



2017 Hawaii Society of Professional Journalists Excellence in Journalism Awards

June 29, 2018, at Manoa Grand Ballroom

The contest was judged by the Louisville SPJ chapter, and the Hawaii chapter judged Louisville's contest. One Hawaii category, Magazines Overall Page Design, by Betty Shimabukuro, a managing editor of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.

DAILY NEWSPAPER

Spot News Reporting

First Place: "Capobianco sentenced" Lila Fujimoto, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "Great capture of the emotion in the courtroom by the picture and the story."

Finalist: "Showdown in Pukalani" Colleen Uechi, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "Great picture and great headline in the story."

General News/Enterprise Reporting

First Place: "Baldwin Beach homeless sweep" Colleen Uechi, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "Thorough job reporting on a difficult community issue."

Finalists:

- "No more 'last call for alcohol' for some" Chris Sugidono, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "Good job reflecting the sentiments of your community and serving as their watchdog."

- "Coco Palms Doubts Rising" Allan Parachini, Garden Island

Feature Writing/Short Form

First Place: "Pianist to perform Nov. 4 to help get her piano here" Allan Parachini, Garden Island

Judge's Comments: "An interesting human interest piece and good read. There was good story flow, excellent description and the reader was left with a sense of familiarity with the subject of the story."

Finalist: "A family of Warriors" Robert Collias, Maui News

Feature Writing/Long Form

First Place: "Speed Dating II: Engagingly brief interludes with famous chefs. . ." Carla Tracy, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "What a fresh take on food writing. This feature was playful and informative and the writer certainly came across as an expert in her field. It was light, fun and mouth-watering-ly frank. I love that the writer was also a little bit self-deprecating. It really punched up her voice. An all around fun read."

Finalists:

- "Merwin's garden" Lee Imada, Maui News
- "40 years after men's disappearance" Colleen Uechi, Maui News

INTERNET

Online News Reporting

First Place: "How One Woman's Snorkeling Death May Help Save Lives" Nathan Eagle, Honolulu Civil Beat

Finalists:

- "Mark Zuckerberg Sues To Force Hawaii Families To Sell Land Passed Down For Generations" Michelle Broder Van Dyke, BuzzFeed
- "City Repaves Aggressively But Falls Behind On Other Roadwork" Marcel Honore, Honolulu Civil Beat

Online Feature Reporting

First Place: "The Scramble To Recruit New Teachers And Keep Them In Hawaii" Suevon Lee, Honolulu Civil Beat

Finalists:

- "Craigslist: Where Desperate Hawaii Renters Plead For Help" Anita Hofschneider, Honolulu Civil Beat
- "The Sorry State Of Many Honolulu Parks" Courtney Teague, Natanya Friedheim, Honolulu Civil Beat

Best Multimedia Presentation

First Place: "The Last Wild Place" Nathan Eagle, Alana Eagle, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "Very impressed with this entry. From the interactivity of the map to the video footage that welcomes the reader as they open the package this really has it all. it was easy to navigate and I just wanted to keep clicking and keep learning. The amount of effort that was put into this project was enormous. Great job!"

Finalists:

- "Drink Local," October 2017, Staff, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "The multimedia elements that support this print spread add so much to the reader experience. From the DIY and How they're made videos to the Top beer list, I learned so much, and it kept me interested all along the way."

- "A Snail's Tale," July 2017, Carlyn Tani, Diane S.W. Lee, Mae Ariola, Aaron K. Yoshino, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Great use of social media and multimedia elements in the package. The multimedia efforts support the print package very well."

Best Overall News Site

First Place: "Honolulu Civil Beat/civilbeat.org" Staff, Honolulu Civil Beat

Finalists:

- "<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/>" Pacific Business News Staff, Pacific Business News
- "All Hawaii News" Nancy Cook Lauer, All Hawaii News

Best 1-Person Online Features Site/1-Person Features Blog

First Place: "The Cat Dish" Catherine Toth Fox, Catherine Toth Fox

Judge's Comments: "Catherine has an easy writing style and flow that allows readers to quickly understand her thoughts and feelings. She writes about personal topics in a way that is both interesting and relate-able."

