

2017 SPJ NEW JERSEY JOURNALISM AWARDS (FOR WORK DONE IN 2016)

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Please note the following categories were combined: review writing (local & regional/state divisions); business reporting (local and online divisions); headline writing (local and state/regional divisions); and Page One design (local and state/regional divisions).

DIVISION: Special Awards, **CATEGORY:** Journalist of the Year, **WINNER:** To Be Announced

DIVISION: Special Awards, **CATEGORY:** Courage Under Fire, **WINNER:** To Be Announced

DIVISION: Special Awards, **CATEGORY:** Stuart and Beverley Awbrey Award, **WINNER:** To Be Announced

DIVISION: All Media, **CATEGORY:** Best Multi-Media Package

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Christopher Baxter, Matthew Stanmyre, Erin Medley, Bumper DeJesus, Andre Malok, Amanda Marzullo, Andrew MacLean, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The 100-Yard Deception”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ.com*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Nice use of photos, multimedia and interactive graphics., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/125955798458adbbe614ab3_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Stephen Stirling, Alex Napoliello, Amanda Marzullo, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ took \$1.4 billion from your phone bill for 911 system it never delivered”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Advance Media*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Great, informational graphics and videos of a serious issue for taxpayers., **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2016/10/rescue_911_how_nj_used_11b_of_your_money_on_everyt.html

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Ang Santos, Alexandra Hill, Katie Simon, Elizabeth Jacobs, John O'Boyle, Glenn Crespo, Doug Doyle, David Tallacksen, Steve Williams, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Newark Stories”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WBGO*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Nice use of photos and video for profiles, **LINK:** <http://www.wbgo.org/newarkstories>

DIVISION: All Media, **CATEGORY:** Best Podcast

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: David Furst, Nancy Solomon, Matt Katz, Andrea Bernstein, Jim Schachter, Dean Cappello, Tom Moran, Jennifer Rubin, Shawn Boburg, Heather Haddon, Ted Mann, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The Christie Tracker Podcast”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WNYC Radio/New Jersey Public Radio*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Thoughtful, informed discussions

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chronicling the rise and semi-demise of a high-profile politician running for president., **LINK:** <http://www.wnyc.org/story/katz-christie-book>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Scott Gurian, **ENTRY TITLE:** “far.from.home podcast”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *far.from.home*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Well done, unique story telling in the midst of an interesting adventure. It keeps the listener interested, making them want to know the end of the story., **LINK:** <http://farfromhomepodcast.org/news/firstpodcast>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Doug Doyle, **ENTRY TITLE:** “SportsJam with Doug Doyle (Dan Silna)”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WBGO*, **LINK:** <http://www.dropbox.com/s/3d525h5qj9nh3et/2016%20PRNDI%20Podcast%20-%20SportsJam%20with%20Doug%20Doyle.mp3?dl=0>

DIVISION: All Media, CATEGORY: Best Web Video

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Andrew Ford, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Death of a hero”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Asbury Park Press*, **LINK:** <http://www.app.com/story/news/local/public-safety/2016/06/17/man-saves-boys-dies-lbi-beach/85715928/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Louis C. Hochman, **ENTRY TITLE:** “What happens when you bring Chris Christie to the MVC?”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/that-was-easy-christie-personally-helps-teens-mom-get-permit-at-mvc/>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: David Swanson, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Made in Fishtown”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer/Philly.com*, **LINK:** http://youtu.be/OF_sWqRiZ38

DIVISION: All Media, CATEGORY: CARTOONING

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Drew Sheneman, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Eat at Joe's”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Nicely done. Works on a couple levels., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/10533999658af3a5fc757a_0.pdf

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DIVISION: All Media, CATEGORY: Blog - Independent Blog

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Andaiye Taylor, **ENTRY TITLE:** “With Fownders Newark, tech star Gerard Adams brings startup aspirations to the neighborhood; Destination Newark: How travel and tourism (yes) might spur economic growth; Meet the man who wants to make you a hometown hockey fan”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *BrickCityLive.com*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** The winner's content is very local with good images, strong site design, and solid use of internal and external links. Articles are long, almost magazine style. **LINK:** <http://www.brickcitylive.com/tech/andaiye/with-fownders-newark-tech-star-gerard-adams-brings-startup-aspirations-to-the-neighborhood>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Kim Kavin, **ENTRY TITLE:** “DogMerchants.com”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *DogMerchants.com*, **LINK:** <http://www.dogmerchants.com/hydra-new-jerseys-just-pups-and-the-puppy-mill-monster/>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Karin Price Mueller, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJMoneyHelp.com”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJMoneyHelp.com*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/92877170058a62e15f0b7a_0.pdf

