



For release: June 30, 2024
Contact: Felicia Mason or Jaclyn Langan
(205) 871-7737

APA Media Awards Editorial Contest Winners Announced

Birmingham, AL (June 30, 2024) – Winners of the 2024 Alabama Press Association Media Awards were announced by Dee Ann Campbell, chairman of the AMA Contest Committee. This year, 56 publications submitted 1,770 entries in the annual contest. The Hoosier State Press Association membership judged the entries.

First place awards in many categories and divisions were presented in conjunction with the 2024 APA Summer Convention banquet awards program.

Congratulations to all of the winners!

Best Newspaper Website

Division A

- 1st Place: The Anniston Star for www.annistonstar.com
2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for www.al.com

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for www.alexcityoutlook.com
2nd Place: The Clanton Advertiser for www.clantonadvertiser.com
3rd Place: The Cullman Times for www.cullmantimes.com

Division C

- 1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for www.bizjournals.com/birmingham
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for www.shelbycountyreporter.com
3rd Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City) for www.citizenofeastalabama.com

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for www.opelikaobserver.com
2nd Place: The Wetumpka Herald for www.thewetumpkaherald.com
3rd Place: Selma Sun for www.selmasun.com

Division E

- 1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for www.theredstonerocket.com
2nd Place: Hoover Sun for www.hooversun.com

Best Production and Printing

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) by Lee Champion
2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)
2nd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle)

Division D

- 1st Place: The Greenville Standard
2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika)
3rd Place: The Dadeville Record

Division E

- 1st Place: Lider News
2nd Place: Hoover Sun
3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham)

Best Public Service

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "One Alabama county cracked down on pregnant drug users. 10 years later, has it gone too far?" by Amy Yurkanin
- 2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Predatory Towing" by Heather Gann
- 3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Saving Chandler Mountain" by Dennis Pillion

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Free obituary listings online and in print" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee
- 2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Pet of the Week" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, staff
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Co-op seeing 2 month wait times for new connections" by Patrick Camp

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "State ABC signs 'generous' leases for liquor stores" by staff
- 2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Suicide Prevention" by Don Mottern
- 3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Mentoring Monday" by staff

Division D

- 1st Place: Selma Sun for "Food for the Soul recipe videos" by Cindy Fisher, Debrah Fisher
- 2nd Place: The Perry County Herald (Marion) for "City Contract Awarded Without Bids" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "911 Board members resign" by Tammy Andrews

Division E

- 1st Place: The Homewood Star for "In deep water: Study pinpoints stormwater focus areas" by Solomon Crenshaw Jr.
- 2nd Place: Lider News for "Hispanics attacked" by Gerardo Flores, Adriana Sanchez
- 3rd Place: Lider News for "Hispanic girl killed" by Gerardo Flores, Adriana Sanchez

Cat. 01 Best Editorial Page or Section

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times by Tom Mayer, Amanda Shavers
- 2nd Place: The Selma Times-Journal by James Jones
- 3rd Place: The News Courier (Athens) by staff

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) by staff
- 2nd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) by staff
- 3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle) by Doug Dimitry

Division D

- 1st Place: The Auburn Villager
- 2nd Place: The Leader (Linden)
- 3rd Place: The Tuskegee News

Cat. 02 Best Lifestyle/Family Pages

Division B

- 1st Place: The News Courier (Athens) by staff
2nd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) by staff
3rd Place: The Fort Payne Times-Journal by Anita Stiefel

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)
2nd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)
3rd Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika)
2nd Place: The Greenville Standard

Division E

- 1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)
2nd Place: Hoover Sun

Cat. 03 Best Sports Coverage

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times
2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)
3rd Place: The News Courier (Athens)

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) by Andrew Simonson, Alec Etheredge
2nd Place: Call News (Citronelle)
3rd Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

Division D

- 1st Place: The Wetumpka Herald
2nd Place: The Greenville Standard
3rd Place: The Onlooker (Foley)

Division E

- 1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)
2nd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham)
3rd Place: Village Living (Mountain Brook)

Cat. 04 Best Local Economic Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: The Anniston Star by Sherry Kughn, Bill Wilson, Ashley Morrison
2nd Place: Alabama Media Group by Hannah Denham, John Sharp

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune by staff
2nd Place: The Cullman Times by Patrick Camp, Benjamin Bullard
3rd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) by staff

