

New Jersey Chapter Society Of Professional Journalists Excellence In Journalism For 2008 Awards

Entries must have been published or broadcast during the calendar year of January 1 to December 31, 2008.



This year's winners in daily and weekly newspaper, design, photography, broadcast, magazine, newsletter and online categories:

WILSON BARTO AWARDS FOR FIRST YEAR REPORTERS

DAILY NEWSPAPERS

- **First Place:** Heather Appel, Herald News; "Waiting to get a green card" "Reining in Jersey's drug reps." "Without tickets, they relied on faith."
- **Second Place:** Joshua Riley, Asbury Park Press; "Diploma Mill" stories.

WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

- **First Place:** Timothy J. Carroll of the Hudson Reporter for "What happened to those election investigations."
- **Second Place:** Tricia Tirella of the Hudson Reporter for "Hudson County built out."
- **Third Place:** John Soltes of The Leader for "The railroad to nowhere."

MAGAZINE

- **First Place:** Michele Donohue, The NonProfit Times; "Complaints Filed Against Grant Institute."

[No second or third place winners.]

STUART AND BEVERLEY AWBREY AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

- Amboy Beacon, Bill George, Editor/Publisher

TIM O' BRIEN AWARD

For best investigative reporting using the New Jersey Open Public Records Act (OPRA)

[To be announced]

DAILY NEWSPAPERS

DEADLINE REPORTING

- **First Place:** Meghan Van Dyk, Rob Jennings, Matt Manochio, Tehani Schneider and Peggy Wright, The Daily Record; "Knoll guard shot 5 times, killed by Denville officer."
- **Second Place:** Brandon Lausch, Jerry Corino, Pamela Sroka-Holzman, Courier-News; "Star runner killed by train."
- **Third Place:** Terrence Dopp, Bloomberg News; "New Jersey Farmers Rally To Save Agency From Corzine Budget Ax."

ENTERPRISE REPORTING

- **First Place:** Manish Mehta, The Star-Ledger; "Knee Injury Draws Attention to Women."
- **Second Place:** David Porter, Associated Press; "Airport 'Go-Arounds' Probed as Possible Safety Hazard."
- **Third Place:** Wayne Parry, Associated Press; "Cops Want Prostitutes' Help In Solving Four Murders."

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

- **First Place:** Alexander MacInnes, Herald News; "Fire captain taking heat."
- **Second Place:** Alexander MacInnes, Herald News; "Who crashed truck into pole?"

BEST STATE/REGIONAL STORY

- **First Place:** George Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; “Drug kingpins cashing in on the suburbs’ spoils.”
- **Second Place:** Jacqueline L. Urgo, Philadelphia Inquirer; “Towns feel denied a share of A.C. Jackpot.”
- **Third Place:** Angela Delli Santi, Associated Press; “Gay governor-divorce.”

PROFILES

- **First Place:** Michael Deak, Courier-News; “Somerset County’s ‘Judge’ Turns 100,”
- **Second Place:** Manish Mehta, The Star-Ledger; “History On Her Terms.”
- **Third Place:** Paul Brubaker, Herald News; “Political Quarterback.”

BUSINESS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Heather Haddon, Herald News; “Home, Bitter Home.”
- **Second Place:** Maya Rao, Philadelphia Inquirer; “Sudden Job Loss.”
- **Third Place:** Suzette Parmley, The Philadelphia Inquirer; “All Bets are Off.”

HEALTH, SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

- **First Place:** John Shiffman, John Sullivan and Tom Avril, The Philadelphia Inquirer; “Smoke and Mirrors: The Subversion of the EPA.”
- **Second Place:** Wayne Parry, The Associated Press; “Government-owned Sand? Not in my Backyard.”
- **Third Place:** Jan Hefler, The Philadelphia Inquirer; “Cloud Over Fields of Green.”

BEST LOCAL NEWS STORY

- **First Place:** Matt Katz of the Philadelphia Inquirer; “Who wants methadone clinic?”

- **Second Place:** Meredith Mandell of the Herald News; “It is safe?”
- **Third Place:** Heather Haddon of the Herald News; ‘We could have saved her.’
- **SERIES WRITING AND REPORTING**

First Place: Jared Kaltwasser, Courier News; “Central Jersey Wetlands.”

- **Second Place:** Todd B. Bates, Asbury Park Press; “Out of Gas.”
- **Third Place:** Abbott Koloff, “Daily Record; “Somebody’s Watching You.”

