

NAEJ 2024 WINNERS

A1. PRINT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Chris Willman, *Variety*

<https://bit.ly/4e073lx>

<https://bit.ly/48BSMbK>

<https://bit.ly/4clk8z8>

Judges' comment: Willman brilliantly writes revealing articles about impactful entertainment figures, often in the music industry with pieces, for example, on film composer John Williams or musician Bruce Springsteen.

2nd: Tatiana Siegel, *Variety*

3rd: Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*

A2. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — Tied to an organization

Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*

<https://bit.ly/4gMAo5e>

<https://bit.ly/47Oq9cy>

<https://bit.ly/4gLAMuE>

Judges' comment: No matter whether Fekadu writes portraits of entertainment celebrities, such as Adele or Dolly Parton, or conducts roundtable discussions with filmmakers, the articles are always insightful and informative.

2nd: Clayton Davis, *Variety*

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*

A3. ONLINE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR — Independent

Holly Gleason, *Freelance*

<https://bit.ly/3J5ZEnB>

<https://bit.ly/4akKFIN>

<https://bit.ly/4aGaPiw>

Judges' comment: Freelancer Gleason's versatility in covering a range of topics, such as a portrait of Missy Elliot or a musician's 50 best songs, makes for fascinating reading.

2nd: Philip Boroff, *Broadway Journal*

3rd: A.D. Amorosi, *Variety*, *Flood*, *SPIN*

A4. BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Nic Cha Kim, *PBS SoCal*

<https://vimeo.com/929410911/46f525ffdb?share=copy>

<https://www.pbssocal.org/shows/artbound/episodes/east-west-players-a-home-on-stage>

<https://www.pbssocal.org/shows/artbound/episodes/la-rebellion-a-cinematic-movement>

Judges' comment: With a penchant for finding compelling ethnic stories, Kim provides brilliant insights into unfamiliar worlds.

2nd: Giselle Fernandez, *Spectrum News 1*

3rd: Rollo Ross, *Reuters*

A5. PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*

<https://youtu.be/KTi0h8Q-TSk?t=1064>

<http://bit.ly/4eATNnY>

<http://bit.ly/4aCcEgZ>

Judges' comment: Sanchez's excellent photographic work in covering cultural events and portraying individuals who make up that culture is always enlightening and deserving of this recognition

2nd: Dan Doperalski, *Variety*

3rd: Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*

B. CRITIC — Any Media Platform (Broadcast, Print, or Online)

B1. Film Critic — Under 1,000 words

Chris Willman, *Variety*

<https://bit.ly/3X3INJw>

<https://bit.ly/4dZ3vQA>

<https://bit.ly/4dZ3CM0>

Judges' comment: A critic's knowledge of his subject is a given, but that their critiques are also imbued with feelings and humanity is a mark of true excellence.

2nd: Siddhant Adlakha, *JoySauce/IndieWire/Variety*

3rd: Peter Rainer, *The Christian Science Monitor*

B2. Film Critic — Over 1,000 words

David Ehrlich, *IndieWire*

<https://www.indiewire.com/author/david-ehrich/>

Judges' comment: David Ehrlich's writing, while entertaining and informative, is at an elevated level, not just for criticism, but for journalism.

2nd: Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*

3rd: Neely Swanson, *Beverly Hills Courier*

B3. TV Critic

Melanie McFarland, *Salon*

<https://www.salon.com/2023/10/22/israel-palestine-anthony-bourdain-parts-unknown/>

<https://www.salon.com/2023/11/03/lessons-in-chemistry-cooking-work/>

<https://www.salon.com/2023/10/25/mark-hamill-career-fall-usher-voice-actor/>

Judges' comment: Whip-smart, superb narrative arc, and ultimately excellent critiques.

2nd: Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*

3rd: Robert Lloyd, *Los Angeles Times*

B4. Theater/Performing Arts Critic

Thom Geier, *Culture Sauce*

<https://bit.ly/4dpflqR>

Judges' comment: Fabulous 'sense of place' writing. Fearless criticism. A great read.

2nd: Max Sparber, *MPR News*

3rd: Eric Marchese, *Culture OC*

B5. Music Critic

A.D. Amorosi, *Freelance*

<https://bit.ly/3BkMm5Q>

<https://bit.ly/4eHmKyB>

<https://bit.ly/4eEHkzB>

Judges' comment: Excellent work by an incisive music critic.

2nd: Timothy Mangan, *Culture OC*

3rd: Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*

B6. Art/Design Critic

Mimi Zeiger, *The Architectural Review*

<https://bit.ly/48U8EGN>

<https://tinyurl.com/b27w8m5w>

<https://tinyurl.com/ywuj6vns>

Judges' comment: Impactful, Well researched, well written, devastating.

2nd: Carolina Miranda, *Los Angeles Times*

3rd: Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*

B7. Book Critic

David L. Ulin, *Alta Journal*

<https://bit.ly/4do8XvV>

<https://bit.ly/3Bji8Ad>

<https://bit.ly/3XF1nXK>

Judges' comment: Books are reviewed as if they were caverns to be explored and illuminated with insight, cross referencing and wisdom.

2nd: Jim Knipfel, *Truthdig*

3rd: Anita Felicelli, *Alta Journal*

B8. Food/Culture Critic

Lucas Kwan Peterson, *Los Angeles Times*

<https://www.latimes.com/food/story/2023-07-23/dunsmoor-bub-and-grandma-glassell-park-gentrification>

<https://www.latimes.com/food/story/2023-11-10/maison-matho-french-pastries-sandwiches-hollywood>

<https://www.latimes.com/food/story/2023-12-21/soup-dumpling-paradise-dynasty-din-tai-fung-review>

Judges' comment: The author engages the reader with well-researched stories that leave us all smarter and entertained.

2nd: Brian Addison, *Longbeachize*

3rd: Brad A. Johnson, *OLTRE*

C. ANY MEDIA PLATFORM (Broadcast, Print, or Online)

C1. Celebrity Investigative, Any Media

Seija Rankin, Jason Rovou, Stephanie Fischette, Nekesa Mumbi Moody, Maer Roshan, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Will Ferrell on Navigating His Best Friend's Transition in 'Will & Harper'"

<https://bit.ly/3XO7IAp>

Judges' comment: This detailed exposé based on 50 interviews shows how giving depth to reporting can create a clear winner.

2nd: Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Get Me Bryan Freedman!"

3rd: Tatiana Siegel, *Variety*, "Crisis at Marvel: Jonathan Majors Back-Up Plans, 'The Marvels' Reshoots, Reviving Original Avengers and More Issues Revealed"

C2. Multimedia Package, Any Media

Ally J. Levine, Anurag Rao, Adolfo Arranz, Dea Bankova, *Reuters*, "Drawing on the Past: With an uncertain future, will Disney pull off yet another magic trick?"

<https://reut.rs/3TOUJwX>

Judges' comment: Multimedia is essential to telling the Disney story in this piece, not an afterthought. From highlighting the 12 animations to the explanation about a multiplane camera, the storytellers/illustrators/designers leverage a variety of techniques to convey the story simply, clearly and elegantly. Well done.

2nd: Sam Hart and Daisy Chung, *Reuters*, "It's Mariah time (again)"

3rd: Jonathan Landrum Jr., Gary Gerard Hamilton, Darrell Allen and Carolyn Lessard, *The Associated Press*, "First Rap Song"

C3. Humor Writing, Any Media

D. Watkins, *Salon*, "I thought I had partied at Freaknik"

<https://www.salon.com/2024/03/29/i-thought-i-had-partied-at-freaknik/>

Judges' comment: Engaging trip down memory lane to his teenage journey to Freaknik. Funny and poignant, the column wonderfully describes clothing, dancing, acting cool and being hesitant to approach the ladies for fear of what might happen. Terrific similes are included: "Too young and greener than a frog holding a cucumber" and "strict live overseers at a slave plantation" are some examples.

2nd: Gustavo Arellano and Stacey Grenrock Woods, *Alta Journal*, "Ask a Californian: The All-Music Edition"

3rd: Patt Morrison, *Los Angeles Times Today*, *Spectrum News*, "Oscars Bare [Almost] All -- Again. A G-Rated Show vs the G-String."

C4. Headline, Any Media

Sandro Monetti, *Hollywood International Filmmaker Magazine*, "West Side Snorey (Bernstein Biopic So Boring)"

PDF

Judges' comment: Clever pun by Monetti on Leonard Bernstein's classic *West Side Story*.

2nd: Alison Dingeldein, *Los Angeles Times*, "Settling the tab for 'Waitress'"

3rd: Tom Bruneggemann, *IndieWire*, "They Don't Climax in IMAX — or, Why Films with Sexy Sizzle Are Rare Today"

D. BOOK

D1. NON-FICTION BOOK

Kathleen Hanna, *Ecco*, "Rebel Girl"

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MHFajn0qzzfBugn517TmOew1zPSjSAyR?usp=sharing>

Judges' comment: In a revealing, fascinating memoir by Kathleen Hanna, she relates her life as a self-described "feminist punk."

2nd: Alessandra Mattanza, *Prestel Random House*, "Rising Stars Street Art"

3rd: Ramin Setoodeh, *HarperCollins Publishers*, "Apprentice in Wonderland: How Donald Trump and Mark Burnett Took America Through the Looking Glass"

D2. Fiction Book N/A

E. PHOTOGRAPHY/ART (Print or Online)

E1. News Photo

Michael Buckner, Haley Kluge, Jennifer Dorn, *Variety*, "SAG Fran Strike Cover"

<https://bit.ly/4e04U9B>

Judges' comment: Lovely shot, the camera getting right in her face, with other cameras visible as well, it takes us right in there.

2nd: Gregg Segal, *Alta Journal*, "A Nevada Tale: Tesla, Google, and the Mustang Ranch"

3rd: Roger Kisby, *Rolling Stone*, "F1 Opener"

E2. Portrait Photo, TV/Film

Dan Doperalski, Jennifer Dorn, Haley Kluge, *Variety*, "David Oyelowo Portrait"

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

Judges' comment: Classic portraiture, beautiful lighting that accentuates the subject, great posture on the actors part, all in all a really striking portrait.