DIVISION: All Media, CATEGORY: Blog - Media_Affiliated Blog

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Joe Amditis, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ Mobile News Lab”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Center for Cooperative Media*, **LINK:** <http://medium.com/mobilenewslab/how-to-set-up-facebook-instant-articles-399cf89dfb8d#.o9qrys1go>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: State or Regional News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Al Sullivan, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Casino compromise/Christie calls fulop political boss”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Jersey City Reporter*, **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27046833/article-Casino-compromise--Referendum-will-go-on-November-ballot-for-casino-expansion-to-North-Jersey--and-JC---?instance=search_results

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Charles Kratovil, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Meet RWJ Barnabas Health’s Secret Board of Trustees”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/exclusive-meet-rwj-barnabas-secret-board-trustees>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Commentary

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Al Sullivan, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The First Day of her Real Life”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Jersey City Reporter*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Fascinating story in straightforward language. A good read., **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27102175/article-The-first-day-of-her-real-life-Local-transgender-woman-talks-about-making-the-transition-?instance=search_results

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Michelle Bent, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Do as We Say Not as We Post”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *West Essex Tribune*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/182330758658c18cffd0dda_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Gwen Orel, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Package: Death of a Starman: David Bowie, with Turn and face the strange changes,” *Montclair Times*. **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/206211062658c35813badc7_0.pdf

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Feature Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Rob Anthes, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Lighter as we move from here”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Robbinsville Advance*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/1745147872587cfb94ae8ba_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Julie Shannon, **ENTRY TITLE:** “He was a part of us”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Berlin Sun*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/63796341758b49dcf9057c_0.pdf

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AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Mike Monostra, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Overcoming the odds”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Cherry Hill Sun*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/184139922558b49d20025b1_0.pdf

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Public Service

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Sarah Beth Kaye, Charles Kratovil, Silvana Escobar, Carlos Ramirez, Hernan Guarderas, Jennifer Goldberg, Chris Roberts, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Immigration Issue Takes Center Stage in New Brunswick”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/despite-deferred-action-ice-snatches-city-resident-his-home>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Jay Rahman, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Paterson councilman Michael Jackson owes \$38,000 in property taxes”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Paterson Times*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/60922574958ba36f31e2ed_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Joe Malinconico, **ENTRY TITLE:** “District halts suspensions for 2nd graders after practice exposed”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Paterson Press*, **LINK:** <http://archive.northjersey.com/news/paterson-schools-chief-halts-suspensions-for-district-s-youngest-students-1.1672870>

DIVISION: Local Journalism & state/regional combined, CATEGORY: Review Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Gwen Orel, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Robert Wilson's Krapp punches your heart”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Montclair Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Love this writer's voice. Feels like talking to a friend., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/64033798558c34ea4d4ca4_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Gwen Orel, **ENTRY TITLE:** “‘Old Love New Love’: daring truths”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Montclair Times*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/200416725658c356a37f630_0.pdf

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Tim O'Brien Award

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AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Anne Forline, **ENTRY TITLE:** “South Jersey Observer Works to Provide Transparency & Accountability in Bellmawr”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *South Jersey Observer*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This enterprising reporter saw a need for transparency in local government and did what was necessary to fulfill it. Congrats in starting SJO., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/15894173758c0afbfe15_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Joe Malinconico, **ENTRY TITLE:** “OPRA request reveals charges dropped against cop suspended 9 years”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Paterson Press*, **LINK:** <http://archive.northjersey.com/news/after-9-years-of-paid-leave-paterson-drops-charges-against-suspended-cop-in-2m-sex-case-1.1622997>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Best Local News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Charles Kratovil, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Christie Judge Nominee Stripped of Pension by Fraud & Abuse Unit”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This entry rose to the top with original an exclusive coverage of an important topic., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Local journalism is alive and well in this category. Entries reflected coverage clearly of interest and importance to individual communities., **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/christie-superior-court-nominee-stripped-pension-fraud-abuse-unit>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Al Sullivan, **ENTRY TITLE:** “An African American behind bars/art for arts sake”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Secaucus Reporter*, **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27222191/article-An-African-American-behind-bars--and-a-controversy-Mural-depiction-near-day-care-raises-concerns-about-public-art-program-?