FEATURE WRITING

- **First Place:** Amy S. Rosenberg, Philadelphia Inquirer; “Sand-ho! Grab your spot on the shore.”
- **Second Place:** Jeff Trently, Times of Trenton; “Forty years later, riots reverberate.”
- **Third Place:** George Anastasia, The Philadelphia Inquirer; “He stands by his sons and nation trying them.”

COLUMN WRITING

- **First Place:** Jay Levin, The Record; “My colleague, my friend.”
- **Second Place:** Monica Yant Kinney, Philadelphia Inquirer; “A helping for Lunch Ladies.”
- **Third Place:** Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; “Keeping in touch with the past.”

SPORTS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Sandy Seegers, Daily Record, “Enjoying Life Inside the Ropes.”
- **Second Place:** Keith Idec, Herald News; “Jackson on road to recovery.”
- **Third Place:** Manish Mehta, The Star-Ledger; “Mind-boggling misfire.”

EDITORIAL WRITING

- **First Place:** Josh Gohlke, The Record; “On New Jersey Corruption.”
- **Second Place:** Bruce Lowry, Herald News, “When the county jail gets taken to court.”
- **REVIEW WRITING**

First Place: David Corcoran, New York Times; “Restaurant Reviews”

EDITORIAL CARTOONING

- **First Place:** Jimmy Margulies, The Record; “Wall Street/N.J.”

[No second or third place winners.]

HEADLINE WRITING

- **First Place:** Mel Hyman, Herald News; “Maybe not scales, but fish can hum.”
- **Second Place:** Joe Griffith. Herald News; “Getting all hot and bothered about, well, you know...”
- **Third Place:** Joel Pisetzner, The Star-Ledger; “Obama reaches the mountaintop”

FRONT PAGE LAYOUT

- **First Place:** Kevin Davis, Daily Record; A-1 3/9/08.”
- **Second Place:** Scott Muller, Herald News; “Why?”

FEATURE PAGE DESIGN

- **First Place:** Janet Housewerth, Herald News; “GO!”

[No second or third place winners.]

SPORTS PHOTO

- **First Place:** Dawn Benko, Daily Record; “Tough Tackle.”

[No second or third place winners.]

FEATURE PHOTO

- **First Place:** Bob Karp, Daily Record; “High Jump”

[No second or third place winners.]

WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

ENTERPRISE REPORTING

- **First Place:** John Soltes, The Leader; “On the Horizon.”
- **Second Place:** Eric Kiefer, Verona-Cedar Grove Times; “Homeowners Fight to Get Off Toxic Property List.”
- **Third Place:** Megan Burrow, Pascack Valley Community Life; “Hospitals Debate.”

SERIES WRITING AND REPORTING

- **First Place:** Dan Prochilo, Tanya Drobness, Terrence T. McDonald, George Wirt, Mark S. Porter, The Montclair Times; “Hitting Home: From Wall Street to Our Streets.”
- **Second Place:** Martin Daks, Beth Fitzgerald, NJBIZ; “Bankscape.”
- **Third Place:** Susan C. Moeller, Alexis Tarrazi, John Soltes, W.L. Bill Allen Jr., The Leader; “EnCap: Miracle in the Meadowlands?”

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

- **First Place:** Tanya Drobness and Dan Prochilo, Montclair Times; “Show us the money: churchgoers sue pastor regarding donations.”
- **Second Place:** Susan C. Moeller, The Leader; “Lyndhurst Ed Fund Fails to File Taxes, register

properly”

- **Third Place:** Timothy J. Carroll, Hudson Reporter; “What happened to those election investigations?”

FEATURE WRITING

- **First Place:** Warren Boroson, The Jewish Standard; “Desperate Journey.”
- **Second Place:** Lois Goldrich. The Jewish Standard; “Identical Strangers to speak in Tenafly.”
- **Third Place:** Elizabeth Oguss, The Montclair Times; “To infinity...and beyarn.”

PROFILE WRITING

- **First Place:** Joe Olivieri, Verona-Cedar Grove Times; “A life after tragedy.”

[No second or third place winners.]