MAGAZINES

Business Reporting

First Place: "The Biggest Secret" LiAnne Yu, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "I thought this was the clear winner here, a real behind-the-scenes business story about why some businesses are transparent about pay and some are not. As important, the author explains what the ramifications of both are."

Finalists:

- "The Master of Edomae" Mari Taketa, Hana Hou!
- "Doing Business in The Shadows" Tiffany Hill, Hawaii Business

Industry or Trade Reporting

First Place: "Power Plant," October 2017, Don Wallace, Lorin Eleni Gill, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "In a strong category, this entry stood above by personalizing the plight of people and families who use medical marijuana and the people who hope to push the industry forward. It's a really well done package."

Finalists:

- “Farming's Uncertain Future” Beverly Creamer, Hawaii Business

Judge’s Comments: “As someone who lives on the mainland, this story was very interesting and informative a tale of something farmers and consumers are really concerned about. I also liked that included helpful consumer tips.

- “Drink Local,” October 2017, James Charisma, Jennifer Fiedler, Mari Taketa, Catherine Toth Fox, Robbie Dingeman, Honolulu Magazine

Judge’s Comments: “This is a fun and informative piece and one I'd certainly use if I visit Hawaii. Cheers.”

Profile

First Place: “The Pig Time,” January 2017, Mari Taketa, Honolulu Magazine

Judge’s Comments: “Mari does a great job telling the story of a chef who battled ambition v. responsibility to create his own identity while supporting his family. Wonderful detail and writing that drew me all the way through.”

Finalists:

- “The Power of 'Ohana,” August 2017, Don Wallace, James Charisma, Robbie Dingeman, Lorin Eleni Gill, Honolulu Magazine

Judge’s Comments: “An impressive dive into history and culture. Very thoughtful piece on what family means and why it's important.

- “Wild Man of the Waves” Beau Flemister Hana Hou!

Judge’s Comments: “Jamie O'Brien seems like a larger-than-life personality who is challenging the traditional surfing industry. I loved the comments about how he makes surfing more relate-able, but I would have liked to have better understood how he fits in the big picture of surfing.”

Feature Writing/Short Form

First Place: “You Are What You Surf” Timothy Schuler, Hawaii Business

Judge’s Comments: “Fascinating. This story was clear, well-written and very interesting. It delved, cleanly, into a topic that is probably completely unfamiliar to a 'lay person' who doesn't spend a lot of their time in a science lab - or on a surf board. The article had a good balance of explanatory and feature writing and was well-rounded. Well done.”

Finalists:

- “Legendary Landscape” Christine Hitt, HAWAII Magazine
- “Showing Up,” April 2017, Robbie Dingeman, Honolulu Magazine

Feature Writing/Long Form

First Place: “The Worldly Bird” Julia Steele, Hana Hou!

Judge’s Comments: “This feature on Hawaii's 'Wordly Bird,' the nene, was part information, part narrative and part fascinating. What a unique way to discuss the cultural history of a place - through a wild animal. I was engaged from beginning to end.”

Finalists:

- “At the Edge of Creation” Christine Hitt, HAWAII Magazine
- “Poke's New Wave” Martha Cheng, HAWAII Magazine

Competition Comments: “This was an incredibly difficult category to judge as there were certainly more than three stories that deserved an award. What stiff competition. Well done to all.”

Body of Work- Single Writer

First Place: “Return of the Warrior, Life of the Land, Deep South, South of the South Pacific” Shannon Wianeki, Hana Hou!

Judge’s Comments: “Real appreciation for your beautiful state shines through with this writer. Consistently strong writing.”

Finalists:

- “Don Wallace” Don Wallace, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Writing is nice and snappy - easy read."

- "Catherine Toth Fox" Catherine Toth Fox, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Who knew writing about food could be so informative (and fun)? Great tone and style."

Competition Comments: "Tough to choose. Nice, tight field of good writers."

Best Single Feature Layout

First Place: "Drink Local," October 2017, Louis Scheer, Kristin Lipman, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Great use of themed color, graphics and text. The entire spread felt connected and well-illustrated, while being informative, easy to read and aesthetically pleasing."