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) by staff
2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal by A.J. O'Leary, Illyshia Parker
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle) by staff

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika)
2nd Place: The Tuskegee News
3rd Place: The Wetumpka Herald

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)

Cat. 05 Best Local Education Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group by Rebecca Griesbach, Trisha Powell Crain
2nd Place: The Anniston Star by Ashley Morrison, Sherry Kughn

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times by Patrick Camp
2nd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) by Nicole Smith
3rd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) by Peggy M. Himburg

Division C

- 1st Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City) by staff
2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal by Laurel Thrailkill, A.J. O'Leary
3rd Place: The Southern Star (Ozark) by staff

Division D

- 1st Place: The Wetumpka Herald
2nd Place: The Tallasse Tribune
3rd Place: The Observer (Opelika)

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times
2nd Place: Hoover Sun
3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham)

Cat. 06 Best Local News Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group by Hannah Denham, Joseph Bryant, Kayode Crown
2nd Place: The Anniston Star by Ashley Morrison, Sherry Kughn

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City)
2nd Place: The Cullman Times
3rd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) by staff
2nd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) by staff
3rd Place: Colbert County Reporter by JR Tidwell

Division D

- 1st Place: Selma Sun
2nd Place: The Dadeville Record
3rd Place: The Tallassee Tribune

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times
2nd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham)
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)

Cat. 07 Best Use of Photographs/Editorial Content

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City)
2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)
2nd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle)

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika)

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)
3rd Place:

Cat. 08 Best Layout and Design

Division B

- 1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)
2nd Place: The Clanton Advertiser
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune

Division C

- 1st Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle)

Division D

- 1st Place: The Baldwin Times by staff
2nd Place: The Greenville Standard by Josh Dewberry
3rd Place: The Observer (Opelika) by Michelle Key

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun
2nd Place: The Birmingham Times
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)

Cat. 09 Best Spot News Story

Division A

- 1st Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Dadeville shooting" by Alex Gladden, Marty Roney
2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Execution of James Edward Barber" by Marty Roney
3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Just a bus ticket and an ankle monitor: Alabama leaves freed prison inmates with no money, no plan" by Ivana Hrynkiw

Division B

- 1st Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "'God comforted her': Missing child found safe in Parrish" by Nicole Smith
2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "CCSO: Deputy, dispatcher dead in apparent murder-suicide" by Patrick Camp
3rd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Ryan Manning found not guilty in child abuse case" by Hunter Jones

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Freemason lodge burns in Columbiana" by Noah Wortham
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Two crew members killed in Chelsea helicopter crash" by Alec Etheredge
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "Twister's Toll" by Patrick Darrington

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Her name is Amore" by staff
2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "A Community Grieves Together" by staff

3rd Place: The Tuskegee News for "Quick response by Sheriff's Department helped save trooper's life" by Guy Rhodes

Division E

1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Redstone police help homeless Reserve Soldier" by Skip Vaughn

2nd Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Miscommunication about Moody landfill fire leads to frustration among county officials" by Hannah Curran

3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Two SCSO deputies shot while responding to welfare check in Meadowbrook" by Leah Eagle

Cat. 10 Best In-Depth News Coverage

Division A

1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Moody landfill fire" by Dennis Pillion

2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "What is wrong with the Walker County jail?" by Sarah Whites-Koditschek

3rd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Aging and caregiving in Alabama" by Hadley Hitson

Division B

1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Librarian: Efforts to ban books from Cullman library on the rise" by Patrick Camp

2nd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "Anthony Mitchell" by Ed Howell

3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Cullman County lawsuit could have national impact" by Patrick Camp

Division C

1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Birmingham-Southern College" by Laurel Thrailkill, A.J. O'Leary

2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Maternal care in Birmingham" by Laurel Thrailkill

3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Nurse practitioner care in Birmingham" by Laurel Thrailkill

Division D

1st Place: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for "Tornadoes slam Sumter" by Tommy McGraw, Travis Vaughn, Herman Ward

2nd Place: The Baldwin Times for "Rockabilly BamaLama Music Festival" by Natalie Williamson

3rd Place: The Greenville Standard for "Greenville named to the American Camellia Society National Trail" by Bruce Branum

Division E

1st Place: Vestavia Voice for "New growth: Vision coming into focus for lower section of US 31" by Loyd McIntosh

