
Class: A, NON-DAILIES, UP TO 10,000 CIRCULATION

1st Place – Newspaper of the Year

Newspaper Name: Lake Country Reporter
Hartland, WI
Publishing Company Name: Journal Community Publishing Company

Judge's Comments:

In-depth features about community issues in addition to basic news. Clean, easy-to-read with artistic, magazine-like cover layouts. Ads do not impede on content, good spacing between ads and text. Excellent use of infographics/photo illustrations.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: Almaguin News
Burk's Falls, ON
Publishing Company Name: Metroland Media Group, Ltd.

Judge's Comments:

Appropriate editorial tone; comprehensive community coverage. Basic, clean typography.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: Bracebridge Examiner
Bracebridge, ON
Publishing Company Name: Metroland Media Group, Ltd.

Judge's Comments:

Good basic news coverage.

Class: B, NON-DAILIES, 10,001-22,500 CIRCULATION

1st Place – Newspaper of the Year

Newspaper Name: The Enterprise
Lexington Park, MD
Publishing Company Name: Community Newspaper Group of Post Newsweek Media Inc.

Judge's Comments:

Heds, deks and intro grafs are tight and informative. Tone is appropriate and there is dynamic coverage on a variety of issues. Suitable fonts, with size and type used to denote emphasis. Clear distinction between what is ads and what is content. Appropriate ads in relation to content as well. Excellent art, clean and easy-to-navigate design.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: Preston Hollow People
Dallas, TX
Publishing Company Name: People Newspapers

Judge's Comments:

Concise and informative heds and deks. Appropriate editorial tone reflected in a variety of content. Clear delineation between ads and content. Ads are colorful and attractive and are appropriate to what else is on the page. Some elements of consistent design, but not afraid to experiment. Excellent use of photography throughout stories.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: Maryland Independent
Waldorf, MD
Publishing Company Name: Community Newspaper Group of Post Newsweek Media Inc.

Judge's Comments:

Appropriate editorial tone to match a variety of content. Tight heds and deks. Solid and easy to read. Clear delineation between ads and content, and ads are appropriate to the content.

Class: C, NON-DAILIES, 22,501-37,500 CIRCULATION

1st Place – Newspaper of the Year

Newspaper Name: Frederick Gazette
Frederick, MD
Publishing Company Name: Community Newspaper Group of Post Newsweek Media Inc.

Judge's Comments:

The front page covers a diverse range of topics. Colorful and attractive photos enhance the content. Headlines are appropriate and creative when necessary. The wide variety of coverage - mostly staff written - is engaging, concise and provides a sense of the community. The type clearly separates the most important stories from the rest. The bulleted deks give the reader a better idea of the story without being distracting. Ads aren't distracting, but they are noticeable. They are well-placed in the right sections and they do not blend in the content. Each page had an appropriate amount. The Arts and entertainment section had a wonderful design layout, it was unique and bold, without being cluttered or a distraction.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: Clinton/Andrews/Fort Washington Gazette
Laurel, MD
Publishing Company Name: Community Newspaper Group of Post Newsweek Media Inc.

Judge's Comments:

The headlines capture readers' interests. The content is timely and relevant for the audience. From events to crime, issues are well-covered. The typography guides the reader. It is consistent and organizes the page. It becomes more lively in features and the art section, providing a sense of the lighter themes. Ads never interrupt the text. Placement changes within the publication but remain separated from the articles. The mix of full-page, half-page and quarter-page ads keep the design creative and the ads don't clutter the page.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: Columbia Flier Newspaper
Columbia, MD
Publishing Company Name: Patuxent Publishing Company

Judge's Comments:

Columbia Flier knows its audience. From education to sports, it provides an angle that engages the local reader. The appealing photos that often spark emotion complement the straight forward headlines. The typography organized the content, and helped create hierarchy on the page. It remained consistent within news stories and also hinted at the theme of the story in feature articles. Large, bold fonts and pun quotes guided the reader. Ads were strategically placed. In the news section they are consistent and the right-hand placement does not confuse readers. The separation of ad and content is clear. The content was clearly divided within the publication between tone and typography, the reader is aware if they are reading news, opinion or feature.