Finalists:

- "20 For The Next 20" Lilian Cheng, Hawaii Business
- "Kauai Street Eats, Pop-ups and Food Trucks" Elena Bragg, HAWAII Magazine

Magazine Cover

First Place: "Hawaii Business magazine: October 2017" Janelle Kalawe-Ching, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Great concept and execution! The Rosie the riveter vibes are strong without being an exact replica. It's the right amount of nostalgia mixed with its own modern flair. And the placement of the Amazon teaser at the top drew my eye up without being distracting and diverting focus from the main event. Excellent job!"

Finalists:

- "October 2017" Kristin Lipman, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "The color and typography on this cover drew me right into the page. I want to know more about those drinks and where I can get one. The bold use of the word 'local' paired with the more delicate 'drink' work so well together. Absolutely lovely work."

- "Hawaii Business magazine: December 2017" Janelle Kalawe-Ching, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Great use of a black and white photo on this cover. It's bold and the CEO of the year teaser clearly stands out on the page. The design element to the left of his head adds dimension and texture to the page as well."

Competition Comments: "WOW! There were so many wonderful entries in this category it made it a bit difficult to judge. Everyone who entered should be proud of their incredible work."

Overall Page Design

First Place: "Hawaii Business magazine: September, October and December," Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Hawaii Business starts out at a disadvantage compared to the other two general-interest magazines with topics that lend themselves to dramatic photography and graphics. This makes Hawaii Business so impressive in what it achieves consistently in terms of attractive, eye-catching presentation. Typography is consistent, bold when necessary, but not fussy; layout is clear and attractive. The magazine is business-like but retains a sense of humor."

Finalists:

- "October, November and December 2017" Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Honolulu Magazine's designers have created a distinctive publication with a spirit of fun and energy. Pages are full of color, movement -- enjoyable to browse through."

- "Overall Page Design: Hana Hou! 20.2, 20.3 & 20.5" Hana Hou!

Judge's Comments: "This is a beautiful magazine that respects good photography. The lead pages for individual articles are all impactful, with incisive use of typography."

NEWSPAPERS

Business Reporting

First Place: "Hawaii's budding cannabis industry experiences growing pains" Anna Hrushka, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "The look at the fledgling medical marijuana industry in Hawaii was detailed and well-sourced. It also was supported with nice graphics and entry points. It was easily my favorite in this category."

Finalists:

- "Hawaii food trucks on getting the business rolling" Katie Murar, Pacific Business News
- "Target to the rescue" Anna Hrushka, Pacific Business News

News Page Design

First Place: "How to sell aloha" Bethany Bickley, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "Love the illustrations in this cover story and how the designer carried the concept throughout the package giving the charts the same look and feel as the illustration. Excellent job!"

Finalist: "DevLeague cracks the workforce code" Bethany Bickley, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "Very creative way to display the headline for the cover story. The clean design throughout the package was delightful and was well executed!"

NONDAILY NEWSPAPERS

General News/Enterprise Reporting

First Place: "Regulators redirect funds of Hawaii's \$150M clean energy loan program" HJ Mai, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "This story was concise and straightforward. The author did a thorough job of explaining a complex issue to the reader."

Finalist: "New Ownership for Friendly Market" Catherine Cluett Pactol, Molokai Dispatch

Feature Writing

First Place: "How technology is changing the nature of Hawaii's wedding-planning industry" Katie Murar, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "What an interesting look at a unique industry that has a huge impact on Hawaii. It was well-written and utilized numbers, graphics and subheds to help bolster the reporting."

Finalist: "Eddie Flores lives and creates the American Dream" Katie Murar, Pacific Business News

Community Reporting

First Place: "More production, more opportunity" Katie Murar, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "This story did a great job opening with the key context - the goal, why it was important, why it was difficult to hit - and then hit every base: the problem, the hurdles, the progress, the solutions. It took what may be a very dry topic and showed readers exactly why they should care, what they should care about, what should concern them and how it might be addressed."

Finalists:

- "Mahalo, Hokulea" Katie Murar, Anna Hrushka, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "This was a unique way to tell the story, and the access to high-profile sources gave this some extra credence with readers, surely. I spent as much time studying the portraits and the info boxes as I did reading the accounts."