2nd: Christina Gandolfo, *Emmy Magazine*, "Me and My Emmy: Jane Lynch"

3rd: Collier Schorr, *Rolling Stone*, "Kristen Stewart Uncensored: 'I Want to Do the Gayest Thing You've Ever Seen in Your Life'"

E3. Portrait Photo, Music/Arts

Liana Grigoryan, *LA Art Show*, "Peace in Reunion"

PDF

Judges' comment: A stunningly spiritual image of our connection to nature and art.

2nd: Ada Guerin and Irvin Rivera, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Margaret Cho - Ride or Die Bride"

3rd: Ash Barhamand, Ava Selbach, Peter B. Cury and Julia & Vincent, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Renee Rapp"

E4. Feature Photo

Elisabeth Caren, Ada Guerin, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Kris Jenner"

<https://bit.ly/4ePrB0P>

Judges' comment: Jenner's expression, the hat tricks, her hand placed on the top, and the lighting make this a winning photo.

2nd: Ash Barhamand, Ava Selbach, Peter B. Cury and Dan Winters, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Nathan Fielder + Emma Stone"

3rd: Jenny Sargent, Naomi Pedroza and Joelle Grace Taylor, *Billboard*, "Lainey Wilson"

E5. Action Photo

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Brandi Carlile concert photo/The Best Concerts of 2023"

PDF

Judges' comment: This is an iconic rock and roll shot. Well done!

2nd: Alyson Camus, *US Rocker*, "Idles Rock Hollywood on 'Love Is the Fing' Tour"

3rd: Alyson Camus, *US Rocker*, "Billy Idol, John Travolta Go Punk For Johnny Ramone"

E6. Photo Essay

Ash Barhamand, Ava Selbach, Naomi Pedroza, Peter B. Cury, Munachi Osegbu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hollywood's Top Stylists"

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

Judges' comment: This is a marvelous tribute to the art of styling. The photographers complement the narrative with stunning visuals.

2nd: Alexi Lubomirski, Jennifer Dorn and Haley Kluge, *Variety*, "Actors on Actors (Oscars)"
3rd: Robert Ascroft, *Emmy Magazine*, "Côte Tales"

E7. Illustration

Mark Smith, *Alta Journal*, "The Missing Mouseketeer"

<https://bit.ly/4gy2Mll>

Judges' comment: Beautifully charming illustrations accompany a dark tale, immediately capturing the reader's attention and pulling them through the narrative.

2nd: Neil Jamieson, Haley Kluge and Jennifer Dorn, *Variety*, "Star Trek Illustrations"
3rd: Ally J. Levine, Anurag Rao, Adolfo Arranz and Dea Bankova, *Reuters*, "Drawing on the Past: With an uncertain future, will Disney pull off yet another magic trick?"

E8. Graphic

Clare Trainor, Dea Bankova, *Reuters*, "The Unstoppable Pop of Taylor Swift"

<https://reut.rs/3t5JBRW>

Judges' comment: Packs a delightful visual punch! Delivers interesting data in a presentation that's full of personality without making the reader feel overwhelmed.

2nd: Sam Hart and Daisy Chung, *Reuters*, "It's Mariah time (again)"
3rd: Tiana McGee, *Reuters*, "Candidate track record: The music used for presidential candidate nomination acceptance speeches compared to when the song was originally released."

E9. Animation/Moving Graphic

John Lithgow, Adam Bankhead, *PBS SoCal*, "Art Happens Here with John Lithgow"

<https://vimeo.com/1011179991/40e29a3d3f?share=copy>

Judges' comment: Fun and heartwarming, the animation helps bring the narrator's thoughts to life as well as providing interest during transitions.

2nd: Ally J. Levine, Anurag Rao, Adolfo Arranz and Dea Bankova, *Reuters*, "Drawing on the Past: With an uncertain future, will Disney pull off yet another magic trick?"
3rd: Jen Rosenstein and Ada Guerin, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Smooove Operator—JB Smooove"

E10. Page Layout

Brent Hatcher, John Goecke, *Alta Journal*, "Issue 27 Insert: Te Moana-nui-a Kiwa"

PDF

Judges' comment: Beautiful artwork accompanies a crisp, clean layout.

2nd: Haley Kluge, Ted Keller, Francesco Muzzi and Jennifer Dorn, *Variety*, "AI Splash"
3rd: Shirley Halperin, Ada Guerin and Neil Jamieson, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "How to Survive in L.A. on \$100k"

E11. Cover Art

Joe Hutchinson, *Rolling Stone*, "May 2024 Billie Eilish cover"

PDF

Judges' comment: This cover shows Billie Eilish as the rebel she is. A take no hostages image.

2nd: Haley Kluge, Jennifer Dorn and Jonny Marlow, *Variety*, "Anya Taylor Joy Cover"

3rd: Peter B. Cury and Zuzanna Rogatty, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Oscar Issue"

F. PRINT/ONLINE

F1. Business, Film, Print/Online

Jessica Toonkel, *The Wall Street Journal*, "A Media Heiress's Bid to Sell Sets Off Mayhem Inside Paramount"

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

Judges' comment: This extensively reported, well-written story of how Shari Redstone determined the future of her family's company, and the Paramount movie studio included exclusive details on missed opportunities and internal tension.

2nd: Rebecca Rubin, *Variety*, "'We're Still Here': How AMC Theatres Is Struggling With \$4.5 Billion in Debt and Surviving Thanks to Taylor Swift, Viral Popcorn Buckets and More"

3rd: Gene Maddaus, *Variety*, "Mickey Mouse, Long a Symbol in Copyright Wars, to Enter Public Domain: 'It's Finally Happening'"

F2. Business, TV/Streaming, Print/Online

Tatiana Siegel, *Variety*, "Inside the Battle for CNN: Jeff Zucker, David Zaslav, Chris Licht and 18 Months of Crazy Backstabbing"

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

Judges' comment: Great historical foundation and detailed insight into such a high profile subject.

2nd: Jennifer Maas, *Variety*, "Peak TV Has Peaked: From Exhausted Talent to Massive Losses, the Writers Strike Magnifies an Industry in Freefall"

3rd: Ruby McConnell, *Alta Journal*, "The Missing Mouseketeer"

F3. Business, Theater/Performing Arts related, Print/Online

Philip Boroff, *Broadway Journal*, "Solo Shows Deliver as Aspiring Blockbusters Struggle"

<http://bit.ly/3XBbt2>

Judges' comment: A grim, well-written account of the need for unionization in live theater as it confronts the reality of diminishing audiences.

2nd: Joel Beers, *Culture OC*, "Hey Brother, Can You Spare an Empty Space?"

3rd: Tim Greiving, *Alta Journal*, "The Force Is with Him"

F4. Business, Music related, Print/Online

August Brown, Stacy Perman, *Los Angeles Times*, "Recording Academy faces claims of past use of NDAs to silence women about sexual abuse allegations"

<https://rb.gy/h6mlid>

Judges' comment: An important story that raises serious questions about sexism and sexual harassment allegations that may be being glossed over in the Record Academy.

2nd: Anne Steele and Meghan Bobrowsky, *The Wall Street Journal*, "World's Biggest Music Company Deploys the 'Nuclear Option' Against TikTok"

3rd: Eric Renner Brown, *Billboard*, "Sphere digital feature"

F5. Business, Tech/Design/Arts related, Print/Online

Katya Kazakina, *Artnet News*, "Bargain City?"

PDF

Judges' comment: Katya Kazakina takes a penetrating look at an art market on the downside, a far cry from the boom times.

2nd: Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Pellicano Target's Second Act"
3rd: Meg Bernhard, *Alta Journal*, "Wonderhussy to the Rescue"

F6. Entertainment Industry/Arts Investigative, Print/Online

Tatiana Siegel, *Variety*, "Crisis at Marvel: Jonathan Majors Back-Up Plans, 'The Marvels' Reshoots, Reviving Original Avengers and More Issues Revealed"
<https://bit.ly/45V6gOz>

Judges' comment: Great detail into the strained executive suite at Marvel and how the once-powerful franchise is twisting in the wind.

2nd: Jessica Gelf, *Los Angeles Times*, "Sexual harassment allegations, infighting, labor unrest: The unraveling of Hollywood Legion Theater"

3rd: Abbie Kozolchyk, *Los Angeles Times*, "Dolly Parton's 'Jolene' is 50: Why her most covered song has enduring global appeal"

F7. Obituary/In Appreciation, Film Personalities, Print/Online

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*, "Remembering Piper Laurie in 'Carrie' and 'The Hustler': A Special Combination of Vulnerability and Power"

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

Judges' comment: This writer has achieved a rare thing indeed. He tells us about his reaction to art, without making it all about him and striking a chord so universal. This is as poetic as it gets for an obit, touching on the deceased's achievements in a way that makes you want to consider and appreciate her work all over again. BRAVO, Owen.

2nd: Melanie McFarland, *Salon*, "Through Pee-wee Herman, Paul Reubens reminded Gen X to stay true to our immature inner children"

3rd: Tom Zito, *Alta Journal*, "Look Back on Anger"

F8. Obituary/In Appreciation, TV Personalities, Print/Online

Matthew Creith, *TheWrap*, "Norman Lear Blazed a Path for Pushing Political Buttons on Network Television"

<https://bit.ly/3Bj435L>

Judges' comment: This appreciation for the man and his moment in history expertly combines poignance and hard truths about the time we're in.

2nd: Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Critic's Appreciation: Matthew Perry Masterfully Walked the Line Between Mirth and Melancholy"

3rd: Michael Gerber, *Alta Journal*, "Goodbye, Mr. Quips"

F9. Obituary/In Appreciation, Music and Other Arts Personalities, Print/Online

Amanda Marcotte, *Salon*, "The gospel according to Sinéad O'Connor: She was right all along"
<https://www.salon.com/2023/07/27/sinad-oconnor-was-right/>

Judges' comment: Filled with shimmering insight and appreciation, propelled (but not overburdened) with a challenge to the reader to consider how far the women's movement has come.