2nd Place: Hoover Sun for "Hoover crime trends" by Jon Anderson

3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Cahaba Valley Fire District approves 2 of 4 measures" by Leah Eagle

Cat. 11 Best Business Story or Column

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Forever chemicals dumped in Alabama" by Sarah Whites-Koditschek, Dennis Pillion
- 2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Alabama saw a surge in mass layoffs in 2023, especially in manufacturing" by Hannah Denham
- 3rd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "UA baseball, softball tournaments bring more than \$2M into Tuscaloosa economy" by Ken Roberts

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Co-op seeing 2 month wait times for new connections" by Patrick Camp
- 2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "Why is the price of eggs so high?" by Benjamin Bullard
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Flourish of Cullman pairs area businesses with individuals with 'differing abilities'" by Patrick Camp

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Built upon flavor" by Noah Wortham
- 2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Pick of the patch" by Barton Perkins
- 3rd Place: The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for "A Dying Art" by Mary Bailey

Division D

- 1st Place: The Onlooker (Foley) for "The third place" by Melanie LeCroy
- 2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "The Coffee Shop Is in Good Hands" by Wil Crews
- 3rd Place: The Greensboro Watchman for "Yeagers introduce Ruan Thai Greensboro with blessing ceremony, sampling of Thai delicacies" by staff

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times for "Shegun Otluna and The Joy of Building" by Ryan Michaels
- 2nd Place: Hoover Sun for "Hoover real estate spotlight" by Jon Anderson
- 3rd Place: Hoover Sun for "Sweet Elegance: Award-winning bakery expands to Ross Bridge" by Jon Anderson

Cat. 12 Best Feature Story Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "63 years of memories at an old-school Alabama burger and shake shack" by Bob Carlton
- 2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "The surprise rebirth of a classic American hard-rock band" by Matt Wake
- 3rd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Did Taylor Swift attend a prom in Tuscaloosa? You bet" by Jasmine Hollie

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Future of Wallace State library in question" by Patrick Camp
- 2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "Cookie brothers" by Benjamin Bullard
- 3rd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "'Finding a source of happiness': Missouri couple on quest to walk across America" by Ron Harris

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Built upon flavor" by Noah Wortham
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "A silent struggle: Fighting to make a difference in mental healthcare and suicide prevention" by Don Mottern
3rd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "It's not easy being nevergreen: Purple and gold marching society promotes Mobile's true colors" by Kyle Hamrick

Division D

- 1st Place: The Tallassee Tribune for "Southside Middle School teacher of the year makes student education priority" by Cliff Williams
2nd Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Reduce, reuse, recycle. Reimagine: JD Swiger turns litter into art" by Melanie LeCroy
3rd Place: The Courier (Daphne/Fairhope) for "2 famous Fairhope French Quarter cats find community of care with shop owners, restaurant employees" by Natalie Williamson

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun for "Food For Our Journey: Nonprofit fills gaps to nourish stomachs, spirits, souls" by Jon Anderson
2nd Place: The Birmingham Times for "Shelley Stewart: Legacy and Lessons of 'The Voice'" by Javacia Harris Bowser
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Newspaper photo leads to love affair, family" by Rebecca Sallee

Cat. 13 Best News Feature Story Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Loss of ferry leaves town isolated" by Hadley Hitson
2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Dadeville shooting and aftermath" by staff
3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Did that costume at Eufaula's Admiral Moorer Middle School break your brain? Here's how it works" by Lawrence Specker

Division B

- 1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "McCrary's Mission" by Danielle W. Kirkland
2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "Pastors discuss reasons behind leaving, remaining with UMC" by Patrick Camp
3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Early release inmates returning to Cullman" by Patrick Camp

Division C

- 1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Titusville renewal" by Illyshia Parker
2nd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Feeding the monster — officials combat social media list's misinformation" by Brady Petree
3rd Place: The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for "Project Charlie" by Elizabeth Summers

Division D

- 1st Place: Coosa County News (Rockford) for "Broken dreams: A tornado survivor's story" by Christa Jennings

- 2nd Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Remembering Taylor Rose: National Child Advocacy Day observed at memorial to murdered child" by Tommy Campbell
- 3rd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "1,000 Days and Counting" by Wil Crews