HEALTH, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

- **First Place:** TaRessa Stovall, The Montclair Times; “Taking the Guesswork out of Mammary Makeovers.”
- **Second Place:** Philip DeVencentis, Suburban News; “Exit Strategy”

BEST LOCAL NEWS

- **First Place:** Matt Jackson, Town Journal; “Can Your Town Stay Clear of the Financial Crisis?”
- **Second Place:** Brian Smith, Tanya Drobness, Terrence T. McDonald, Steve Tober and George Wirt, The Montclair Times; “Remembering Ryne”

EDITORIAL WRITING

- **First Place:** Seth Mandel, Eliyahu Publications;

“Mumbai tragedy will not stop Chabad.”

- **Second Place:** Kevin Glynn, Pascack Valley Community Life; “Council protects residents’ freedom.”
- **Third Place:** Rita Annan-Brady, The Progress; “Stopping illegal rentals.”

DEADLINE REPORTING

- **First Place:** Josh Lipowsky, Jewish Standard; “Community Musters a Minyan - Survivor Can Have Jewish Funeral.”
- **Second Place:** Shankar P., Martin C. Daks, João-Pierre S. Ruth, Joe St. Arney, Meghan Shapiro, NJBIZ; “Locked Out - Lenders Making Flight to Quality.”
- **Third Place:** Josh Lipowsky, Jewish Standard; “Families of Terror Victims Welcome New Law.”

BUSINESS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Martin Daks, NJBIZ; “Amount of Delinquent Taxes is Mystery to State.”
- **Second Place:** Scott Goldstein, NJBIZ; “Balancing Business, Legislative Roles.”
- **Third Place:** Evelyn Lee, NJBIZ; “A Tale of Two Cities.”

BEST REGIONAL/STATE NEWS

- **First Place:** Marsha Stoltz, Suburban News, “Hitting the Roof.”

[No second or third place winners.]

COLUMN WRITING

- **First Place:** Christine Sablynski, West Essex Times; “Disobeying Your Parents.”
- **Second Place:** Mike Daly, The Ridgewood News; “Life Lessons Learned While Walking in the Woods.”

REVIEW WRITING

- **First Place:** Miriam Rinn, Jewish Standard; "Survive or Resist?"

[No second or third place winners.]

EDITORIAL CARTOONING

- **First Place:** Harry Trumbore, The Item of Millburn and Short Hills, "Super Exhausted."
- **Second Place:** David Byrne, The Courier; "Corzine Twists Arm."
- **Third Place:** David Byrne, The Courier; "The Statue of Liberty Cleans Sandy Hook Beach."

FEATURE PAGE DESIGN

- **First Place:** John Soltes, Winie Varillas, The Leader; "Avenue Q."
- **Second Place:** Jerry Szubin, The Jewish Standard; "What to do About Gaza."

HEADLINE WRITING

- **First Place:** Mark S. Porter, The Montclair Times; "Matthew, Mark, Luke and John Coltrane."
- **Second Place:** Trudy Walz, Suburban News; "Swarming Trend: Youngsters are drawn to bug-themed summer reading programs like bees to honey."
- **Third Place:** Bill Slossar, Twin-Boro News; "Current Problem."

INFORMATIONAL GRAPHIC

- **First Place:** Lillian M. Aleman, Barbara Manning, The Montclair Times; "Township Council Elections."
- **Second Place:** Cliff Losak, The Montclair Times; "Teen Drinking in Montclair."

SPORTS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Bill Alden, Town Topics; "Former PHS Boys' Lacrosse Star Murphy Perseveres to Become Captain at Providence."
- **Second Place:** Brian Smith, Montclair Times; "A Win for Ryne."
- **Third Place:** Warren Boroson, Jewish Standard; "The Home Team."

FRONT PAGE LAYOUT

- **First Place:** Jaimie Winters, South Bergenite; "Sept. 3, 2008."
- **Second Place:** Summer R. Olstad, Meghan Shapiro, NJBIZ; "A Tale of Two Cities, 12/29/08."
- **Third Place:** Ed Virgin, Town News; "Paramus Lands Closest to the Pin."

FEATURE PHOTO

- **First Place:** Al Sullivan, Bayonne Community News; "Rose for a Memory."
- **Second Place:** Joe Camporeale, Northern Valley Suburbanite; "Robbie Osder Watches Firetrucks in Parade."

SPOT NEWS PHOTO

- **First Place:** Al Sullivan, . " Bayonne Community News; "A Real Nightmare."
- **Second Place:** Alexis Tarrazi, The Leader; "Fire in the Meadowlands."