2nd: Jim Knipfel, *Truthdig*, "Remembering First Amendment Icon Jim Larkin"

3rd: Christian Blauvelt, *IndieWire*, "Tony Bennett Gave an Iconic 'Goodfellas' Moment Its Charge — but He Didn't Like Being Associated with It"

G. PRINT (Newspapers or Magazines)

G1. General News, Print

Ruby McConnell, *Alta Journal*, "The Missing Mouseketeer"

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

Judges' comment: Ruby McConnell spins a tale of long-lost innocence and shocking recent neglect, with a story that spans decades but is tightly written and filled with compelling details.

2nd: Ben Sisario, *The New York Times*, "Sean Combs Is Accused by Cassie of Rape and Years of Abuse in Lawsuit"

3rd: Brent Lang, Tatiana Siegel and Matt Donnelly, *Variety*, "Showstopper! Strikes Plunge Hollywood Into Chaos With Pricey Movie Delays, Pay Battles and AI Anxiety"

G2. Celebrity News, Print (see G19)

G3. Diversity in the TV/Film Industry, Print

Brent Lang, *Variety*, "Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy on Her Revealing Diane von Furstenberg Documentary and Directing a 'Star Wars' Movie"

<https://bit.ly/3T1OvJS>

Judges' comment: The juxtapositioning between Obaid-Chinoy's work in violent places such as Syria and Afghanistan, with her most recent film about designer Diane von Furstenberg is skillfully woven into Lang's piece.

2nd: Erik Himmelsbach-Weinstein, *Los Angeles Times*, "Native Americans and the movies: A long-forgotten history of Hollywood and my family"

3rd: Nekesa Mumbi Moody, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Oprah and 'The Color Purple' Stars on the New Musical Remake: 'It's Bright. It's Vibrant. It's Us'"

G4. Diversity in the Music/Performing Arts/Arts Industry, Print

Lynell George, *Alta Journal*, "A Reissued Novel Offers a Rare Look at Black Bohemian Life"

<https://bit.ly/3TK0o7n>

Judges' comment: A well-written and researched profile that reveals much about an artist many people may not know about but should.

2nd: Katie Bain, *Billboard*, "Finding Harmony"

3rd: Thania Garcia, *Variety*, "Meet the Women Managing Música Mexicana's Breakout Stars, From Xavi to Yahritza Y Su Esencia and More"

G5. Personality Profile, Film Industry — Under 2,500 Words, Print

Carlos Aguilar, *New York Times*, "The Actor Who Played Jar Jar Binks Is Proud of His 'Star Wars' Legacy"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/03/movies/jar-jar-binks-actor-star-wars-ahmed-best.html>

Judges' comment: The best personality profiles leave you feeling like you've gained deeper insight into the subject. As someone who remembers the debut of the prequels, this brought me a better understanding, and yes, even sympathy for Ahmed Best.

2nd: Kate Aurthur, *Variety*, "Carey Mulligan Never Felt Like a 'Proper Actor.' Then Came 'Maestro': 'I'm Going to Absolutely Do It All'"

3rd: Glenn Whipp, *Los Angeles Times*, "For Martin Scorsese, it's all about forgiveness"

G6. Personality Profile, TV/Streaming Industry — Under 2,500 Words, Print

Adam Chitwood, *TheWrap*, "Bill Hader Had an 'Emotional Comedown' After Ending 'Barry'"

<https://www.thewrap.com/bill-hader-barry-season-4-emmys-interview/>

Judges' comment: This profile on Bill Hader is a fascinating story about a fascinating guy who just ended a fascinating show. The author has a lot to work with with the subject matter, and he takes it and runs with it.

2nd: Emily Longeretta, *Variety*, "'It Was Never My Intention to Be a Heartthrob': Josh Hartnett on Finding His Focus, Shedding the Darkness of 'Black Mirror' and That 'Bats--- Crazy' 'Trap' Script"

3rd: Margy Rochlin, *Emmy Magazine*, "Winning Time"

G7. Personality Profile, Music and Other Arts — Under 2,500 Words, Print

Ashley Carman, *Bloomberg News*, "Podcasting's No. 1 Agent Now Copes With Crash of Market He Hyped"

<https://tinyurl.com/3xj9nxh9>

Judges' comment: It uses its profile focus to tell a broader story, about the rise of podcasts as entertainment, and the bubble bursting.

2nd: Kim Masters, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Linda Yaccarino's Very Unmerry X Mess"

3rd: Candace Hansen, *Los Angeles Times*, "Phranc opens 'The Butch Closet' in Santa Monica. It's queer life meticulously documented in cardboard"

G8. Personality Profile, Film Industry — Over 2,500 Words, Print

Alex Morris, *Rolling Stone*, "Kristen Stewart Uncensored: 'I Want to Do the Gayest Thing You've Ever Seen in Your Life'"

<https://bit.ly/3zGVGk5>

Judges' comment: A raw, rollicking Rolling Stone profile of the irreverent, energetic actress Kristen Stewart on her life, films and loves.

2nd: Steve Pond, *TheWrap*, "The Lion in Winter"

3rd: Lisa Bloch, *Beverly Hills Courier*, "Eva Longoria Redefines Star Power"

G9. Personality Profile, TV/Streaming Industry — Over 2,500 Words, Print

Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Cheryl Hines ... as First Lady? The 'Curb' Star on Life After Larry and Marriage to RFK Jr."

<https://tinyurl.com/yzek684r>

Judges' comment: With insight, the writer was able to show a real person behind the persona.

2nd: Jason Zinoman, *The New York Times*, "Conan O'Brien Doesn't Matter**"

3rd: Kate Aurthur, *Variety*, "Long Live Shiv Roy: Sarah Snook Tells All on That 'Succession' Ending, Her Pregnancy and Crying Through the Finale"

G10. Personality Profile, Music and Other Arts — Over 2,500 Words, Print

Jeff Kaliss, *Alta Journal*, "Alta Q&A: 'Heart Like a Wheel'"

<https://bit.ly/3XZZBC6>

Judges' comment: Revealing and compelling and riveting, hard to do in a Q&A.

2nd: Angie Martoccio, *Rolling Stone*, "Billie Eilish Would Like to Reintroduce Herself"

3rd: Brian Hiatt, *Rolling Stone*, "Teezo Touchdown: Birth of a Rock Star"

G11. Film Industry Feature — Under 1,000 Words, Print

Katcy Stephan, *Variety*, "'MoviePass, MovieCrash': Founder Stacy Spikes on Mitch Lowe, Racial Bias and Where the Company Stands Today"

<https://bit.ly/4dB6COQ>

Judges' comment: Great historical references; plus a quote-rich narrative.

2nd: Beatrice Verhoeven and Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "As the Actors Strike Ends, Many Awards Contenders and Campaigners Are Scrambling to Make Up for Lost Time"

3rd: Lisa Richwine, *Reuters*, "Hollywood hat trick: Artisan shaped the look of 'Oppenheimer'"

G12. TV Industry Feature — Under 1,000 Words, Print

Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Dan Harmon Is Ready to Talk About All of It (Including the Justin Roiland Drama)"

<https://tinyurl.com/yb52wyzn>

Judges' comment: As long and as exhaustive as this no-holds-barred interview was, every moment was priceless.

2nd: Pamela Chelin, *Los Angeles Times*, "The SAG-AFTRA celebration scene: 'We are sexy, we are funny, all these studios owe us money'"

3rd: Katcy Stephan, *Variety*, "'Futurama:' John DiMaggio on His Salary Battle and Return as Bender"

G13. Music/Performing Arts Industry Feature — Under 1,000 Words, Print

Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Dolly Parton on Turning Down the Super Bowl and Her New Rock Album: 'I Don't Want It to Be Half-Ass Country'"

<https://bit.ly/4gLAMuE>

Judges' comment: The profile goes deep to reveal the person beyond the cleavage and wigs.

2nd: Jon Burlingame, *Variety*, "'Law & Order' Composer Mike Post Creates New Bluegrass and Blues Album"

3rd: Mikael Wood, *Los Angeles Times*, "Weezer's Blue Album at 30: The inside story of the debut that launched L.A.'s nerdiest band"

G14. Visual Arts/Architecture Feature — Under 1,000 Words, Print

Jennifer Lewis, *Alta Journal*, "The High Desert's Funkiest Art Gallery"

<https://bit.ly/3N7PMeN>

Judges' comment: Along with great photos, a delightful, and often hilarious, portrait of an elderly artist producing an eccentric art gallery outside in the Mojave Desert.

2nd: Shana Nys Dambrot, *Artillery Magazine*, "Steve McQueen at Marian Goodman Gallery"

3rd: Tia Shipman, *Collegian Times*, "AI Takes the Runway: Technology era disrupts fashion"

G15. Film Industry Feature — Over 1,000 Words, Print

Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "'Schindler's List': An Oral History of a Masterpiece"

<https://tinyurl.com/mryr488b>

Judges' comment: Spectacular. So interesting. Liked the way each section was set up kept readers engaged until the end. And so many sources with wonderful insightful quotes. It had forces and drive.

2nd: Jon Burlingame, *Variety*, "'Maestro': How Bradley Cooper Turned Bernstein's Classical Music into a Film Score"

3rd: Adam B. Vary, *Variety*, "'The Blair Witch Project' Actors Call Out 'Reprehensible Behavior' After Missing Out on Profits for Decades: 'Don't Do What We Did' (EXCLUSIVE)"

G16. TV Industry Feature — Over 1,000 Words, Print

Erich Schwartzel, *The Wall Street Journal*, "Can Warner Bros. Uncancel J.K. Rowling?"

<https://on.wsj.com/4e9Ys08>

Judges' comment: Incredible read here of the saga to get a Harry Potter TV show onto Max. Great BG and good timeline of events and efforts to get Rowling onboard. An engrossing read.

