very noticeable and include internal, external and attachment links.

2nd Eater LA, *Eater LA*

3rd Sonya Quick, *Voice of OC*

K25. WEBSITE, TRADITIONAL NEWS ORGANIZATION: Website of a print or broadcast outlet.
KTLA Digital Team, *KTLA 5 News*, KTLA.com

Judges' comment: The team behind KTLA's digital wing understand readers want information quickly and succinctly. Excellent community journalism!

2nd Variety, *Variety*, "Variety.com"

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

L. SOCIAL MEDIA

Judged on content, creativity and engagement.

L1. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE and/or COVER A STORY, by an independent journalist: Maximum two days coverage of an individual story. — **N/A**

L2. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE and/or COVER A STORY, by a journalist tied to an organization: Maximum two days coverage of an individual story.

Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*, “‘Avengers: Endgame’: Our Reporter Braved the 65-Hour Marvel Movie Marathon”

<https://lat.ms/31699dS> ; <https://lat.ms/2vQQF7g>

Judges’ comment: Great visuals and use of snapchat gives the story life.

2nd Meg Zukin, *Variety*, “Variety Studio at the Toronto Film Festival”

3rd Denise Chan, *KCET*, “SoCal Connected: Five Tips for Buying Legal Cannabis”

L3. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE and/or COVER A STORY, by a group: Maximum two days coverage of an individual story.

JOVRNALISM Staff, *JOVRNALISM*, “Trashed: The Tijuana River Valley Pollution Crisis”

<http://trashed.journalism.io/>

Judges’ comment: This is a great way to take a reader to the scene of the story. This is a good out-of-the-box example of using social media to enhance coverage. It goes beyond simply recording a video or going live on social. This is a user experience that readers can experience on their own time and not necessarily while scrolling through a newsfeed.

2nd Christina Schoellkopf, Mary Kate Metivier, Diya Chacko and Tessa Bangs, *Los Angeles Times*, “College Admissions Scandal Snares Actresses, CEOs and Coaches”

3rd Shannon O’Connor and Erica Myers, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Comic-Con 2019”

M. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

Based in Southern California. Print, radio, TV or online. An English translation must be submitted along with the original work.

M1. NEWS

Emma Parry, *The Sun*, “‘IT WAS UTTER HELL’ Ex-Scientology member ‘sexually abused and sent to prison camps with pedophiles aged just 12’”

<https://bit.ly/3aZnoX6>

Judges’ comment: Fascinating, and disturbing, peek inside the workings of Scientology's Florida-based Sea Org.

2nd Aviva Fried and Christèle Jaime, *RTS (Swiss TV)*, “A Chilean Revolution”

3rd Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV National News - Canadian Television*, “Costco Shooting”

M2. FEATURE: Profiles, lifestyle and other topics.

Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV National News - Canadian Television*, “Teeter Totter”
<https://bit.ly/2Vd9IbC>

Judges’ comment: Masterful job of joining ideas and putting them into practice with the emotion of the participants.

2nd Ruksana Hussain, *Restless Magazine*, “The Women of Tequila: Preserving Culinary Traditions”

3rd Zulekha Nathoo, *CBC News*, “‘We Stand with You’: Choir!Choir!Choir! Performs at U.S.-Mexico Border”

M3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Chrissy Iley, *Sunday Times Magazines*, “Roseanne Barr on her love for Trump and being axed from her own TV show”

roseanne_barr_feature.pdf

Judges’ comment: Excellent balanced treatment of a controversial subject; lovely, readable style.

2nd Alessandra Mattanza, *Vanity Fair*, “Mel Gibson”

3rd Tina Jøhnk Christensen, *Scandinavian Traveler*, “Viggo’s Stardust”

M4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Kjersti Flaa, *TV2 Norway*, “Diane Keaton on Love, Marriage and Instagram”

<https://youtu.be/LPR2dOFyGUo>

Judges’ comment: An engaging interview with a fascinating and thoughtful range of topics. The interviewer and Keaton maintained an endearing chemistry in their exchanges, which seemed to elicit authentic responses that surely resonate with viewers.

2nd Janet Nepales, *Manila Bulletin*, “Understanding Jordan Peele and ‘Us’”

3rd Zulekha Nathoo, *CBC News*, “‘I Feel in Charge of My Life’: Céline Dion on Her New Tour, Music and Outlook”

M5. COLUMNIST or CRITIC: One person’s point of view on any subject.

Mary O’Hara, *The Guardian*, “The National Health Service is a precious thing: Try being ill in the US if you don’t believe this”

<http://bit.ly/39AAkCK>

Judges' comment: In this article, Mary O'Hara shares something she learned during a visit to a doctor's office in the U.S.: some Americans are risking their physical health because the cost of medicine is having a negative impact on their financial health.

2nd Tom Walters, *CTV National News - Canadian Television*, "The Hug"

N. STUDENT MEDIA

Student media includes groups with students in charge, including school newspapers and/or online publishing.

Student media: high school, local college, university undergraduate or graduate publications or news websites.