Division E

- 1st Place: Village Living (Mountain Brook) for "Parallel lives of service: 2 West Point graduates, residents reflect on military service" by Leah Eagle, Erin Nelson Sweeney
- 2nd Place: The Homewood Star for "Ukrainian soldiers learn new sports, activities at Lakeshore" by Neal Embry, Solomon Crenshaw Jr.
- 3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Retired FBI bomb technician has eventful career" by Marian Accardi

Cat. 14 Best Editorial

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "Clean Up Alabama is not protecting children, it's hurting them" by Abigail Murphy
- 2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "Additional tax fuels the pain on medication. That's morally wrong." by Amanda Shavers
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Government transparency now under local attack" by staff

Division C

- 1st Place: The Montgomery Independent for "Bang Bang, You're Dead" by Jeff Martin
- 2nd Place: The Montgomery Independent for "1819 Gave Him A Public Lashing And Then Handed Him A Rope" by Jeff Martin
- 3rd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for "Before our schools are added to the list" by Dee Ann Campbell

Division D

- 1st Place: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for "Would you take a bullet to print the truth" by Tommy McGraw
- 2nd Place: The Auburn Villager for "Bill offers a lifeline for local newspapers" by Brian Woodham
- 3rd Place: The Dadeville Record for "The shoes and the night I'll never forget" by Lizi Arbogast Gwin

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Trussville City Schools BOE hits homerun with Martin hire" by Scott Buttram
- 2nd Place: The Alabama Baptist for "Tragedy reminds us that sin-darkened world needs light of Christ" by Jennifer Davis Rash
- 3rd Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Alabama citizens and crime victims deserve real accountability" by Paul DeMarco

Cat. 15 Best Humorous Column

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Florida Man ain't got nothin' on Tommy Tuberville" by John Archibald
- 2nd Place: The Anniston Star for "Memo to Human Resources" by Lisa Davis

3rd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "How squirrels thrive on UA's campus" by Gary Cosby Jr.

Division B

1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Neither for president!" by David Carroll

2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Insomnia and poetry" by Danielle W. Kirkland

3rd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "We're Number Two!" by David Carroll

Division C

1st Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for "For Fear of a Cat" by Dee Ann Campbell

2nd Place: The Advertiser-Gleam (Guntersville) for "First car can build character" by Sara Watkins

3rd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Rise of the partisan appliances" by Ashley Trice

Division D

1st Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Learning the great lessons of parenthood" by Dee Ann Campbell

2nd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Straddling the Fence" by David Proctor

3rd Place: The Greenville Standard for "Living on Bubba time" by Jeanne K. Callen

Division E

1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Neighborhood wave means mow problems" by Jonathan Stinson

2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Dead animals in road don't belong on menu" by Jonathan Stinson

3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Some were born to run critters out of buildings" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 16 Best Human Interest Column

Division A

1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Years after brothers serve 20 years for rape they said they did not commit- judge tosses wrongful conviction" by Roy S. Johnson

2nd Place: The Anniston Star for "What in the Wordle?" by Donna Barton

Division B

1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Let's take an anger break" by David Carroll

2nd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "It starts with one day a time" by Lizi Arbogast Gwin

3rd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Lyreleaf sage on my mind" by Danielle W. Kirkland

Division C

1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Deep-fried nostalgia" by Barton Perkins

2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "On wings like Eagles" by Andrew Simonson

3rd Place: The Montgomery Independent for "A Peanut Farmer With A Servant's Heart" by Jeff Martin

Division D

1st Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Remembering Carolyn" by Tammy Andrews

2nd Place: The Wetumpka Herald for "Love More Now" by Cliff Williams

3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "The Goat" by Tammy Andrews

Division E

- 1st Place: Cahaba Sun for "Payphoning it forward" by Gary Lloyd
2nd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Role reversal" by Alana Smith
3rd Place: Village Living (Mountain Brook) for "In a world that's hurting, you need stubborn hope" by Kari Kampakis

Cat. 17 Best Editorial Column or Commentary

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Opinion Columns" by Kyle Whitmire
2nd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Opinion Columns" by Gary Cosby Jr.