2nd: Pamela McClintock, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Anderson Cooper on His Complicated Vanderbilt Legacy and CNN After Chris Licht"

3rd: Rene Chun, *Emmy Magazine*, "Shō Time"

G17. Music/Performing Arts Industry Feature — Over 1,000 Words, Print

Laura King, Marcus Yam, *Los Angeles Times*, "They fled war, then found new hope through Shakespeare's toughest play"

<https://tinyurl.com/mrxxmycs>

Judges' comment: This was such a poignant story of how a group of Ukrainian actors (amateurs) were gathered to perform "King Lear" in the birthplace of Shakespeare. The play was a welcome distraction from the war in the actors' homeland yet drew parallels between Lear and their mother country.

2nd: August Brown, *Los Angeles Times*, "Autism silenced this L.A. teenager. It couldn't stop him from creating a 70-minute symphony"

3rd: Tim Greiving, *Alta Journal*, "The Force Is with Him"

G18. Visual Arts/Architecture Feature — Over 1,000 Words, Print

Jessica Zack, *Alta Journal*, "The Art of Participation"

<https://bit.ly/4eA327M>

Judges' comment: This beautifully written profile of Lee Mingwei delves into the Taiwanese American conceptual artist's psyche to help the reader understand the imagination behind his works.

2nd: Jessica Gelt, *Los Angeles Times*, "A child porn conviction and angry 'Star Trek' fans: Inside the drama around a new sci-fi museum"

3rd: Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Museums Are Reckoning With Looted Art. Now It's LACMA's Turn"

G19. Celebrity Feature, Print

Rebecca Keegan, Katie Kilkeny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Fran Drescher's Role of a Lifetime"

<https://tinyurl.com/4tzvr489>

Judges' comment: Keegan and Kilkeny go beyond a simple recounting of a celebrity's latest promotion, and dig into the work behind the work of being an actor as they report on Drescher's leadership during the SAG strike.

2nd: Frank DeCaro, *Emmy Magazine*, "Here Comes the Fun"

3rd: Mara Reinstein, *Emmy Magazine*, "Tragedy, Tenacity and Triumph"

G20. Columnist, Print

Mary McNamara, *Los Angeles Times*

<https://tinyurl.com/3euvszhm>

<https://tinyurl.com/bd7puep>

<https://tinyurl.com/udr8emxi>

Judge's comment: McNamara shows great knowledge of her topics and has a nice conversational style. She also isn't afraid to reveal things about herself, as she did in her column about "The Bear."

2nd: LZ Granderson, *Los Angeles Times*

3rd: Andre Gee, *Rolling Stone*

G21. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Film, Print

Jennet Conant, *Alta Journal*, "The Cautionary Tale of J. Robert Oppenheimer"

<https://bit.ly/3XXPL3n>

Judges' comment: Conant skillfully draws a worrisome line between the atomic bomb and A.I., posing crucial questions about regulation, responsibility and regret. It could not be timelier.

2nd: Brent Lang, *Variety*, "How Steven Spielberg Dominated Culture and the 1994 Oscars With 'Jurassic Park' and 'Schindler's List'"

3rd: Lacey Rose and Lesley Goldberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Why Hollywood Is in the Throes of an IP Frenzy"

G22. Commentary Analysis/Trend, TV, Print

James Poniewozik, *The New York Times*, "The Comfortable Problem of Mid TV"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/27/arts/television/mid-tv.html>

Judges' comment: Poniewozik's very well-written piece about TV being in a not-so-golden era (but not horrible either) brings home his point with clever metaphors.

2nd: Michael Schneider, *Variety*, "Repeats, Reality and 'Yellowstone': How Network TV Is Marketing Fall Lineups Without Many Scripted Favorites"

3rd: Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "'Love on the Spectrum' Is Showing Me Examples of How My Autistic Son Could Be as an Adult — and It's Amazing"

G23. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Music, Print

Chris Willman, *Variety*, "Jason Aldean Already Had the Most Contemptible Country Song of the Decade. The Video Is Worse"

<https://bit.ly/4bXq5sl>

Judges' comment: No holds barred critique of a controversial song. Well-written and provides plenty of examples to back up the criticism.

2nd: Sam Hart and Daisy Chung, *Reuters*, "It's Mariah Time (again)"

3rd: Althea Legaspi, *Rolling Stone*, "Breaking Through Rock Journalism's Boys' Club"

G24. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Other Arts, Print

Deborah Vankin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Scammers used AI to tell the world I was dead. Why? I had to find out"

<https://lat.ms/3YY7ngH>

Judges' comment: Very good examination of what can go wrong with AI. So nicely written, readers know it wasn't created by a machine.

2nd: David Kipen, *Los Angeles Times*, "An addictively readable history of the Hollywood Renaissance, with one glaring omission"

3rd: Jim Lewis, *Alta Journal*, "Accepting AI's Inevitability"

G25. Entertainment Publication, Print

Los Angeles Magazine, Shirley Halperin, "L.A. Stays in the Picture: The Movies We Call Home" PDF

Judges' comment: Everything about this issue was top-notch -- the excellent writing, the readable layout, the general concept focusing on Los Angeles as a character in films, the features and the pull-out tidbits.

2nd: *Billboard*, Rebecca Milzoff, "Billboard: The Sports Issue"

3rd: *Emmy Magazine*, Juan Morales, Maura Weber, Sarah Hirsch, Stephan Horbelt and Rich Bleiweiss, "75th Emmys Awards Special"

H. BROADCAST

H1. Business, TV/Film Related, Broadcast

Nightline, ABC News, ABC News, "Hollywood Strikes"

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

Judges' comment: A revealing story about the negative impact of the strikes on 'below-the-line' entertainment industry workers.

2nd: Chase Beech, *Spectrum News 1*, "Every Dollar Counts"

3rd: John Fenoglio and Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*, "L.A. prop store struggling to stay open amid actors strike"

H2. Business, Music/Theater/Performing Arts Related, Broadcast

Nightline, ABC News, ABC News, "Traveling for Tickets"

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

Judges' comment: The frustrations and passions concert lovers face in a greed-driven ticket market, are expertly revealed in this informative report.

2nd: Chase Beech, *Spectrum News 1*, "The Economics of Taylor Swift"

3rd: Alison Martino, *Spectrum News 1*, "The Dresden: A Hollywood landmark and staple since 1954"

H3. Business, Tech/Arts Related, Broadcast

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, ABC News Studios, "OnlyFans: Not Just Sex"

<https://bit.ly/4eIV16Z>

Judges' comment: Stunningly revealing portrait of "The Sopranos" Drea De Matteo as income from the OnlyFans social media site saved her from losing her house. Also explores how celebrities and others make a living as sex teasers.

2nd: Zarina Khairzada and Romeo Montiel, *Spectrum News 1*, "Lightscape"

3rd: Rollo Ross and Alan Devall, *Reuters TV*, "William Shatner, Star Trek's Captain Kirk, takes on an AI chatbot"

H4. Entertainment Industry/Arts Investigative, Broadcast (see I15)

H5. Obituary/In Appreciation, TV/Film Personalities, Broadcast

Mo Rocca, Jay Kernis, Chad Cardin, Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Norman Lear Remembrance"

<https://app.cimediacloud.com/r/aFzSjNh85Ky>

Judges' comment: Stunningly revealing portrait of "The Sopranos" Drea De Matteo as income from the OnlyFans socialThis well-written, well-edited piece included archived interviews with Lear, noting the producer's seminal influence on TV comedy and popular culture. But, it also explored the working-class upbringing that shaped Lear, his commitment to celebrating and preserving American democracy, and the role of family and laughter in his long, rich life.

2nd: Nightline, ABC News, ABC News, "The Death of Matthew Perry"

3rd: Patt Morrison, *LA Times Today on Spectrum News 1*, "Norman Lear - TV Genius, Patriot, Friend"

H6. Obituary/In Appreciation, Music and Other Arts Personalities, Broadcast

Cheryl Diano, George Pennacchio, KABC-TV, "The Death of Music Great Tony Bennett"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZliXk0FZEc>

Judges' comment: A warm, poignant portrait of the iconic singer, whose long career was topped by a duet with Lady Gaga and ongoing singing for audiences despite developing Alzheimer's.

2nd: Tracy Smith, John R D'Amelio, Steven Tyler and Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Mancini"

3rd: Lee Cowan, Young Kim and Steven Tyler, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Hail and Farewell 2023"

I. TV/VIDEO/FILM

I1. Anchor/Host, TV/Film

Taj Frazier, *PBS SoCal*, "Outside the Lyrics"

<https://www.pbs.org/video/how-this-west-coast-dance-style-took-over-america-wu2db2/>

Judges' comment: The Host was terrific, smart, interesting, easy to follow and understand. He took the material seriously, but was never stiff, and was in charge without ever feeling ego driven.

2nd: Jesus Trejo, *PBS SoCal*, "Roots of Comedy with Jesus Trejo"

3rd: Frank Buckley and Cher Calvin, *KTLA 5 News*, "KTLA 5's Celebration of Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month"

I2. Hard or Breaking News, TV

Nightline, ABC News, *ABC News*, "The Sentencing of Jonathan Majors"

<https://vimeo.com/1007769607/9e560acbb3>

Judges' comment: Comprehensive, thorough report on the Jonathan Majors verdict. Solid reporting which covers all aspects of the story.

2nd: Elex Michaelson, Debbie Kim and Steve Thorp, *KTTV*, "The Emotional & Important Story of Project Angel Food"

3rd: Cheryl Diano and George Pennacchio, *KABC-TV*, "The Remarkable Life of Norman Lear"

I3. Diversity in the Film Industry, TV

Nightline, ABC News, *ABC News*, "Hollywood Hair Equity"

<https://bit.ly/4dbeqG0>

Judges' comment: This insightful story sheds light from all angles on race-based hair discrimination in Hollywood and stood out for its strong, concise storytelling and outspoken interviews.