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Joe Strupp, **ENTRY TITLE:** “How Alleged Bullying Brought Down Columbia High School Baseball Coach”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Maplewoodian.com*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Strong continuing coverage of an ongoing issue involving a local coach. Good use of a concise format that includes multimedia and links., **LINK:** <http://joestrupp.blogspot.com/2016/02/chs-baseball-coach-under-fire-again-as.html>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Enterprise/Series/Investigative Reporting

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AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Charles Kratovil, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Watergate: Corruption Continues at the New Brunswick Water Utility”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/new-boe-president-dodges-questions-after-lead-found-six-schools>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Marilyn Baer, Caren Lissner, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Where are the answers/ fed investigate crash/Hoboken Mom mourned”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Hoboken Reporter*, **LINK:** http://www.hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27332173/article-Where-are-answers-in-Hoboken-train-crash---Questions-remain-in-wake-of-accident-that-took-life-of-local-mom-?instance=search_results

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Joe Malinconico, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Fiscal decisions impact public safety in Paterson”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Paterson Press*, **LINK:** <http://archive.northjersey.com/news/paterson-shootings-rise-as-police-department-s-overtime-gets-cut-1.1651850>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Health- Science- Technology and Environmental Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Danielle Bruno, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Scientists Question Use of Biosolids, Citing Potential For Heavy Metal Contamination”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Thorough, well-sourced and reported., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** All entries were well written and reported. It was a difficult category to judge -- particularly to decide the places for the top three entries., **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/scientists-question-use-biosolids-citing-potential-heavy-metal-contamination>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Joseph Passantino, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Smack surges in Hudson County; White-collar heroin users on the rise”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Bayonne Community News*, **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27051629/article-Smack-surges-in-Hudson-County---White-collar-heroin-users-on-the-rise-?instance=more_page

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Joseph Passantino, **ENTRY TITLE:** “When eating can be a life-or-death decision”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *North Bergen Reporter*, **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27195477/article-When-eating-can-be-a-life-or-death-decision-School-districts-have-various-policies-about-food-allergies-?instance=search_results

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DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Wilson Barto Rookie of the Year

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Marilyn Baer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “15 years later/where are the answers/every rider needs to be safe and secure”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Hoboken Reporter*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Marilyn did an excellent job reporting on a tragic crash that claimed the life of a mother. Marilyn tackled a difficult topic with expertise, tact and compassion-- which isn't an easy task. She asked the right questions and continued to elevate the story, **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27335845/article--Every-rider-needs-to-feel-safe-and-secure--Family-of-woman-killed-in-train-crash-files-claim-?instance=search_results

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Lindsey Nolen, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Sean Clegg's legacy remembered through Transplant Games // Read, set, dive // Keeping woodcarving afloat”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Newspaper Media Group*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** From writing an interesting profile about a local cop with a quirky hobby to sharing a heartbreaking story about the untimely death of a 14-year-old boy, Lindsey showed incredible variety and skillful writing, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/51169404758b4a0a10410a_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Carlos Ramirez, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Carlos Ramirez”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Carlos tackled serious issues ranging from the hot button immigration issue to a fight at a local school. Carlos is a strong writer and captured everyone's views in his stories., **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/tuesday-showdown-over-new-school-transportation-policy-set-boe-meeting>

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Sports Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Mike Monostra, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Sweet success”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Shamong Sun*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/112086521658b4a12718745_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Bill Alden, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Taking Pride in his Impact on his Athletes and Sport, Farrell Ends 39-Year Run as PU Womens Track Coach”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Town Topics*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/127017880658aca6264cb11_0.pdf

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AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Mike Monostra, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Old Orchard edges Erlton to win 2016 Cherry Bowl”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Cherry Hill Sun*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/58609779358b4a172d26cd_0.pdf

DIVISION: Local Journalism, CATEGORY: Profile Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Kaitlyn Kanzler Staff Writer, Kelly Nicholaides Staff Writer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A legacy of contradictions”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *South Bergenite*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Well done, insightful profiles with great detail and reporting., **LINK:** <http://www.northjersey.com/story/news/bergen/rutherford/2016/12/02/cuban-americans-rutherford-reflect-castos-death/94679516/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Joseph Passantino, **ENTRY TITLE:** “9/11: A Day Like No Other for Bayonne's Mickey McCabe”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *TAPinto Bayonne*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** , **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** , **LINK:** <http://www.tapinto.net/towns/bayonne/articles/9-slash-11-a-day-like-no-other-for-bayonnes-mickey-mc>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Gwen Orel, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Iris DeMent Brings Russia Near”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Montclair Times*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/119176724558c354b732021_0.pdf