- "Unemployment Office Closing" Catherine Cluett Pactol, Molokai Dispatch

RADIO

General News/Enterprise Reporting

First Place: "Hawai'i and Undocumented Immigrants: Parts 1 through 4" Jackie Young, Hawaii Public Radio

Judge's Comments: "Nice well-rounded look at the state of immigration in Hawai'i, and its impact."

Feature Reporting

First Place: "Chinese-American Artist Broke Barriers, Reached Back Centuries to Create Bambi" Heidi Chang, Faith Lapidus, Voice of America

Judge's Comments: "This is a really lovely obituary with nice sound and a wide range of voices explaining the artist's impact."

STUDENT

Student News Reporting in Any Media

First Place: "At the Frontlines of Homelessness" Victoria Cuba, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "Farming Pesticides" Annabelle Le Jeune, University of Hawaii
- "Big Plans" Jordan Virtue, Hawaii Business

Student Feature Reporting in Any Media

First Place: "Why A Hawaii Sculptor Keeps Returning To The Same Hill In India" Annabelle Le Jeune, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "The Words Behind the Picture Brides" Ashley Mizuo, Honolulu Magazine
- "24,000 Meals a Year" Nicole Tam, Hawaii Business

Student Spot News in Any Media

First Place: "Small Kine Famous" Drew Afualo, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "Sunscreen Ban" Keon Diego, University of Hawaii
- "Cliff Jumping" Brandon Rivera, University of Hawaii

Student Investigative Reporting in Any Media

First Place: "Ala Wai Filth" Dillon Ancheta, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "Illegal Dumping: The Landfills in Our Backyard" Brandon Rivera, University of Hawaii
- "The Man Behind the Knife" Danielle Vallejo, University of Hawaii

Student Video News

First Place: "Traditional Hawaiian Tattoos" Kristen Wong, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "Rat Lungworm Disease" Nicole Tam, University of Hawaii
- "Journey to India" Annabelle Le Jeune, University of Hawaii

Competition Comments: "So many good segments in this competition. The future of video journalism is in good hands. We struggled to pick a winner in this group but found that the the visual storytelling of Traditional Hawaiian Tattoos was the best of many great entries. Good storytelling. Keep up the good work!"

Student Photography

First Place: "The Man Behind the Knife" Danielle Vallejo, University of Hawaii

Finalists:

- "Why A Hawaii Sculptor Keeps Returning To The Same Hill In India" Annabelle Le Jeune, University of Hawaii
- "Small Kine Famous" Caroline Japal, University of Hawaii

Competition Comments: "Much to like in these entries. Strong narratives and images. Great storytelling. A wonderful selection of images from the trip to India and many nice moments from the Alabama football player. However, the cockfighting piece seemed to have all of the items to bring the reader/viewer in and keep them there. Well done!"

TELEVISION

General News/Enterprise Reporting

First Place: "Hiroshima survivor fears North Korea nuclear attack" Diane Ako, Paul Omengkar, KITV4

Feature Reporting

First Place: “Zephyr's Legacy: Infant Lives Long Enough To Become Organ Donor” Ben Gutierrez, Peter Tang, Hawaii News Now

Finalists:

- “Last, but certainly not least: 81-year-old finishes Honolulu Marathon” Brigitte Namata, Ken Mashiyama, KHON2
- “Couple leaves Hawaii waitress big tip, even more generous offer” Elyssa Arevalo, Michael Colon Yoshimoto, KHON2

Spot News Reporting

First Place: “Bloodied and bruised, victim describes alleged attack by escaped inmate” Sara Mattison, Greg Lau, KHON2

Investigative Reporting

First Place: “Hidden Betrayal: Scandal at Kamehameha Schools” Lynn Kawano, Daryl Huff, Rick Daysog, Brenda Salgado, Jon Suyat, Hawaii News Now

Judge's Comments: “Good job telling these victims' stories.”

Finalists:

- “Health concerns for firefighters after massive Marco Polo blaze” Gina Mangieri, Justin Kanno, KHON2
- “Hawaii's ‘Last Princess’ fights for control over her fortune” Rick Daysog, Hawaii News Now

Series Reporting/Documentary/Special News

First Place: “Prescribing Hope: A Homeless in Hawaii Special Report” Allyson Blair, Joey Kirstine, Hawaii News Now

Judge's Comments: “This illuminating project humanized a marginal population, one most of us try to keep out of sight and out of mind. Kudos to the team for putting in the time to stick with these individuals and follow their progress over many months. The shots were nicely framed and great use of natural sound.”