2nd: Kitty Hu, Nic Cha Kim, Shannon Sun-Higginson, Carol Paik and Bryant Griffin, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: L.A. Rebellion: A Cinematic Movement"

3rd: Rollo Ross and Sandra Stojanovic, *Reuters TV*, "Female stunt drivers take on obstacles to working in Hollywood"

I4. Diversity in the TV/Streaming Industry, TV

PBS SoCal and CALICO, *PBS SoCal*, "Roots of Comedy with Jesus Trejo"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBR88jgP0_8

Judges' comment: An absorbing, often funny exploration of the comedy career of Sierra Katow, a 4th generation Japanese-Chinese American, who host Jesus Trejo interviews and traces the impact of her ancestors

2nd: Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz and the Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'John Leguizamo'"
3rd: Kelvin Washington and Brian DeCloux, *Spectrum News 1*, "UCLA SOUL Archives"

15. Diversity in the Music Industry, TV

Nic Cha Kim, Steven Kochones, Daniel Sollinger, Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Chinatown Punk Wars: Madame Wong's and Hong Kong Cafe's Flyer Wars"

<https://www.pbssocal.org/shows/artbound/clip/madame-wongs-and-hong-kong-cafes-flyer-wars>

Judges' comment: From the thoughtful interview clips to the historical images, this story goes beyond the punk wars in Chinatown and explores entrepreneurship, racism, societal othering and an intriguing era for the LA music scene.

2nd: Rae Williams, *Spectrum News 1*, "3 Chords & The Actual Truth"

3rd: Megan Telles and Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*, "Female Mariachi Band Breaks Through Glass Ceiling"

16. Diversity in the Arts, TV

Sara Kugel, Carol Ross, Mark Whitaker, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Freedom Monument Sculpture Park"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDMEbxe_cm4

Judges' comment: A deeply moving story about artwork depicting American slavery and the dangers of euphemizing history to avoid talking about its legacy. The reporter's personal connection revealed near the end was handled skillfully and illustrated the ultimate objective of the installation itself

2nd: Nic Cha Kim, Marley Lister, Suzanne Mejean Pinney and Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Little Amal"

3rd: Seth Doane, Emanuele Secci, Aria Shavelson and Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "On Display: Jeffrey Gibson"

17. Personality Profile, Film Personalities, TV

Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'Arturo Muyschondt'"

<https://vimeo.com/911746661/7cb98e30e3?share=copy>

Judges' comment: Fascinating profile of Arturo Muyschondt. Giselle Fernandez does such a beautiful job helping him tell his story.

2nd: Lesley Corral, Francesca Manto, Dominoe Ibarra and Lacey Rose, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Glen Powell Shares His Hollywood Firsts: From Singing 'Unwritten' To 'Spy Kids' Set, Twisters & More"

3rd: Perry Simon, John Lithgow, Juan Devis, Angela Boisvert and Antonio Diaz, *PBS SoCal*, "Art Happens Here with John Lithgow"

18. Personality Profile, TV/Streaming Personalities, TV

Lee Cowan, Sari Aviv, Steven Tyler, Mike Hernandez, Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "CBS Sunday Morning: Dan Rather"

<https://vimeo.com/941192966>

Judges' comment: Warm and well-done profile of Dan Rather. that included his low point.

2nd: Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz and the Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'John Leguizamo'"

3rd: PBS SoCal and CALICO, *PBS SoCal*, "Roots of Comedy with Jesus Trejo"

I9A. Personality Profile, Music Personalities, TV

Kelefa Sanneh, Alan Golds, Aria Shavelson, Ed Givnish, Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Introducing: Jelly Roll"

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

Judges' comment: Beautiful, well rounded portrait of Jelly Roll that was extremely well shot and edited.

2nd: ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*, "It's Britney"

3rd: Luke Burbank, Young Kim and Chad Cardin, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Music's Future: Miles Music Kid"

I9B. Personality Profile, Arts/Culture Personalities, TV

Giselle Fernandez, Anaconda Street Productions, Seth Katz, Spectrum News 1 Team, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "LA Stories with Giselle Fernandez - 'Fabian Debora'"

<https://vimeo.com/923573172/318b62f8da?share=copy>

Judges' comment: Sad but beautiful profile of Fabian Debora with a gripping emotional impact.

2nd: Kaela Waldstein, Lara Evans, Amber-Dawn Bear Robe and Michelle Merker, *PBS SoCal*, "Cara Romero: Following the Light"

3rd: Robeson Taj Frazier, Angela Boisvert, Jaime Morgan Munoz, Colin Taylor and Daniel Leonard, *PBS SoCal*, "Outside the Lyrics: How This West Coast Dance Style Took Over America"

I10. Hard News Feature — Under 5 Minutes, TV

Lydia Pantazes Garcia, *Spectrum News 1 SoCal*, "Prop Houses One Year Later"

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/entertainment/2024/05/23/writers-strike-one-year-later>

Judges' comment: The team effectively explored the after-effects of the Hollywood production stoppage due to the pandemic and strikes, visiting a costume-rental store conducting a going-out-of-business sale and a furniture prop shop that barely survived a similar fate.

2nd: Renee Eng, *Spectrum News 1*, "AI Crime Crackdown"

3rd: Zarina Khairzada, *Spectrum News 1*, "Amplifying Afghan Women's Voices"

I11. Hard News Feature — Over 5 Minutes, TV

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*, "Diddy's Downfall"

<https://bit.ly/3MPWw14>

Judges' comment: Comprehensively traces the fascinating rise and fall of P. Diddy Combs, with a last comment by a past supporter prophetically predicting he would be jailed.

2nd: Tracy Smith, John R D'Amelio, Mike Levine and Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "Christine Blasey Ford"

3rd: Andy Schlachtenhaufen, *Spectrum News 1*, "Protecting Little Tokyo"

I12. Soft News Feature, TV/Film related — Under 5 Minutes, TV

Abrar Al-Heeti, John Kim, *CNET*, "How Dolby Atmos Makes You Feel Immersed in Movies and Music"

<https://bit.ly/4dNgNQA>

Judges' comment: An excellent and engaging short feature piece with compelling graphics, visual animations, and music.

2nd: Vera Jimenez and Paul Sanchez, *KTLA*, "José M. Hernández's inspiring journey from farm worker to astronaut told in 'A Million Miles Away'"
3rd: Rollo Ross, *Reuters TV*, "A Minute With: Greta Gerwig on making 'Barbie' a surprising movie"

I13. Soft News Feature, Music/Arts/Culture related — Under 5 Minutes, TV

Martha Teichner, Young Kim, Fran Gullo, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "A Weathervane Artisan"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bD2CijWY6s>

Judges' comment: On the surface, this is subject matter that doesn't seem like it would be very exciting. But this story is super interesting, extremely well explained, and just fun. Excellent job.

2nd: Luis Alfonso De La Parra, Marley Lister, Nic Cha Kim, Angela Boisvert and Samantha Heltemes, *PBS SoCal*, "TAIKOPROJECT of L.A.: Collaborative and Cultural Drumming"

3rd: Taylor Torregano, *Spectrum News 1*, "Life of Rosecrans"

I14A. Soft News Feature, TV related — Over 5 Minutes, TV

ABC News Studios IMPACT x Nightline, *Hulu*, "Reality Reckoning? Bethenny Frankel's Fight for Change"

<https://bit.ly/3Zqfy5o>

Judges' comment: The ABC News team pulled back the curtain on reality TV, and the many serious issues that stem from it, with skilled editing, storytelling and photography. Juju Chang's interviews were precise and masterful.

2nd: Daniel Baghdasarian, Nic Cha Kim, Richie Kulchar, Tamara Gould and Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Angel City Press: Arthur Dong on 'Hollywood Chinese' & Shaping Representation"

3rd: David Pogue, Dustin Stephens, Libby Fabricatore, Rob Kaplan and Rand Morrison, *CBS Sunday Morning*, "CBS Sunday Morning: Captions On"

I14B. Soft News Feature, Film related — Over 5 Minutes, TV

Scott Pelley, Nicole Young, Bill Owens, Kristin Steve, Peter Berman, *CBS 60 Minutes*, "Finding Cillian Murphy"

<https://app.cimediacloud.com/r/BCEqJCKFINdF>

Judges' comment: The photography and writing made this piece stand out. This is a masterclass in a character profile.

2nd: Alison Martino, *Spectrum News 1*, "Griffith Observatory: SoCal's gateway to the cosmos"

3rd: *Nightline*, *ABC News*, *ABC News*, "The Brat Pack"

I15. Soft News Feature, Music/Arts/Culture related — Over 5 Minutes, TV

Nic Cha Kim, Marley Lister, Suzanne Mejean Pinney, Angela Boisvert, Tamara Gould, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Little Amal"

<https://www.pbssocal.org/shows/artbound/clip/puppet-of-10-yr-old-syrian-refugee-little-amal-learns-asl>

Judges' comment: Unique and fresh feature showing a side by side with the deaf community that gives greater perspective as spoken words are not needed to always fill in the narrative.

2nd: Alison Martino, *Spectrum News 1*, "Legendary Artist Ed Ruscha: Now and Then"

3rd: Scott Hays, *KLCS-PBS*, "The Power and Awe of Music"

I16. Documentary or Special Program, Short (under 30 minutes), TV/Film

PBS SoCal and CALICO, *PBS SoCal*, "Roots of Comedy with Jesus Trejo"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6mCTs7_KOg

Judges' comment: Crisp writing with humor and information that shows how Native Americans are viewed, giving the story a raw and engaging component.

2nd: Scott Hays, *KLCS-PBS*, "Surviving the Trauma of Relationship Violence"

3rd: ABC On The Red Carpet, *KABC-TV*, "On The Red Carpet Presents: Inside Out 2"

I17A. Documentary or Special Program, Feature, Art/Architecture/Literature Related (over 30 minutes)

Daniel Baghdasarian, Nic Cha Kim, Richie Kulchar, Tamara Gould, Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: Angel City Press: L.A. through the Pages"

<https://www.pbssocal.org/shows/artbound/episodes/angel-city-press-la-through-the-pages>

Judges' comment: A marvelous, tightly woven exploration of a unique publisher dedicated to enshrining LA's history and culture.