DIVISION: Magazines, CATEGORY: Business Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Mark Hrywna, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Wounded Warrior Project upheaval”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The NonProfit Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Interesting and original take on the Wounded Warriors Project's inability to effectively address criticism of its spending patterns., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/124741006158bda41859254_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Mark Hrywna, Martin C. Daks, Katherine O'Keefe, **ENTRY TITLE:** “2016 NPT 100”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The NonProfit Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Important and thorough annual look at trends in large nonprofits., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/117251390258bda27d025b4_0.pdf

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AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Mark Hrywna, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Fright At The Museum”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The NonProfit Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Interesting and important short story about a museum and a phishing scam that was revealed in a 990. No one else seems to have covered despite the large dollar amount involved., **LINK:** <http://www.thenonproffitimes.com/news-articles/a-fright-at-the-museum/>

DIVISION: Magazines, CATEGORY: Feature Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Leslie Garisto Pfaff, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A Night in Trauma”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey Monthly*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Solid writing and respectful reporting about a place and people few readers get to know., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/2433361458b87d93f3861_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Kim Kavin, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The Big Money Behind Best In Show”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Salon.com*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A revealing read about a contest with wide appeal and little-known, wide impact., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/2433361458b87d93f3861_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: George Anastasia, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A Wiseguy's Guide to Saving Atlantic City”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** The idea behind this story is the definition of "thinking outside the box.", **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/109699761658af472f4ddc7_0.pdf

AWARD: Honorable mention, WINNER: Daniel Del Valle, George Beck, **ENTRY TITLE:** “13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi Exclusive Interview with Mark "Oz" Geist, Kris "Tanto" Paronto, John "Tig" Tiegen”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Blue Now*, , **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/177038926758c366d2c6807_0.pdf

AWARD: Honorable Mention, WINNER: Sean Sullivan, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Wreck of the Binghamton: The decline and fall of a N.J. landmark”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Inside Jersey magazine*, **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/inside-jersey/index.ssf/2016/03/wreck_of_the_binghamton_the_decline_and_fall_of_a_nj_landmark.html

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DIVISION: Magazines, CATEGORY: Investigative Reporting

AWARD: No Winner, JUDGES COMMENT: None of the entries met the category criteria

DIVISION: Magazines, CATEGORY: Opinion

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Carmen Cusido, ENTRY TITLE: “I Protested Planned Parenthood. Then I Needed Their Help.”, NEWS OUTLET: *Cosmopolitan.com*, JUDGES COMMENT: The writer generously shares her personal experiences with a timely, national political issue., LINK: <http://www.cosmopolitan.com/politics/a53809/pro-life-to-pro-choice/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Paul Clolery, ENTRY TITLE: “General Ramblings - Transitions Breed Uncertainty”, NEWS OUTLET: *The NonProfit Times*, LINK: http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/32279469858bda1701363f_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Paul Clolery, ENTRY TITLE: “General Ramblings - It Didn't Add Up”, NEWS OUTLET: *The NonProfit Times*, LINK: http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/100650987158bda06287d3f_0.pdf

AWARD: Honorable mention, WINNER: George Beck, ENTRY TITLE: “The Unspoken: Officer Suicide”, NEWS OUTLET: *NJ Blue Now*, LINK: http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/204621539258c36952699c6_0.pdf

DIVISION: Magazines, CATEGORY: Profile Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Joe DePaolo, ENTRY TITLE: “Counterpunch”, NEWS OUTLET: *Inside Jersey*, JUDGES COMMENT: The writer draws in readers, even those who know nothing of boxing, with keen attention to story arc and illustrative writing., LINK: http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/85404768158af492c2e8a8_0.pdf

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Leslie Garisto Pfaff, **ENTRY TITLE:** “For the Love of Worms”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey Monthly*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/31546498458b85fa991007_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Kate Rounds, Terri Saulino Bish, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Playing Defense: Court to Court with Brian J. Neary”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Jersey City Magazine*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/139147050558b6f9beee011_0.docx

DIVISION: Newsletters, CATEGORY: Newsletters - Overall

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Kate McGovern Tornone, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Employer's Guide to the Fair Labor Standards Act”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Business & Legal Resources*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This narrow niche newsletter serves its specific readership well. The design has a no-nonsense feel but seems appropriate to the audience., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/18251733058c363063517f_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Joe Amditis, Debbie Galant, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ News Commons Daily News Roundup”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Center for Cooperative Media*, **LINK:** [http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7f46611cb324e9e193acda7cc&id=26eebe5441&e=\[UNIQID\]](http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7f46611cb324e9e193acda7cc&id=26eebe5441&e=[UNIQID])

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Karin Price Mueller, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJMoneyHelp.com eNewsletter”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJMoneyHelp.com*, **LINK:** <http://us9.campaign-archive1.com/?u=703013d3b2005557f310cd4e9&id=d84410d6f4>