N1. BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

El Don Staff, *El Don, Santa Ana College*, "El Don"

<https://bit.ly/vol96issue3> ; <https://bit.ly/vol96issue5> ; <https://bit.ly/vol96issue6> ;
<https://bit.ly/vol97issue1> ; <https://bit.ly/vol97issue2> ; <https://bit.ly/vol97issue3>

Judges' comment: With crisp, clean design and content that is thoughtfully curated for a collegiate audience, El Don stands out as one of the strongest contenders in college media.

2nd The Corsair Staff, *The Corsair, Santa Monica College*, "The Corsair Issue 7"

3rd Austin Brumblay and Staff, *Daily Forty-Niner, CSULB*, "Daily Forty-Niner November 18, 2019 Issue"

N2. BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Lauren Ballesteros and Elsie Wang, *The Matador, San Gabriel High School*, "The Matador Volume 65, Issue 3"

<https://bit.ly/3bcpqTS>

Judges' comment: Winner in a very competitive category. Excellent news coverage and timely feature.

2nd Tommy Li, Michelle Buckley, Hannah Yi and Alex Park, *The Accolade Newspaper*, "Media Under Fire"

3rd The Mirror Staff, Kayla Lee and Pilar Sims, *The Mirror*, "The Mirror, November 2019 Issue"

N3a. BEST COLLEGE NEWS WEBSITE

ELAC Campus News, East Los Angeles College, elaccampusnews.com

Judges' comment: A nice variety of news topics on a clean, simple, responsive design. Not cluttered. Interesting content.

2nd *USC Annenberg Media, uscannenbergmedia.com*

3rd *The Corsair, Santa Monica College, thecorsaironline.com*

N3b. BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWS WEBSITE

The Mirror, Van Nuys High School, vnhsmirror.com

Judges' comment: It's clear that the student journalists at The Mirror are producing a high standard of work in multiple platforms – and it all comes together in their website. Excellent pivot to cover the COVID-19 pandemic and Black Lives Matter movement.

2nd *Highlights, Beverly Hills High School, beverlyhighlights.com*

3rd *Quest News, Don Antonio Lugo High School, dalquestnews.org*

N4. BEST NEWS PHOTO

Yasamin J. Tehrani, The Corsair, Santa Monica College, "Beto O'Rourke Townhall"
<https://lapressclub.wufoo.com/cabinet/fc52572e-87e4-49d7-97cc-c4e0def98d24>

Judges' comment: Tehrani's choice to focus on a Bernie doll standing out in a crowd shows both the seriousness and hilarity of national politics while revealing our innate need to humanize politicians.

2nd *Plapol "PJ" Rattapitak, The Mirror, "Blood Drive"*

3rd *Ling Luo, USC Annenberg Media, "USC Upsets No. 10 Utah as Fink Makes 2019 Debut"*

N5. BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Glenn Zucman, The Corsair, Santa Monica College, "Tiffany Dong, Dancer"
zucman_glenn_cult_smc_peopletiffany_dong31.pdf

Judges' comment: Zucman's portrait of a dancer stretching captures the intense physical sacrifice dancers make which belies the pressure to perform.

2nd Plapol "PJ" Rattapitak, *The Mirror*, "And the Band Played On"

3rd Kevin Tidmore, *The Corsair, Santa Monica College*, "Corsair Basketball Coach Joshua Thomas"

N6a. BEST NEWS WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Sports/Arts

Ruby Yuan and Ashley Zhang, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Indicted USC administrator's side business"

<https://bit.ly/2y8LGAp>

Judges' comment: Deep and damning investigation of how Donna Heinel, implicated in 'Varsity Blues' admissions scandal, was running a self-enriching private consulting operations "under the noses of USC's leadership."

2nd Arielle Zolezzi, *The Roundup at Pierce College*, "Coach Under Investigation"

3rd Stephanie Lai, *Columbia Spectator* (formerly *Pasadena Star News*), "UCLA Spirit Squad Director Sacked After Donor — Ex-State Sen. Alan Robbins — Takes Dance Team to Racy Show"

N6b. BEST NEWS WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Campus Issues

Austin Peay, *USC Annenberg Media*, "'Like The Kremlin:' USC's broken promises of transparency"

<https://rb.gy/nvknaa>

Judges' comment: Austin Peay's article is a great example of the importance of holding officials accountable by going back through the record of their promises. There were a lot of well-done projects from USC in this competition. The Trojans have a lot of local news to cover.

2nd Simrin Singh, Claire Heddles, Haeri Kim, Charlotte Pruett and Keer Wu, *USC Annenberg Media*, "USC's Trojan Transfer Plan"

3rd Kaidi "Ruby" Yuan, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Fourth and Last Defendant Sentenced to Life in Prison in Beating Death of USC Student"

N6c. BEST NEWS WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Off-Campus Issues

Austin Peay and Sam Kmack, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Why Students At LA's Richest Public Schools Are Far More Likely To Get Extra Time On The SAT"

<https://bit.ly/3d3Usyi>

Judges' comment: Austin Peay and Sam Kmack dug into data to expose how students with wealthy backgrounds use alleged disabilities to their advantage. Well done.