2nd: Kristie Bihn, Cheryl Diano, George Pennacchio and Dan Rasmussen, *KABC-TV*, "'On The Red Carpet' Presents 'The Last Repair Shop'"

3rd: Ana Paola Rodriguez, Jose Luis Figueroa, Omar Foglio, Nic Cha Kim and Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: América Tropical: The Martyr Mural of Siqueiros"

I17B. Documentary or Special Program, Feature, TV/Film Related (over 30 minutes)

Bridget Murnane, *PBS SoCal*, "Bella"

<https://bit.ly/4dW7Wvw>

Judges' comment: Thoughtful, introspective history of an iconic character in dance whose courageous impact influenced a generation of creativity in the arts.

2nd: ABC News Studios, *Hulu*, "Brats"

3rd: Yu Gu, Nic Cha Kim, Tamara Gould and Angela Boisvert, *PBS SoCal*, "Artbound: East West Players: A Home on Stage"

J. RADIO/PODCASTS

J1. Anchor/Host, Radio/Podcast

Lyndsey Parker, *Totally '80s*, "The Totally '80s Podcast"

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

<https://bit.ly/42LeqL5>

<https://bit.ly/3T2YleM>

Judges' comment: Lyndsey's passion for this decade is clear in her energy and charisma she establishes for herself as the host and the rapport she establishes with her guests.

2nd: Michael Schneider, Clayton Davis, Jazz Tangcay, Jenelle Riley and Emily Longoretta, *Variety*, "Variety's Award Circuit Podcast Hosts"

3rd: Kim Masters, *KCRW*, "Christopher Nolan, Kai Bird on adapting 'American Prometheus'; Disney's proxy war wages on"

J2. News or Hard News Feature N/A

J3. Diversity in the Entertainment Industry, Radio/Podcast

Caroline Feraday, *KCLU*, "America's first all-female mariachi group bring the rich cultural heritage of Latin America to Santa Barbara County"

<https://bit.ly/3YGH8en>

Judges' comment: Succinct, professional and entertaining presentation of this unexpected story that truly explores diversity of gender and culture while also educating.

2nd: Norma Martinez and Marian Navarro, *Texas Public Radio*, “‘My instrument is the orchestra’ — Colombian-born conductor discusses her path to the podium”

3rd: Lisa Niver, *PODCAST: Make Your Own Map*, “Ageless Ambition: Inspirational Leadership of Carolyn Ray, JourneyWoman”

J4. One-on-One Interview, Film Personalities, Radio/Podcast

Kim Masters and Joshua Farnham, *KCRW*, “‘One Life’ director on the true story of Sir Nicholas Winton; Iger triumphs in Disney proxy fight”

<http://kcrw.co/4depl8y>

Judges' comment: Compelling interview that weaves in family history.

2nd: Clayton Davis, *Variety*, “Selena Gomez on Her Cannes Win for Best Actress, ‘Only Murders’ and Potentially Becoming Most Emmy-Nominated Latina Producer”

3rd: Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney and Katie Gilcrest, *KCRW*, “Actor Colman Domingo on ‘Rustin’ and ‘The Color Purple’”

J5. One-on-One Interview, TV Personalities, Radio/Podcast

Madeleine Brand, Angie Perrin, *KCRW*, “Julia Louis-Dreyfus on coping with grief, refusing to be ignored”

<https://kcrw.co/3XzBWa3>

Judges' comment: The conversation takes a thoughtful approach that brings grief to the table, going well-beyond the glamor of movie making.

2nd: Michael Schneider, *Variety*, “Day Eating With Seth Meyers: The ‘Late Night’ Host Counts Down His Top 10 Pizza List”

3rd: Deborah Zara Kobylt, *iHeartRadio and Youtube*, “Fox11’s Christine Devine talks about meeting her father for the first time in Brazil”

J6. One-on-One Interview, Other Arts Personalities, Radio/Podcast

Jonathan Bastian, *KCRW*, “The Japanese art of happiness: From ikigai, to ritual, to embracing old age”

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

Judges' comment: Polished with insightful questioning.

2nd: Lyndsey Parker, *Totally '80s*, “The Legacy of George Michael with Simon Napier-Bell”

3rd: Brian Hiatt, *Rolling Stone*, “Geddy Lee Tells All: ‘My Effin’ Life’ — and Rush’s Possible Future”

J7. Soft News Feature, Radio/Podcast

Giuliana Mayo, *KCRW*, “Minerva Hamilton Hoyt — tireless defender of the desert — saved Joshua Tree”

<https://bit.ly/3PdvYs7>

Judges' comment: Giuliana infuses this important story with her curiosity and personality, covering a lesser known history that will continue to educate and serve the audience.

2nd: Ethan Huang, *AnnenbergMedia*, “Voice actors in the struggle against AI”

3rd: Nathan Cone, *Texas Public Radio*, “Grain, grit, texture: in a digital world, film photography is thriving”

J8. Best Arts or Entertainment Regular Podcast

Brian Hiatt, *Rolling Stone*, “Rolling Stone Music Now”

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

Judges' comment: Producers take great care matching relevant guests with other guests, or with varied hosts. This level of professional flexibility and willingness to share the spotlight make Rolling Stone's podcast top notch among peers.

2nd: Jeff Goldsmith, *The Q&A with Jeff Goldsmith*, "3 Body Problem Q&A - David Benioff - D.B. Weiss - Alexander Woo"

3rd: Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Awards Chatter"

J9. Best Arts or Entertainment Limited Series Podcast

Ben Fritz, *The Wall Street Journal*, "With Great Power: The Rise of Superhero Cinema"

<https://on.wsj.com/4gsRRzz>

Judges' comment: Great Power is a brilliantly stacked story accessible to all audiences – regardless of Marvel knowledge – and uses suspense and drama to keep listeners hooked to the next episode.

2nd: Antonia Cerejido and M.G. Lord, *LAist Studios*, "LA Made: The Barbie Tapes"

3rd: Karina Longworth, *You Must Remember This Podcast*, "You Must Remember This - Erotic 90's (Episodes 15-21)"

J10. Best Use of Sound, Radio/Podcast

Caroline Feraday, *KCLU*, "Why Superman singer took a risky journey to Kyiv to film with Ukrainian National Orchestra"

<https://bit.ly/3yteR0h>

Judges' comment: The impact of this story is very much highlighted by its use of sound, but perhaps the most moving moment is its moment of silence: expertly weaved into the narrative where it then becomes the most impactful beat of the entire piece.

2nd: Jack Morgan, *Texas Public Radio*, "Charreada is the beautiful San Antonio rodeo that both breaks norms and honors tradition"

3rd: Elvis Mitchell, Rebecca Mooney and Katie Gilcrest, *KCRW*, "Actor Cillian Murphy on The Beatles' 'A Day in the Life'"

K. ONLINE (Content exclusive to the Internet)

K1. Hard News, TV/Streaming Related, Online

Jeremy Fuster, *TheWrap*, "5 Days to End the Strike: When Writers and Studios (Finally) Hit a Contract Breakthrough"

<https://bit.ly/3U6N79O>

Judges' comment: This story goes deep inside to show the final days leading to a settlement of the Writers Guild strike.

2nd: Krystie Lee Yandoli, *Rolling Stone*, "Chaos, Comedy, and 'Crying Rooms': Inside Jimmy Fallon's 'Tonight Show'"

3rd: Kate Nelson, *Romper*, "For Native Birth Workers, That 'True Detective' Birth Scene Was Extra Meaningful"

K2. Hard News, Film Related, Online

Drew Taylor, *TheWrap*, "The Final Days of 'Coyote vs. Acme': Offers, Rejections and a Roadrunner Race Against Time"

<https://bit.ly/3zx6tgJ>

Judges' comment: Revealing the facts around Warner Bros.' decision to shelve "Coyote vs. Acme" explains a lot about the film business these days where a picture deemed a potential underperformer can be worth as much as a tax write-off, never to be seen by audiences.

2nd: Mia Galuppo and Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Netflix Enters Its Dan Lin Era"
3rd: Ellise Shafer and Alex Ritman, *Variety*, "Alan Menken, Sarah Sherman, Alex Winter and Larry Charles Join Jewish Creatives Supporting Jonathan Glazer's Oscars Speech in Open Letter (EXCLUSIVE)"

K3. Hard News, Music/Arts Related, Online

David Browne, Nancy Dillon, Kory Grow, *Rolling Stone*, "'They Wanted to Dance in Peace. And They Got Slaughtered'"

<https://bit.ly/3XK5mIV>

Judges' comment: With gripping detail, this piece shows how an idyllic Israeli music festival became a scene of horror when terrorists attacked.

2nd: Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How Jason Aldean Cynically Built "Small Town" to Appeal to Trump Country"

3rd: Aorui Pi, *Radii*, "Meet the Feminist Standups"

K4. Soft News, TV/Streaming Related, Online

Wilson Chapman, *IndieWire*, "Bryan Lee O'Malley Wanted 'Scott Pilgrim Takes Off' to Surprise You"

<https://bit.ly/4er9lur>

Judges' comment: A highly readable look into how the creator of a cult classic revisits his own material, years later, in a new light for old and new fans alike.

2nd: Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Hulu's 'Under the Bridge' Tells the Story of Reena Virk — and The Notorious B.I.G."

3rd: Meredith Woerner, *Variety*, "The True Story Behind Truman Capote's Ashes Being Auctioned Off on 'Feud'"

K5. Soft News, Film Related, Online

Thomas Buckley, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "Has Bob Iger Lost the Magic?"

<https://tinyurl.com/5fh84t9f>

Judges' comment: The story gives an in-depth and detailed account of Bob Iger's return to Disney and the misfortunes that have followed.

2nd: Adam Chitwood and Drew Taylor, *TheWrap*, "The 4K Blu-ray Collectors Market Is the Future of Physical Media"

3rd: Ryan Gajewski, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Animation at a Crossroads as Hope Mixes with Anxiety"

K6. Soft News, Music/Arts Related, Online

Jem Aswad, *Variety*, "Why David Bowie Killed Ziggy Stardust, 50 Years Ago Today"

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

Judges' comment: Aswad's well-written, well-sourced piece is a terrific deep dive into David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust period and his decision to put an end to the very persona that made him a star.