DIVISION: Combined Local & Online, CATEGORY: Business Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Karin Price Mueller, **ENTRY TITLE:** “An NJMoneyHelp.com special election report”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJMoneyHelp.com*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Nice, in-depth reporting on the financial ramifications of the presidential election., **LINK:** <http://njmoneyhelp.com/2016/11/njmoneyhelp-com-special-election-report/>

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Dave Schatz, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Latest Risperdal Verdict: J&J Hit With \$70 Million in Compensatory Damages”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Thorough, in-depth court reporting., **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/latest-risperdal-verdict-jj-hit-70-million-compensatory-damages>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Joseph Passantino, **ENTRY TITLE:** “PILOTing the city to more taxable income; Officials say abatements not only help developers, but the city as well”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Bayonne Community News*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Well-done, informational, explanative reporting. **LINK:** http://hudsonreporter.com/view/full_story/27126361/article-PILOTING-the-city-to-more-tax-income---Officials-say-abatements-not-only-help-developers--but-the-city-as-well-?instance=search_results

DIVISION: Online, CATEGORY: Enterprise/Series/Investigative Reporting

AWARD: First Ploogle.cace, WINNER: John Reitmeyer, Ilya Marritz, Susan Berfield, **ENTRY TITLE:** “American Dream Megamall Series”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Spotlight*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Excellent reporting on an epic boondoggle. It has all the elements of good journalism. A great collaboration as well., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** This was a very difficult category as all the entries were good. Congratulations to the winners, whose effort and thoughtfulness shined., **LINK:** <http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/16/12/11/american-dream-is-there-any-future-for-the-stalled-mall-on-the-nj-meadowlands/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Lilo Stainton, Colleen O'Dea, Andrew Kitchenman, Lee Keough, Aaron Fischer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center Investigation”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Spotlight*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Terrific stories that hit on shady practices and government influence in the hospital industry., **LINK:** <http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/16/08/09/marketing-u-s-citizenship-along-with-childbirth-services-at-meadowlands-hospital/>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: David Matthau, **ENTRY TITLE:** “New Jersey's Heroin Crisis”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A tremendous effort to look at the terrible opium epidemic. It looked at the problem from every angle., **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/nj-heroin-crisis-why-is-giving-up-heroin-so-hard-for-most-people/>

DIVISION: Online, CATEGORY: Feature Writing – not enough entries in this category, so submissions were folded into appropriate related categories

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DIVISION: Online, CATEGORY: Public Service

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Elise Young, **ENTRY TITLE:** “New Jersey Transit's Finances”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Bloomberg News*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Excellent reporting and writing about the troubled transit authority. Secretive and dangerous, the stories peel back why this system is so much worse than its neighbors., **LINK:** <http://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2016-12-12/n-j-transit-safety-jobs-vacant-as-christie-allies-hired-at-top>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Michael Symons (with Bill Spadea and NJ 101.5 staff), **ENTRY TITLE:** “New Jersey's Gas Tax”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Great effort and tenacity to look at the process of heading towards a big gas tax to pay for past debts in transportation., **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/how-cutting-sales-tax-while-raising-nj-gas-tax-may-not-be-such-a-great-trade-off/>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Michael Sisak, Michael Balsamo, David Porter, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ Transit Safety”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Associated Press*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Very good reporting to uncover how the transit authority had performed compared with other big train operators. Classic public service reporting., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/207307499658c2dfec32e79_0.pdf

DIVISION: Online, CATEGORY: Tim O'Brien Award for the best use of the open public records law

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Sergio Bichao, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Racial profiling fallout: Bias complaints kept secret after NJ police chief loses job”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This work shows the importance of open-records laws in providing evidence behind what some might dismiss. The results were eye-opening and important., **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/racial-profiling-fallout-bias-complaints-kept-secret-after-nj-police-chief-loses-job/>

DIVISION: Photo-Journalism, CATEGORY: Feature

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Tom Gralish, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Soccer Beach”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Media Network*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Spontaneous with great expressions and interesting composition., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/193735326458c247374c324_0.JPG

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Ed Hille, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Past, Present, Future”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** For shot of spectator looking at exhibit., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/733227301589fa137d7d66_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Tom Gralish, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Yoga Lake Pose”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Media Network*, , **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/66781696258c24564d96fa_0.JPG

DIVISION: Photo-Journalism, CATEGORY: Sports

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Ed Hille, **ENTRY TITLE:** “One for the Ages”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A winning expression and a winning shot. Nicely captured., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/467051930589fa2890f774_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Mike Monostra, **ENTRY TITLE:** “West battles East to a win”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Newspaper Media Group*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/168817429858b4a6b4a2b18_0.jpg