Finalists:

- “Hawaii's Own And Their Stories” Linda Brock, Jason Suapaia, Lawrence E. Pacheco, Todd Fink, Matt Levi, PBS Hawaii

Judge's Comments: “Great job illuminating the experiences and sacrifices of these local veterans. The use of contemporaneous photos really helped the piece.”

- “Ho'i Mai 'O Hokulea: A voyaging canoe comes home” Kathy Muneno, Ron Mizutani, Chane Moke Puha, KHON2

ALL MEDIA

Column Writing or Blog/News

First Place: “Ian Lind” Ian Lind, Honolulu Civil Beat

Finalists

- “Neal Milner” Neal Milner, Honolulu Civil Beat
- “Chad Blair” Chad Blair, Honolulu Civil Beat

Column Writing or Blog/Features or Sports

First Place: “Brittany Lyte” Brittany Lyte, Honolulu Civil Beat

Finalists

- “Maui Connections” Rick Chatenever, Maui News
- “Tad Bartimus” Tad Bartimus, Honolulu Civil Beat

Competition Comments: “The winner had interesting topics and told the stories well. Each was an enjoyable read.”

Government Reporting

First Place: "Corruption at OHA" Rick Daysog, Hawaii News Now

Finalists:

- "Disabled Job Seekers Left In Limbo By Agency's Cash Crunch" Suevon Lee, Honolulu Civil Beat
- "Wealthy Oahu Neighborhoods Benefit From Program Meant To Help Poor Communities" Stewart Yerton, Honolulu Civil Beat

Breaking News Reporting

First Place: "Hawaii v. Trump coverage" Michelle Broder Van Dyke, BuzzFeed

Judge's Comments: "Nice job on the handling the story that is so complex."

Finalists:

- "Showdown in Pukalani" Colleen Uechi, Maui News

Judge's Comments: "Great picture to headline the paper."

- "Former Honolulu Police Chief And His Prosecutor Wife Arrested" Nick Grube, Rui Kaneya, Honolulu Civil Beat

Health Reporting

First Place: "Rat Lungworm Disease Surfaces On Maui" Tad Bartimus, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "Nice set of stories on what you'd think would be a rare problem -- but it is a growing problem, which is the point here."

Finalists:

- "Life Support" Noelle Fujii, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Lays out the facts behind the struggles that rural hospitals face."

- "Power Plant," October 2017, Don Wallace, Lorin Eleni Gill, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Lots of facts, plus good human interest angle."

Science Reporting

First Place: "Endangered and Underfunded" Timothy Schuler, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Definitely a science topic, but written in a way that's interesting even for those who don't give a hoot about science."

Finalists:

- "Shannon Wianecki" Shannon Wianecki, Shannon Wianecki
- "The new wave of farming" Anna Hrushka, Pacific Business News

Competition Comments: "A couple of these stories would have also been OK in a business writing category, but that's OK."

Data Journalism Story or Series

First Place: "BOSS Survey" Steve Petranik Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Nice presentation of otherwise mundane survey results."

Competition Comments: "Only two entries in this category, and one did not appear to fit the criteria at all."

Sports Reporting

First Place: "Riding with Ali'i" Kirk Lee Aeder, HAWAII Magazine

Finalists:

- "More sports could mean big business" HJ Mai, Pacific Business News
- "2016-17 MIL Boys Athlete of the Year" Robert Collias, Maui News

Competition Comments: "All entries were very well-written, and it was difficult to choose the top three. The winner stood out because of the rich detail and vivid descriptions."

Arts/Entertainment Writing

First Place: "Finding Mekia" Nate Chinen, Hana Hou!

Judge's Comments: "Journalist Nathan Chinen did a masterful job of packing a ton of detail and history into a well told and fascinating story about the history of both music and Hawaiian culture. The pictures were also a fantastic component of the story and were beautifully shot."