2nd: Steve Appleford, *Capital & Main*, "Street Artists Say Graffiti on Abandoned L.A. High-Rises Is Disruptive, Divisive Art"

3rd: Beatrice M. Spadacini, *Truthdig*, "Italy Turns to Theatre to Address Male Violence Against Women"

K7. Diversity in the TV/Streaming Industry, Online

Abbey White, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "How The CW's 'Sight Unseen' Built a Production For and Driven By Blind and Low Vision Creatives"

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

Judges' comment: An in-depth look into disability representation both in storytelling and production, an excellent in-front-of and behind-the-camera exploration of accommodation and inclusive storytelling

2nd: Hanh Nguyen, *Salon*, "Actor 'Sympathizer' Soldier Spy: How Australia's Hoa Xuande became the ultimate double agent"

3rd: Kayla Cobb and Loree Seitz, *TheWrap*, "The Rise of Women's Sports Isn't a Moment, It's a Movement"

K8. Diversity in the Film Industry, Online

Samantha Bergeson, *IndieWire*, "For Female Creatives, Hollywood Is Still Just as 'Bleak' as Some Fear, but It Doesn't Have to Be"

<https://bit.ly/47BenCy>

Judges' comment: An insightful, if realistically depressing, examination of gender equity in Hollywood, deftly weaving in the leading female voices of today.

2nd: Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "Black Women Executives Are Exiting Studio Leadership Posts and Hollywood's Doing Nothing About It"

3rd: Sharareh Drury, *Variety*, "'Dune 2' Criticized for Lack of Middle Eastern and North African Inclusion and Influences: 'A Missed Opportunity'"

K9. Diversity in the Music/Performing Arts Industry, Online

Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "Kara Young on 'Purlie Victorious,' Tony Awards, and Diversity on Broadway"

<http://bit.ly/4dj4U3I>

Judges' comment: Excellent profile that delves into many areas of diversity awareness. Young is a compelling and charismatic voice.

2nd: Joel Beers, *Culture OC*, "Re-Imagining the Railroad"

3rd: Abbey White, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A Neuro-Inclusive Take on 'Spring Awakening': 'We Don't Need to Break People Down'"

K10. Celebrity News, Online

Andi Ortiz, *TheWrap*, "Three Years After Britney, Wendy Williams Shows Celebrity Conservatorships May Still Be Toxic to Women"

<https://www.thewrap.com/celebrity-conservatorships-britney-spears-wendy-williams/>

Judges' comment: A well-crafted, judiciously reported look at the double standards plaguing conservatorship, presented with compelling insight and detail while avoiding sensationalism.

2nd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "Real Housewives Creator: How to Make the Supreme Court Spouses Reality TV Stars"

3rd: Libby Torres, Kirsten Acuna and Samantha Rollins, *Business Insider*, "The celebrity divorce playbook"

K11. Personality Profile, TV Personalities, Online

Samantha Rollins, **Lucia Moses**, *Business Insider*, "Rob McElhenney is betting on himself"

<https://bit.ly/47tgsQJ>

Judges' comment: Well-written, highly informative profile of TV show creator/entrepreneur Rob McElhenney, who overcame childhood developmental issues on his road to success.

2nd: Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "Netflix Had a Password-Sharing Problem. Greg Peters Fixed It"

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "Christine Lahti on Family Trauma, Fighting Trump, and How Feminism Saved Her"

K12. Personality Profile, Film Personalities, Online

Kate Erbland, *IndieWire*, "Kirsten Dunst Is Our Most Reasonable Movie Star"

<https://www.indiewire.com/features/interviews/kirsten-dunst-reasonable-movie-star-interview-civil-war-1234972463/>

Judges' comment: Erbland's fascinating profile of actress Kirsten Dunst, who speaks her mind, stands out in this excellent, competitive category.

2nd: Ed Rampell, *Truthdig*, "Sixty Years After JFK's Assassination, Oliver Stone Reflects"

3rd: Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "Paul Giamatti on 'Sideways' Oscar Snub, the Secret to His 'Holdovers' Lazy Eye and How He's Still 'Figuring Out How to Act on Film'"

K13. Personality Profile, Music Personalities, Online

Holly Gleason, *PASTEMagazine.com*, "IN THE THROES: Buddy & Julie Miller"

<https://bit.ly/4amGplr>

Judges' comment: Eloquently cuts to the heart of the reasons that music helps humans feel what's deep inside.

2nd: Lyndsey Parker, *Yahoo Entertainment*, "PiL's John Lydon on caring for late wife in final stages of Alzheimer's: 'She really never forgot me. Not ever. Not once.'"

3rd: Ellise Shafer, *Variety*, "Peter Doherty and Katia deVidas on Making Doc 'Stranger in My Own Skin' About the 'Terror and Danger' of Drug Addiction — and Falling in Love in the Process"

K14. Personality Profile, Performing & Other Arts, Online

Erin Somers, *Bustle*, "The Queenmaker"

<https://bit.ly/4degm0K>

Judges' comment: Somers' story is a fascinating one with revealing details.

2nd: Lyndsey Parker, *Yahoo Entertainment*, "Trailblazing 'groupie feminist' Pamela Des Barres at 75: 'I still get called a slut'"

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "How Gavin Creel Survived Broadway—and Made His Own Musical"

K15. TV Feature, Online

Jeff Goldsmith, James White, *Backstory Magazine*, "Emmy Contenders - Baby Reindeer"

<https://bit.ly/4eJUUI9>

Judges' comment: Beautiful, rich, intoxicating. This is a heartstopping appreciation filled with pathos and that's a rare and amazing thing.

2nd: J. Kim Murphy, *Variety*, "'Winning Time' Ends in Defeat With an Awkward, Surprise Series Finale"

3rd: Jason Guerrasio, *Business Insider*, "Michael Corleone Blanco is taking his mother Griselda's legacy legit"

K16. Film Feature, Actor Related, Online

Hanh Nguyen, *Salon*, ““Connected through inyeon’: Teo Yoo reflects on the fate that guided his career and to ‘Past Lives’”

<https://www.salon.com/2023/07/02/teo-yoo-past-lives/>

Judges’ comment: The writer explores actor Teo Yoo’s role in ‘Past Lives’ but also smoothly segues into questions about directing, dreams and drama. Even over Zoom, a critical connection is forged.

2nd: Katcy Stephan, *Variety*, “Tom Hardy on His Wild ‘Bikeriders’ Accent and Knowing ‘Furiosa’ Is ‘Special’ (Without Even Seeing It Yet)”

3rd: Ethan Shanfeld, *Variety*, “94-Year-Old June Squibb Does Her Own Stunts in ‘Thelma,’ a Sundance Spin on ‘Mission: Impossible’”

K17. Film Feature, Filmmaker Related, Online

Jeff Goldsmith, David Somerset, *Backstory Magazine*, “Legend - John Woo”

<https://bit.ly/4dvsBWP>

Judges’ comment: Backstory examines why John Travolta called Woo ‘One-Take John’ while filming ‘Face/Off,’ why Woo’s crew offered to work for free on ‘Hard Boiled’ and explores Woo’s signature style in which debris flies, squibs explode and the action turns balletic.

2nd: J. Kim Murphy, *Variety*, “‘Koyaanisqatsi’ Director Godfrey Reggio Unravels His New Odyssey ‘Once Within a Time’ Amid Humanity’s Accelerating Self-Destruction”

3rd: Todd Gilchrist, *Variety*, “Director Martin Brest Revisits the Triumphs of ‘Beverly Hills Cop’ and ‘Midnight Run,’ and Reflects On His Post-‘Gigli’ Hollywood Exile”

K18. Film Feature, Production/History Related, Online

David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Hollywood’s 20 Most Erotic Movies, Ranked”

<http://thr.cm/76d2jq4>

Judges’ comment: Rooney’s ranking of Hollywood’s 20 most erotic movies in concise, witty ways is exceptional.

2nd: Andrew Lewis, *The Ankler*, “Hollywoodland’s Jews: ‘Dreams and Fears, Always Fear’”

3rd: Gary Baum and Katie Kilkenny, *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Unmasking the AMPTP: Hollywood Labor’s Opaque Nemesis”

K19. Theater Feature, Online

Lyndsey Parker, *Lyndsanity*, “Andy Prieboy breaks 25-year silence on cult-classic Axl Rose musical: ‘If anything in my life was like Brian Wilson’s “Smile,” it was “White Trash Wins Lotto”’”

<https://bit.ly/3Z1y8AD>

Judges’ comment: This insightful, passionate interview/feature is a revelation about a brilliant yet doomed work of musical theater— one that should have been a Broadway Mega-Hit.

2nd: Brent Lang, *Variety*, “How Broadway’s ‘Cabaret at the Kit Kat Club’ Pulls Off Its Audacious, Sensual 75-Minute Prologue”

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, “They Met on ‘Succession.’ Now They’re in New York’s Hottest Play”

K20. Music Feature, Online

Alexei Barrionuevo, Natalie Korach, *TheWrap*, “Death in the Desert: When Hamas Came to an Israeli Rave, Friends Perished”

<https://bit.ly/3J9Skak>

Judges’ comment: A compelling and moving account of a music festival and its tragic aftermath through the words of those affected.

2nd: Matt Hurwitz, *Sound and Vision*, "The Creation of The Beatles' Final New Song and the Rebirth of Red and Blue Albums"

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "How Mariah Hanson Created the Dinah, the Wild Music Party for Queer Women"

K21A. Visual Arts/Architecture/Literature Feature, Online

Steffie Nelson, *Truthdig*, "Preparing to Meet Your Maker, Plus Cake: The Life of a Death Cafe"

<https://tinyurl.com/yc2u843z>

Judges' comment: Well written, compelling, universal.