SPORTS PHOTO

- **First Place:** Joe Camporeale, Northern Valley Suburbanite; "Tenafly Girls."

[No second or third place winners.]

MAGAZINES

REPORTING

- **First Place:** Mark Hrywna, The Nonprofit Times; "Limited 'Face' Time."

[No second or third place winners].

BUSINESS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Karl Vilacoba, In Transition Magazine; "The Devils in the Details."
- **Second Place:** Mark Hrywna and Craig Causer, The Non Profit Times; "2008 NPT 100."
- **Third Place:** Ron Panko, A.M. Best Co.; "Sportsmanlike Conduct."

OPINION WRITING

- **First Place:** Paul Clolery, The Nonprofit Times; "Heck of a job."

[No second or third place winners.]

PROFILE WRITING

- **First Place:** Lori Chambers, Drew Magazine; "The Fabulous Wendels."
- **Second Place:** Nick Dilulio "The Primal Sanity of Paul Stankard;" South Jersey Magazine

FEATURE WRITING

- **First Place:** Kate Rounds, The Hudson Reporter; "Terry & the Pirates: The saga of the Golden Cicada."
- **Second Place:** Roger Gros, Casino Connection Magazine; "Thirty Years of Gaming: the Lights Still Shine."
- **Third Place (tie)** - Theta Pavis, The Hudson Reporter; "The Portal of the Future."
Third Place (tie) Paul Drexel, Edible Jersey; "Homemade Hoboken."

SPORTS REPORTING

- **First Place:** Dave Bontempo, Casino Connection; “Thirty years of champs and chumps.”

[No second or third place winners.]

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATION

- **First Place:** Greg Trevor, Carla Cantor, Ashanti Alvarez, Rutgers Focus.
- **Second Place:** Big Apple Soccer.com

FEATURE PHOTO

- **First Place:** Sandy Stucki, Suburbanite Trends; “Our Lady of Guadalupe.”

[No second or third place winners]

WEB PAGE DESIGN

- **First Place:** Jewish Standard; “www.jstandard.com.”
- **Second Place:** Charlie Cuttone, Michael Lewis; “Big Apple Soccer.com.”

ESSAY WRITING

- **First Place:** Mike Lewis, Big Apple Soccer.com; “Am I A Journalist or Paparazzi – Or Both?”
- **Second Place:** Sally Friedman, Burlington County Times; “On Sundays- Recalling mom and wishing things were different.”

MEDIA-SPONSORED BLOG

- **First Place:** Philadelphia Inquirer; “Downashore.”

INDEPENDENT BLOG

- **First Place:** Joyce Blay; "NJ News & Views."
- **Second Place:** Emily Kostic; "Journalism 3.0."
- **Third Place:** Melissa L. Gaffney; "Sableminded."

NEWSLETTERS

- **First Place:** Caroline Saucer, A.M. Best Company.

[No second or third winners.]

BROADCAST

ENTERPRISE REPORTING, RADIO

- **First Place:** Paul Perrello, Rowan Radio; "Studio 89.7".
- **Second Place:** Linda Toborowsky, Kathryn Glaser, 1450 WCTC-AM; "Broadcast Interviews on the Arts."

NEWS REPORTING, RADIO

- **First Place:** Bradley Nolan, WSOU FM; "N.J. National Guard Deployment."

[No second or third place winners.]

ENTERPRISE REPORTING, TELEVISION

- **First Place:** Walt Kane, Anthony Cocco, Jacquelyn Messina, News 12 New Jersey; "Double Dipping Mayor."
- **Second Place:** Barbara Nevins Taylor, Roy Isen, Paul Tsakos, Jonathan Weaver, Brian Kartagener, WWOR-TV; "Medicaid Fraud."
- **Third Place:** Janet Gardner and Dr. Peter Kahn, American Public Television; "The Last Ghost of War."

NEWS REPORTING, TV

- **First Place:** Barbara Nevins Taylor, Roy Isen, Barron Gulette, Paul Tsakos, Brian Kartagener, Horatio Jennings WWOR-TV; "Probation Officer."
- **Second Place:** Walt Kane, Anthony Cocco, News 12 New Jersey; "Union City Audit."
- **Third Place:** Barbara Nevins Taylor, Paul Tsakos, Brian Kartagener, Jonathan Weaver. WWOR-TV; "Powerline Problems."