Finalists:

- " 'Keepers of the Kaona,' November 2017 Lorin Eleni Gill, Honolulu Magazine
- "Hawai'i at the Fringe" David Thompson, Hana Hou!

Editorial Opinion

First Place: "Civil Beat Editorial Board" Staff, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "Nice job dealing with some weighty topics. The piece criticizing U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard's trip to Syria, paid for with people who had ties to Assad was especially good."

Finalists:

- "Who needs counties?" Kam Napier, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "This entry had the best voice."

- "Typical, American, Muslim," April 2017 Enjy El-Kadi, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Interesting and heart felt take of a Muslim living in the age of Trump."

Editorial Cartoon/Illustration

First Place: "Where the Wild Things Went," August 2017, Meen Choi, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Well-executed illustration that is both visually pleasing and informative. The headline was especially eye-catching as it was incorporated into the illustration and is what set this entry apart."

Finalists:

- "Doing Business in The Shadows" Jonathan Bartlett, Hawaii Business
- "The Sour Poi Awards," January 2017, Chris Danger, Honolulu Magazine

Informational Graphic

First Place: "24,000 Meals a Year" Mae Ariola-Ordonez, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "It made me excited to learn about this topic. This package has a cohesive feel and flows from page to page keeping the reader interested throughout."

Finalists:

- "Green Rush" Marie Tutko, Bethany Bickley, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "This page is informative and the design is clean. I know exactly what I'm going to learn about as soon as I look at the page. It's elegant and has multiple entry points to grab the reader and pull them into the page."

- "Wooing a company worth \$500 billion" Marie Tutko, Bethany Bickley, Pacific Business News

Judge's Comments: "Great use of structured layout. The charts are clean and easy to read."

News Photography/Videography

First Place: "It is awful" Matthew Thayer, Maui News

Finalists:

- "Showdown in Pukalani" Colleen Uechi, Maui News
- "Robert Scott at Capobianco sentencing" Matthew Thayer, Maui News

Competition Comments: "This trio of entries is all very good and shows a commitment to good photojournalism. We all came together on the flooding photo because of the photographer's desire to stay with his subject and commit to the reporting. Well done!"

Feature Photography/Videography

First Place: "The Fall Guy," September 2017, Harold Julian, Honolulu Magazine

Finalists:

- "A Love Extreme (Shark)" Donald Miralle, Matt Mallams, Hana Hou!
- "Fish Magnets" Perrin James, Matt Mallams, Hana Hou!

Competition Comments: “Many, many strong visuals in this category. Kudos for the unique viewpoint of A Love Extreme and the 20/20 portraits. We loved the Fish Magnets image for its elegance and fluidity of the individual layers. The singles were magnificent but when we saw the portraits for The Fall Guy we all agreed that this was the strongest content. So many thoughtfully photographed and carefully presented portraits. Well done!”

Sports Photography/Videography

First Place: “A Love Extreme (Sting Ray)” Donald Miralle, Matt Mallams, Hana Hou!

Finalist: “Molokai’s Payton Kaalekahi” Matthew Thayer, Maui News

Judge’s Comments: “We really liked the moments captured in the judo tournament photos but the single from ‘A Love Extreme’ really wowed us. A quietly transcendent image.”

Photo/Video Essay

First Place: “The Last Harvest” Matthew Thayer, Maui News

Finalists:

- “The New Retro,” March 2017, Stacey Makiya, Brie Thalmann, Tommy Shih, Honolulu Magazine
- “A Love Extreme” Donald Miralle, Matt Mallams, Hana Hou!

Competition Comments: “So many good entries in this category. From long-term storytelling endeavors to slick ad-style videos. This category really had our staff talking. In the end the storytelling in ‘Harvest’ won us over. The ‘New Retro’ is something that our staff has shot before but we felt like the edit was tight and the images well done. The image from A Love Extreme wows us. Nice work from all!”

Headlines

First Place: “Still Life with Honeycreeper, Knee Deep in Aloha, The Detonator, Particles of Interest, Wild Man of the Waves” Michael Shapiro, Hana Hou!

Judge’s Comments: “Both the headlines and subheads are brief, yet compelling. The headlines draw a reader in while the subheads provide context to where the story will lead.”