Class: D, NON-DAILIES, OVER 37,500 CIRCULATION

1st Place – Newspaper of the Year

Newspaper Name: The Gazette, Gaithersburg/Montgomery Village, et al
Gaithersburg, MD

Publishing Company Name: Community Newspaper Group of Post Newsweek Media Inc.

Judge's Comments:

Exceptional story-telling and superb headlines. Articles are well reported and the feature analysis is excellent. Type is clean and consistent, making it easy to read. Great use of design and color throughout. Ads are not intrusive. Readers do not have to navigate around ads to read the stories.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: Long Island Press
Syosset, NY

Publishing Company Name: Morey Publishing

Judge's Comments:

Tone is fresh and fun. Readers know what to expect when reading. Feature coverage is excellent and extremely sophisticated. The type is consistent, clean and easy to read. The design flow is similar to a magazine; range in font size appropriate. Ads are well placed and not intrusive. Readers are not forced to navigate around ads to read story. Great cover images! Excellent use of both graphics and photos, coupled with eye-catching headlines.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: Plano Star Courier
Plano, TX

Publishing Company Name: American Community Newspapers, LLC

Judge's Comments:

Great coverage of Osama bin Laden death. The editorial team is very in touch with the community and understands its concerns. Type is consistent and lends itself to a clean layout that is easy to read. Ads are satisfactorily placed and are not intrusive. Plano Star Courier really packs a punch, despite its size.

Class: E, DAILIES, UNDER 30,000 CIRCULATION**1st Place – Newspaper of the Year**

Newspaper Name: Galveston County Daily News
Galveston, TX
Publishing Company Name: Galveston Newspapers Inc.

Judge's Comments:

Good, in-depth and well-reported. Nice, clean layout with good use of large photos to pull readers in; especially nice job on Wright brothers article. I enjoy that ads don't dominate the first pages of each section. They are well designed and laid out. I quite enjoy the "Word on the Street" section since I think readers are always interested in hearing what others think - good audience engagement.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: The Post-Star
Glens Falls, NY
Publishing Company Name: Lee Enterprises

Judge's Comments:

Very well reported features, especially the school budget cut story in 5/15 issue (lots of data that was broken down well) and the bionic hand story. Very clean layout with easy to read type; lots of white space, so very little clutter, test wise. Nice use of engaging photos and graphics. I also really enjoyed the arts/life feature on international holidays - nice touch having local families share traditions.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: Lawrence Journal-World
Lawrence, KS
Publishing Company Name: The World Company

Judge's Comments:

Great use of graphics and photos; clean and engaging front page layouts. I found ads pretty non-invasive and thought their placement along the bottom and right sides of each page worked well. The Bin Laden front page really impressed me.

Class: F, DAILIES, OVER 30,000 CIRCULATION

1st Place – Newspaper of the Year

Newspaper Name: Arizona Daily Star/Tucson Newspapers (TNI)
Tucson, AZ

Publishing Company Name: Lee Enterprises

Judge's Comments:

Excellent coverage of hot button topic, engaging and diverse editorial. Clever illustrations, good use of infographics, "Scarlet Letter" picture is clean and smart, Big photos in sports catches the eye. Well laid out ads, visually distinct from editorial, savings box on Sunday editions is enticing to readers. Full package - simplistic is the best sense.

2nd Place

Newspaper Name: Hamilton Spectator
Hamilton, ON

Publishing Company Name: Metroland Media Group, Ltd.

Judge's Comments:

Evident enterprise reporting, creative editorial approach, engaging features. Innovative design doesn't always succeed - "Water World" headline lost under fold, but points for taking risks. Big photos draw in readers. Cleanly laid out classifieds, strong ad copy, glossy Christmas gift card ad is visually stimulating. Inventive design and strong reporting is definitely getting attention. Keep pushing boundaries.

3rd Place

Newspaper Name: The News-Herald
Willoughby, OH

Publishing Company Name: Journal Register Company

Judge's Comments:

Compelling stories - clear voice, diverse coverage and excellent use of photos. Clean layout, type size mostly maintains hierarchy and directs eye, few graphics or illustrations, clean. Ads are well laid out, not visually distracting. Ad copy clear and straight forward. Social Media is very well-featured. Good use of "more online" boxes to direct readers to web, streamline print and online.