2nd: Simi Horwitz, *BistroAwards.com*, "The Reinvented (and Always Reinventing) Standup Comic"

3rd: Katya Kazakina, *Artnet News*, "The Horse Trading Behind the Ecstatic, \$3 Billion Mark Rothko Exhibition at Foundation Louis Vuitton"

K21B. Entertainment Feature, Online

Lyndsey Parker, *Yahoo Entertainment*, "How 'The Lost Boys' sexy saxophonist Tim Cappello ended up in that 'greased-up, hip-popping, jumping-around, ultra sort of balls-out' concert scene"

<https://bit.ly/3MqW4WE>

Judges' comment: A deep-dive into a niche pop culture moment that gives new insight into a cult classic; the epitome of engaging entertainment journalism.

2nd: Candace Hansen, *Spin*, "Grief and Glory: Hole's Live Through This at 30"

3rd: Tim Teeman, *The Daily Beast*, "How Mariah Hanson Created the Spiciest Music Festival—for Queer Women Only"

K22. Celebrity Feature, Online

Pamela Chelin, *Variety*, "Martin Scorsese Hosts Robbie Robertson Tribute Concert, With Jackson Browne and Others Paying Musical Homage"

<https://bit.ly/3xp7Lcp>

Judges' comment: Chelin movingly relates the poignant tribute in words and music for the late musician Robbie Robertson, whose last film score was for Scorsese's *Killers of the Flower Moon*.

2nd: Amanda Marcotte, *Salon*, "Taylor Swift gets it: Cats are better than (some) men"

3rd: Michael Gerber, *Alfa Journal*, "Will the Real Steve Martin Please Stand Up?"

K23. Columnist, Online

Elaine Low, *The Ankler*, "Series Business: Jobs One Year After the Bloodbath: Hope & Pain, Series Business: TV Writers' New Strategy, Struggle: 'Everyone is Looking for Work' and Series Business: TV Gets Chopped in the Content Blender"

PDF

Judges' comment: Low brilliantly covers the impact of strikes on entertainment writers.

2nd: Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Download, a column by Hollywood Reporter Senior Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu"

3rd: Richard Rushfield, *The Ankler*, "In Hollywood and DC: Blame the Boomers, The Ankler: Ready to Talk about Hollywood's Kids Yet?, and The Ankler: Our \$18 Billion Blindspot"

K24. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Film, Online

Lovia Gyarkye, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "A New Wave of Films Experiments With How We See Climate Change"

<http://thr.cm/H0lkv82>

Judges' comment: Gyarkye provides a thoughtful examination of the "realities of climate change," including recent films such as *Evil Does Not Exist* and past ones like *The Day After Tomorrow*.

2nd: Sharareh Drury, *Variety*, "'Dune 2' Criticized for Lack of Middle Eastern and North African Inclusion and Influences: 'A Missed Opportunity'"

3rd: Carolyn Giardina, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "VFX Pros Expose The Hidden Costs of Selling a Movie as 'Real'"

K25. Commentary Analysis/Trend, TV, Online

Clayton Davis, *Variety*, "'Love on the Spectrum' Is Showing Me Examples of How My Autistic Son Could Be as an Adult — and It's Amazing"

<https://wp.me/pc8uak-1IDDo6>

Judges' comment: Deftly uses his personal experience with his son's autism in this commentary on the show "Love on the Spectrum." Nicely-written in a matter-of-fact style rather than the overwroughtness a piece like this sometimes leads to.

2nd: Brian Steinberg, *Variety*, "TV Talkers From Pat McAfee to Rachel Maddow Gain New License to Blast Bosses On-Air"

3rd: Carrie Rickey, *Truthdig*, "Becoming Frida"

K26. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Music, Online

Robert M. Marovich, *Zócalo Public Square*, "The Black Songwriter Who Took Nashville by Storm"

<https://zps.la/3Oo3jju>

Judges' comment: The author uses Tracy Chapman's CMA award to shine a light on an unknown figure and the historical context.

2nd: Callie Ahlgrim, *Business Insider*, "Taylor Swift's new era"

3rd: Malina Saval, *Los Angeles Magazine*, "Boaz, Bruce and 'Born to Run' I took my autistic teen to see Springsteen in concert: 'Do they really all take Viagra?' he asked"

K27. Commentary Analysis/Trend, Other Arts, Online

James Hibberd, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "When a Ketamine Therapy Visit Goes Horribly Wrong"

<http://thr.cm/ofczl3A>

Judges' comment: Veering between cheeky and harrowing, Hibberd recounts his ketamine trip with terrific details, anecdotes and similes. Engaging writing all around.

2nd: Mary Elizabeth Williams, *Salon*, "Why King Charles' portrait is so grotesque. Hint: It's not just the color"

3rd: Oliver Mayer, *Zócalo Public Square*, "The Genius Mexican Composer History Forgot"

K28. Entertainment Website, Online

The Hollywood Reporter Staff, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "THR.com"

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

Judges' comment: THR is an always entertaining, comprehensive Web site that covers entertainment industry stories with top-notch writers.

2nd: TheWrap, *TheWrap*, "thewrap.com"

3rd: *Variety*, *Variety*, "variety.com"

K29. Entertainment Blog by an Individual Not Tied to an Organization (See K30)

K30. Entertainment Blog

Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*, "Waxworld"

<https://bit.ly/3XFfNY2>

<https://bit.ly/43UVPeA>

<https://bit.ly/49tdPOF>

Judges' comment: Sharon Waxman, a savvy insider and seasoned journalist, covers the entertainment industry with authority, precision, clarity and moxie.

2nd: Aaron Couch and Borys Kit, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Heat Vision"

3rd: Andy Dehnart, *reality blurred*, "reality blurred"

L. SOCIAL MEDIA

L1. Best Journalistic Use of Social Media to Tell or Enhance a Story by an Individual Not Tied to an Organization N/A

L2. Best Journalistic use of Social Media to Tell or Enhance a Story

Michael Blackshire, Nicholas Ducassi, *The Los Angeles Times*, "Compton on Kendrick and "Not Like Us"

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

Judges' comment: Sometimes, simplicity rules. This Instagram video is not rehearsed or overproduced, but the impact is still big and authentically captures what Lamar means to his community. The real voices carry this video, along with the brisk pacing. It is strong, inspirational storytelling.

2nd: Rachel Seo and Julia MacCary, *Variety*, "Variety Actors on Actors Season 20"

3rd: Mesfin Fekadu, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Hollywood Reporter music articles told through Instagram Stories"

M. STUDENT JOURNALISM (Any Platform)

M1. Best Arts or Entertainment News Story, Student

Hali Mecklin, *AnnenbergMedia*, "Stolen Syrian art funds international terrorism – Why aren't we talking about it?"

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

Judges' comment: The most newsy of the entries and hit all the elements of a compelling story with demonstrated reporting and showing their audience the timeliness, context and impact of the issue.

2nd: Aud Ma and Marissa Ding, *ElevASIAN at AnnenbergMedia*, "YOASOBI: the experimental music duo brings stories to life at their first ever solo concert in the U.S."

3rd: Emerson Eby, *The Los Angeles Loyolan*, "Voices of the Newsroom: Music majors discuss requirement to change their major concentration"

M2. Best Arts or Entertainment Feature, Student

Geovanni Esparza, *el Don*, "More than a record label: Happy Daps is building a community"

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

Judges' comment: A fascinating history of the development of the Happy Daps Record community and the Latino music artists involved in it.

2nd: Anthony Folsom, *Los Angeles Collegian*, "Rihanna breaks Sound Barrier"

3rd: Kaitlyn Huamani, *AnnenbergMedia*, "Henry Winkler receives USC Comedy's prestigious Oakie Award"

M3. Best Arts or Entertainment Profile, Student

Sophia Cortez, *el Don*, "Sculpting Dreams: Ceramics student Andy Martinez embraces psychology and clay"

<https://bit.ly/3XuWC7J>

Judges' comment: Elegantly written, this profile has a great lead and a smart kicker.

2nd: Vivian Schafbuch, *The Los Angeles Loyolan*, "Chris Noordman: The campus Elvis impersonator we can't help falling in love with"

3rd: Holly Hinman, *The Los Angeles Loyolan*, "Between faith and film: Martin Ngo, S.J., illuminates SFTV with Ignatian spirituality"

M4. Best Arts or Entertainment Photo, Student

Geovanni Esparza, *el Don*, "IN PHOTOS: Happy Daps Fest 2"

<https://bit.ly/3MMh6iO>

Judges' comment: A strong image that uses light and color exceptionally well.

2nd: Griff Yarmaloff, *The Los Angeles Loyolan*, "Photo Feature: Holi 2024"

3rd: Tom Fathi, *The Los Angeles Loyolan*, "Photo Feature: Rock the CASA"

M5. Best Commentary/Critique, Student

Lyla Bhalla-Ladd, *Ampersand at AnnenbergMedia*, "Ampersand Retrospective: 'Daisies' — homoerotic feminism or radical nihilism?"

<https://bit.ly/47hmNyr>

Judges' comment: A smartly written piece about a feature film that effectively describes a relatively obscure film and its relevance.

2nd: Gillian Palacios, *el Don*, "Saddle up because 'Yonce is taking over country. Sort of.'"

3rd: Reo, *Daily Trojan*, "The king is dead; long live Prince"

N. The David Robb Investigative \$5,000 Cash Prize, Any Media

Rick Ellis, *AllYourScreens.com*, "Matthew Feeney Was Minnesota's 'Quiet On Set' Moment"

<https://bit.ly/3Nm30Vw>

Judges' comment: Rick Ellis takes a deep dive into records as he investigates the troubled past of a Minnesota casting agent for child actors who pled guilty to sexually abusing some of his clients. Ellis also warns that anyone in Minnesota can be a talent or casting agent without background checks or licensing in his compelling story that earns him the Robb Award.

2nd: Katherine Sayre, *The Wall Street Journal*, "A Psychiatrist Tried to Quit Gambling. Betting Apps Kept Her Hooked."

3rd: Cecilia D'Anastasio, *Bloomberg News*, "From \$1 Billion to Almost Worthless: Gamer Club Runs Out of Hype"