Finalists:

- “His Formula for Success: Fail, Fail, Fail, Prevail; Death is His Life’s Work; JFK’s Killers Staged 9/11 to Hide Fake Moon Landing; The Doctor is Not In, Till Debt Do Us Part” Staff, Hawaii Business
- “BuzzFeed News headlines” Michelle Broder Van Dyke, BuzzFeed

Best Explanatory Journalism

First Place: “Guam’s Day Of Reckoning After Decades Of Sex Abuse” Anita Hofschneider, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge’s Comments: “Compelling look at a significant problem. Great photography. Fair and balanced treatment across the board.”

Finalists:

- “Hurricanes: The Other Checklist” Lavonne Leong, Hawaii Business

Judge’s Comments: “Nice graphics and display compliment a solid look at an important issue.”

- “The Case Against the Kealohas” Lynn Kawano, Aaron Brooks, Hawaii News Now

Judge’s Comments: “Clear recounting of a long-unfolding crime. Good use of video and graphics. Package was undercut by the overheated presentation, though. Music played over interviews was intended to add drama, but it was distracting and unnecessary.”

Special Section

First Place: “Hidden Kaua’i” Kevin Allen, Christine Hitt, Brittany Lyte, HAWAII Magazine

Judge’s Comments: “The designer’s use of clean design and subtle typography really lets the beautiful photos in this package shine. The use of small copy blocks broken up throughout the package make it easy to read and jump into the package at any point. Great job!”

Finalists:

- “The Insiders’ Guide to Chinatown,” February 2017, Staff, Honolulu Magazine

Judge's Comments: "Bold layout with great use of cultural design elements throughout the spread."

- "40 Under 40" Pacific Business News Staff, Pacific Business News

Investigative Reporting

First Place: "This Honolulu Toddler Nearly Died In An Assault But No Charges Filed" John Hill, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "John Hill's investigation may be the most justice Peyton Valiente and his parents ever receive."

Finalists:

- "Waiting In Pain" John Hill, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "This series was meticulously researched and gave voice to injured workers. After reading it, I can tell you I would not want to be hurt on the job in Hawaii."

- "Maui sand mining" Justin Kanno, Gina Mangieri, KHON2

Best Independent Journalist (not supported by an organization)

First Place: "Shannon Wianecki" Shannon Wianecki, Shannon Wianecki

Judge's Comments: "Shannon has a clear love and knowledge for the stories pursued across these five entries. The reporter uses vivid detail and deep understanding to weave tales of history and culture in a way that anyone unfamiliar with the topics can understand."

Public Service Reporting

First Place: "Waiting In Pain" John Hill, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "This deeply reported series does a masterful job explaining how Hawaii's workers comp system is stacked against injured workers. I have so much empathy for the people featured by the author, and his even-handed approach gave the other side its fair due, boosting the credibility of the reporting. Kudos to Mr. Hill for giving voice to the voiceless."

Finalists:

- "Honolulu Police Department Corruption" Nick Grube, Honolulu Civil Beat

Judge's Comments: "Nice job extending and expanding on the federal investigation to illuminate the actions of people whose positions entail so much public trust."

- "Visions For Hawaii" Steve Petranik, I AM HAWAII Collective, Hawaii Business

Judge's Comments: "Beautiful presentation"

Hawaii media judged the contest of Louisville, Kentucky, which in turn judged the Hawaii contest. Honolulu Star-Advertiser Managing Editors Betty Shimabukuro and Mike Rovner judged a Hawaii category for magazine overall page design. The L chapter in turn judged the Hawaii contest. Here are the judges:

- Mokihana Aki Ann Auman Josh Benton Chad Blair Jennifer Brink Catherine Cruz
- Teresa Dawson Robbie Dingeman Anthony Ferreira Jeff Hawe Martha Hernandez
- Sean Ibara Lee Imada Nancy Cook Lauer Kristin Lipman Honey Maltin-Wisot Stirling Morita
- Dennis Oda Cheryl Oncea Brett Oppegaard Steve Petranik Charlene Robinson Brenda Salgado
- Ben Silva Chris Sugidono David Sur Don Wallace Marisa Yamane Christi Young Lucy Young Oda