DIVISION: Photo-Journalism, CATEGORY: Spot News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Ed Hille, **ENTRY TITLE:** “No Laughing Matter”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Media Network*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Caught his expression at just the right moment. Nicely framed and technically sharp, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/123955579758c14c4ace13f_0.JPG

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Tom Gralish, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Pant suite nation”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Media Network*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/110815129158c24944e6d86_0.JPG

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AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Art Schwartz, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Is Kennedy Blvd. too dangerous?”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *North Bergen Reporter*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/95692066458c175465bc1c_0.JPG

DIVISION: Radio, CATEGORY: Enterprise

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Eric Scott, David Matthau, **ENTRY TITLE:** “New Jersey's Heroin Crisis”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** All of these pieces took on excellent in-depth topics. The Heroine piece seemed to provide an additional layer of depth and production. It combined all of the excellent editing skills to create an introduction to a town hall meeting that delved further in, **LINK:** <http://trentonpodcasts.townsquaredigital.com/NEWSenterprise.mp3>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Bob Hennelly, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Diesel Trucks and Asthma”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WBGO*, **LINK:** <http://www.dropbox.com/s/5feob93jvp108fa/2016%20PRNDI%20Investigative%20-%20Diesel%20Trucks%20Asthma.mp3?dl=0>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Sarah Gonzalez, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Kids in Prison”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WNYC/New Jersey Public Radio*, **LINK:** <http://www.wnyc.org/story/kids-prison-nj-kids-face-longer-sentences-ny>

DIVISION: Radio, CATEGORY: Breaking or Hard News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Eric Scott Patrick Lavery, David Matthau Annette Petriccione, Dino Flammia Jen Ursillo, Joe Cutter Bob Williams, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Seaside Park bombing”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This is an ideal example of how to follow a breaking news story with constant updates, dispelling rumors along the way -- correcting the record -- and never letting go of a story by digging for more sources, conducting more interviews and following the story, **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Both stories show the power and immediacy radio still possesses. They are thorough and well reported stories that are urgent. They also cater to their audiences by updating traffic information and help people move to where ever they are going safely., **LINK:** <http://trentonpodcasts.townsquaredigital.com/breakingNEWS.mp3>

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Doug Doyle, Alexandra Hill, Ang Santos, Phil Gregory, Glenn Crespo, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Hoboken Terminal Crash”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *WBGO*, **LINK:** <http://www.dropbox.com/s/s4mwce05d7gnjpw/2016%20PRNDI%20Breaking%20News%20-%20Hoboken%20Terminal%20Crash.mp3?dl=0>

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Column Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Jason Nark, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Surviving Suicide”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** This is clearly the best column I've read in a long time, and not just for this contest. I found myself wiping away tears numerous times. Incredibly powerful and personal., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/199985039658bed57487328_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Kevin Riordan, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Slayings can't break LGBT bond”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/22617245158b9c3c05b5d8_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Jeff Deminksi, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Jeff Deminski: The only time my father said he loved me”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/jeff-deminski-the-only-time-my-father-said-he-loved-me/>

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Enterprise/Series/Investigative Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Mark Mueller, Brian Donohue, Enrique Lavin, Vinessa Erminio, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A preacher's flight from justice”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** An amazing effort that certainly contributed to the capture of a convicted child molester. Rich detail, aided by excellent graphics and fine writing., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** An extremely difficult category to judge. Each entry was worthy and picking a winner was difficult. The Star-Ledger staff produced outstanding work for which they should be proud., **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/page/the_search_for_preacher_gregorio_martinez.html

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Christopher Baxter, Matthew Stanmyre, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The 100-Yard Deception”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Extremely interesting reporting on a trend that is national and local. Good insight and reporting., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/123614053458adba228424c_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Mark Mueller, **ENTRY TITLE:** “This is an atrocity”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A very good piece of reporting and writing that must have given readers shivers., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/174212662858a615073580a_0.pdf

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Business Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Andrew George, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Serving up a great debate - Liquor license reform bill has plenty of supporters ... and plenty of opposition”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJBIZ*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Strongly reported and written story on a liquor license reform proposal that includes clear explanations and representation of many points of view., **LINK:** <http://www.njbiz.com/article/20160425/NJBIZ01/304259998/food-and-beverage-in-nj-serving-up-a-great-debate>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Karin Price Mueller, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Bamboozled: At last a victory in fathers battle with insurance firm”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Karin Price-Mueller's "Bamboozled" columns feature strong writing and appropriate advocacy, **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/business/index.ssf/2016/08/bamboozled_dad_of_electrocuted_worker_vs_insurance.html