2nd Logan Bik, *The Sundial*, "Ranchers and Firefighters Battle Saddleridge Fire"

3rd Stephanie Lai, *Columbia Spectator* (formerly *Daily Bruin*), "Document Shows Three People Account for Majority of Property Appeals in Westwood"

N7a. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Sports/Arts

Jack Harris, *Los Angeles Times*, "At Los Alamitos' opening day of horse racing, a feeling of 'less stress'"

<https://lat.ms/2xsD9Y8>

Judges' comment: Jack Harris flexes his descriptive writing muscles as he sets scenes for the reader, both in the lede and throughout interviews with various sources. The reader gets a good understanding of what it was like to be at the park that day from the track to a private table in the stands. He also lets sources say things that may not look great for them but shows a deeper truth about their motivations.

2nd Arielle Zolezzi, *The Roundup at Pierce College*, "Coach Under Investigation"

3rd Ruby Yuan and Ashley Zhang, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Indicted USC Administrator's Side Business"

N7b. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Campus Feature

Steven Vargas, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Falling down the voguing hole"

<https://bit.ly/3bU5o1w>

Judges' comment: Steven Vargas paints a picture of ballroom's present in Los Angeles as well as its formative past in New York in this feature. His scene-setting skills put the reader in a store shopping for a sequin-filled ball outfit as well as at a ball. He does all this while discussing appropriation and who gets to represent a subculture once it goes mainstream.

2nd Gillian Moran-Perez, *The Sundial*, "From Incarceration to Higher Education"

3rd Noelle Copeland and Josselyn Ramos, *The Mirror*, "The Continuing Homecoming Controversy"

N7c. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE, Sociopolitical Feature

Grayson Schmidt, *Cronkite News at Arizona State University*, "Return to 'the Rock': Original Alcatraz occupier retraces steps during 50th anniversary"

<http://bit.ly/2TzgP6z>

Judges' comment: Grayson Schmidt employs nice, clean writing in this piece about Native American activists returning to an island they once occupied to protest the loss of their ancestral lands. His descriptive writing and quote selection are spot on. He also took the photographs in this piece, making this submission all the more impressive.

2nd Victoria Alejandro, *Ampersand*, "Sorry, No Hablo Español"

3rd Gillian Moran-Perez, *The Sundial*, "Period Poverty: The Sisterhood of the Traveling Tampons"

N8a. BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE, Campus Personalities — Any platform

Kimberly Silverio-Bautista, *The Sundial*, "Jose Andres Miramontes"

<https://bit.ly/3dnOR6V>

Judges' comment: With respect and honesty, Kimberly Silverio-Bautista told one young man's very personal, heartbreaking but ultimately empowering story. We saw an entire journey of a young man who lived past his struggles and doubts to realize he had a future, with thanks to some caring help along the way. The story felt like proof the EOP program works.

2nd Nate MacKay, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Marshall Student Makes Music About His Experience in Conversion Therapy"

3rd Kim Quitzon, *Dimelo, USC Annenberg Media*, "USC Student Inspires Latinas to Help Each Other and Create Community"

N8b. BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE, Public Personalities — Any platform

Andres Soto, *The Sundial*, "Far from Hollywood, Danny Trejo made his own name"

<https://bit.ly/3971obK>

Judges' comment: Andreas Soto did an outstanding job making a print story feel so visual. I saw it all in my head as I was reading it. Soto also came up with a clever way to introduce us to a young man whose name is already so identifiable by another person. I didn't have to get that far into the story to know *this* Danny Trejo is a pretty impressive young man. I don't know a thing about soccer and it didn't matter one bit as I read it. The piece has a real soul.

2nd Jack Harris, *Los Angeles Times*, "Young, Small, but Mighty: Skateboarder Sky Brown Shreds Path Toward Olympics"

3rd Clarissa Kerner, *Ampersand*, "Simpson's Art"

N9. BEST TV REPORTING

Chase Beech, *USC Annenberg Media*, "Students and parents weigh in on the Saugus High School Shooting"

<https://bit.ly/3clMyQv>

Judges' comment: This is a well-put-together breaking news on scene story with excellent sound bites. Reporter was able to tell the story with urgency concern and bring the viewer to the scene of yet another school shooting and the shock and panic the victims were experiencing. Well written.

2nd Zoe Ginsberg, Nikki Walkger and Yannie Hoang, *USC Annenberg Media*, "California in Flames"

3rd Rico Bruce, *Valley View News, CSUN*, "Angelenos Flock to Hussle Celebration"

N10. BEST RADIO OR PODCAST REPORTING

James Chow, *Daily Forty-Niner*, "Native Histories"

<http://bit.ly/3cmArc>

Judges' comment: Well-researched. Keeps your interest.

2nd Isaiah Murtaugh, *USC Annenberg Radio News*, "Warrior Bards: Military Vets Rework Ancient Greek Dramas"

3rd Victoria Alejandro, *Ampersand*, "We're All the Cowboy If We Want to Be"