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Katie Jennings, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Following political disaster, Horizon turns Trenton tide with major lobbying push”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *POLITICO New Jersey*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Well-done analysis on an ongoing political issue., **LINK:** <http://politi.co/2bpedVC>

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Editorials

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Gretchen Barrett, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Lenape, let player try out for football”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Burlington County Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** The writer makes a strong case for community debate on one

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of the many controversial issues affecting schooling in American today., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/98026800458c1afbed37f4_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Kim Kavin, **ENTRY TITLE:** “How Our Political Vitriol Harms Dogs”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Washington Post*, **LINK:** http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2016/11/21/how-our-political-vitriol-helps-keep-dogs-in-unacceptable-conditions/?utm_term=.ed6bab5b8378

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Cynthia Burton, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Christie can leave // Throw book at Christie // Jersey deal gone bad”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/132269829558b49520b4847_0.pdf

DIVISION: Local & State/Regional Journalism combined, CATEGORY: Headline Writing

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Charles Kratovil, Matt Wozniak, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Growing Concerns About Police Credibility in County Where Culture of Retaliation Dominates”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Brunswick Today*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** The headline of the winning entry is strong, local and newsy. There are overall strong ties between the story and the headline., **LINK:** <http://newbrunswicktoday.com/article/growing-concerns-about-police-credibility-county-where-culture-retaliation-dominates>"

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Martha Esposito, **ENTRY TITLE:** “State of play//An American "Idle"//Right on cue//A pressing matter//An "app"-etite for photography”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Burlington County Times*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/107253500458c1935ee49e9_5.pdf

DIVISION: Local & State/Regional Journalism combined, CATEGORY: Page One Design

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Kristen Dowd, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Ready, set, dive”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Medford Sun*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Smart use of strong photo makes this page., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/58527891258b4a226082f0_0.pdf

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AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Colleen Prendergast Designer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A1 Burlington County Times”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Burlington County Times*, , **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/94245626858c026a713576_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Kristen Dowd, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Helping the homeless pet population”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Cherry Hill Sun*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/171062334058b4a1d7779f5_0.pdf

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Public Service

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Stephen Stirling, Alex Napoliello, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ took \$1.4 billion from your phone bill for 911 system it never delivered”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Advance Media*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** These reports served as an extraordinary example of identifying ongoing governmental malfeasance in the handling of a program implemented for the public good that was brought to light by the work of this reporting team. **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2016/10/rescue_911_how_nj_used_11b_of_your_money_on_everyt.html

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Christopher Baxter, Matthew Stanmyre, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The 100-Yard Deception”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/211141228058adba9088472_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Mark Mueller, Brian Donohue, Enrique Lavin, Vinessa Erminio, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A preacher's flight from justice”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/page/the_search_for_preacher_gregorio_martinez.html

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Sports Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Tom Rimback Sports writer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Simply the best”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Burlington County Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** It was the only entry but it would have been a winner regardless. A nice profile., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/40826999458c01e74f2feb_0.pdf

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DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: State or Regional News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Sergio Bichao, Louis C. Hochman, Dan Alexander, **ENTRY TITLE:** “New Jersey terror bombing”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *New Jersey 101.5*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Incredible job. Very strong reporting overall. Great use of links, video, and photo galleries to illustrate the stories. It is so complete that I can't imagine a better source for this locally based, yet national story, **LINK:** <http://nj1015.com/what-we-know-and-dont-about-bombings-and-ahmad-khan-rahami/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Jason Grant, Emma G. Fitzsimmons, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Stories on potential New Jersey Transit strike”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The New York Times*, **LINK:** <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/07/nyregion/nj-transit-and-unions-to-continue-negotiations-as-strike-looms.html>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Ted Sherman, Sue Epstein, Mark Mueller, Stephen Stirling, Len Melisurgo, Kelly Heyboer, Adam Clark, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Timmy Got Justice' -- The Michelle Lodzinski Verdict”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, , **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/81542247058a5fba5b507f_0.pdf

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Tim O'Brien Award

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Christopher Baxter, Matthew Stanmyre, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The 100-Yard Deception”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Star-Ledger*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Exceptional, in-depth national and local reporting that helps taxpayers, schools and unearths a company with seedy business practices., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/211141228058adba9088472_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Stephen Stirling, Alex Napoliello, Amanda Marzullo, **ENTRY TITLE:** “NJ took \$1.4 billion from your phone bill for 911 system it never delivered”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Advance Media*, **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2016/10/rescue_911_how_nj_used_11b_of_your_money_on_everyt.html

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Feature Writing

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AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Andrew Ford, **ENTRY TITLE:** “The Long Fall - From top trader to bank robber”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Asbury Park Press*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** What an incredible story. The slow rise, the seduction of money, and the rapid fall and decline. Each story seems capable of standing on its own, yet, altogether it's quite a ride. Well researched, well sourced, well told., **LINK:** <http://www.app.com/story/news/investigations/watchdog/investigations/2016/08/14/exclusive-top-trader-to-bank-robber/88623322/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: David O'Reilly, **ENTRY TITLE:** “For ex-nun”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/7031743358b9beaf1e58f_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Bill Ervolino, **ENTRY TITLE:** “A maze of emotions: A Paramus woman's 25-year search for her birth mom”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Record (Bergen County)*, **LINK:** <http://www.northjersey.com/story/news/2016/09/02/a-maze-of-emotions-a-paramus-womans-25year-search-for-her-birth-mom/92987420/>

AWARD: Honorable Mention, WINNER: Jason Grant, **ENTRY TITLE:** “N.J. Transit Users Study Their Options in Case of Train Strike”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The New York Times*, , **LINK:** http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/09/nyregion/nj-transit-users-study-their-options-in-case-of-train-strike.html?_r=0

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Wilson Barto Rookie of the Year

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Kelly Kultys, **ENTRY TITLE:** “No sale//Final lesson//Education foundations continue to grow”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Burlington County Times*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** No contest, Kelly's work is that of a winner., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/148477137458c1c93ea6d82_0.pdf

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Local News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: David O'Reilly, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Culture Clash”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Well reported and sourced article on a unique situation facing one community., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** This was a tough category due to the range of well reported, insightful articles about local

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issues in their respective communities., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/208428790258b9bdbfa279f_0.pdf

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Porus P. Cooper, **ENTRY TITLE:** “After the Massacre”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *Philadelphia Inquirer*, **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/144881875458b9bd393805a_0.pdf

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Jason Grant, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Vintners Discover Their Terroir in Cape May”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The New York Times*, **LINK:** <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/08/nyregion/vintners-discover-their-terroir-in-cape-may.html>

DIVISION: State/Regional Journalism, CATEGORY: Health- Science- Tech and Environmental Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Kirk Moore, Lee Keough, Aaron Fischer, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Money and Sand: Will there be enough for New Jersey's beaches?”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Spotlight*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A well-reported and well-rounded look at how states must balance recreational interests with conservation., **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** A very large category with many excellent entries. The breadth of issues was interesting and the reporting was very strong., **LINK:** <http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/16/09/28/money-and-sand-will-there-be-enough-for-new-jersey-s-beaches/>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Stephen Stirling, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Drug treatment beds for the poor are disappearing in NJ”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *NJ Advance Media*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** Strong reporting and writing about the lack of options for out-patient care for drug addiction, an important topic. Well done., **LINK:** http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2016/06/drug_treatment_beds_for_the_poor_are_disappearing_in_nj.html

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Wayne Parry, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Maturing oyster recovery projects bring calls for money”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *The Associated Press*, **JUDGES COMMENT:** A fine piece of writing and reporting on efforts to restore oysters, which filter water and provide protection to coastlines., **LINK:** http://c598bcc5055a7ada9f53-66b8e7754dfedeac410a7b18a4ea7fb3.r95.cf2.rackcdn.com/124025062258c02db9e25b7_0.pdf

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DIVISION: Television/Cable, CATEGORY: Enterprise/Series/Investigative Reporting

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Walt Kane, Karin Attonito, Anthony Cocco, Ed Hannen, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Sandy Grants: Waste & Inefficiency”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *News 12 New Jersey*, , **LINK:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIKiNXzhRf0>

AWARD: Second Place, WINNER: Walt Kane, Karin Attonito, Anthony Cocco, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Drug Deals”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *News 12 New Jersey*, **LINK:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erRX-OgLS6s>

AWARD: Third Place, WINNER: Walt Kane, Karin Attonito, Anthony Cocco, Michael Roberts, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Testing the Waters”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *News 12 New Jersey*, **LINK:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpgGsK-FFms>

DIVISION: Television/Cable, CATEGORY: Breaking or Hard News

AWARD: First Place, WINNER: Walt Kane, Karin Attonito, Anthony Cocco, Michael Roberts, **ENTRY TITLE:** “Dangerous Antibiotic”, **NEWS OUTLET:** *News 12 New Jersey*, **LINK:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvCVw7YtXVA>