Division B

- 1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Commentary" by Danielle W. Kirkland
2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "WUNDERGARTEN Columns" by staff

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Commentary" by Ashley Trice, Rob Holbert
2nd Place: The Montgomery Independent for "Commentary" by Jeff Martin
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Commentary" by Donald Mottern

Division D

- 1st Place: The Auburn Villager for "Commentary" by Ralph Morris
2nd Place: The Moundville Times for "Commentary" by Kirk Pearson, Jr.
3rd Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Days Gone By" by Tom Boggs

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Commentary" by Scott Buttram
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Snippets" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 18 Best Sports News In-Depth Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "The debate around NIL and Alabama high school athletics is here" by Nick Alvarez
2nd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Darius Miles Shooting Investigation" by Nick Kelly
3rd Place: The Anniston Star for "A century ago, Alabama won in Pasadena" by Mark Edwards

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Blast From The Past: Reliving the Cold Springs' 1998-99 state championship run" by Jake Winfrey
2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Ready to Run" by Jason Bowen
3rd Place: The Clanton Advertiser for "Verbena High School Football Rebuild Feature" by Crey Reeder, Brandon Sumrall

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Student athlete Brayden Ray dies in car accident" by Alec Etheredge, Andrew Simonson, Scott Mims
- 2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "A pay-to-play industry" by Marie Leech
- 3rd Place: The Southern Star (Ozark) for "21 years of competition no match for a 35-year-old bond" by Christina Faulkner

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "War Eagle News" by Brandon Hughes, Robert Noles, Michelle Key
- 2nd Place: The Dadeville Record for "Overcoming Obstacles: Wilson wins Bryant-Jordan scholarship" by Henry Zimmer
- 3rd Place: The Courier (Daphne/Fairhope) for "Injuries and training: Prepping for the long season" by Cole McNanna

Division E

- 1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Lunar Llamas capture championship" by Skip Vaughn
- 2nd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "High school football preview" by staff
- 3rd Place: Village Living (Mountain Brook) for "High school football preview" by Kyle Parmley

Cat. 19 Best Sports Single Event Story

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Inside the 4th-and-31 pass that won Alabama the Iron Bowl at Auburn" by Matt Stahl
- 2nd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Inside Fourth and 31" by Nick Kelly
- 3rd Place: The Anniston Star for "MS. 1,000" by Mark Edwards

Division B

- 1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Back to B'ham" by Jason Bowen
- 2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Rickard's game-winner lifts Fairview over Good Hope 72-69" by Sammy Confer
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "PREP BASEBALL PLAYOFFS: Bearcats advance to state semifinals with dramatic, 4-2 win over Gardendale" by Nick Griffin

Division C

- 1st Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "The Value of a foot" by Jimmy Wigfield
- 2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Thompson wins thrilling game 3 ahead of semis" by Alec Etheredge
- 3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "Saraland plays for 6A championship" by Jimmy Wigfield

Division D

- 1st Place: The Dadeville Record for "The kick heard 'round the state': Field goal lifts Reeltown to state final" by Henry Zimmer
- 2nd Place: The Wetumpka Herald for "Holtville's Silas delivers in future stadium" by Dalton Middleton
- 3rd Place: The Wetumpka Herald for "ROW TIDE: Holtville's Hickey joins Alabama rowing team" by Dalton Middleton

Division E

- 1st Place: Vestavia Voice for "Long time coming" by Kyle Parmley
2nd Place: Hoover Sun for "Bucs cap magical day" by Kyle Parmley
3rd Place: Hoover Sun for "Never gets old: Lady Bucs accomplish mission, win 3rd straight title" by Kyle Parmley

Cat. 20 Best Sports Feature Story

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "'Be Better Than Yesterday': How four words on a sticky note have inspired Auburn's football team" by Ainslie Lee
2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "'I'm gonna catch it and run': The story of the Kick Six, as told by the officials" by Creg Stephenson
3rd Place: The Anniston Star for "Inside a Jax State softball road trip" by Mark Edwards

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Seeing Double: Final stretch in focus for hoops-savvy Tetro twins" by Jake Winfrey
2nd Place: The Clanton Advertiser for "Sosa to Slovenia: summer biking in Europe" by Carey Reeder
3rd Place: The News Courier (Athens) for "Hitting the field: Women attend Golden Eagles football camp" by Justin Travis

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Basketball bounces differently at ASMS" by Tommy Hicks
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Chris Stewart recalls remarkable journey" by Alec Etheredge
3rd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "The Goat" by Jimmy Wigfield

Division D

- 1st Place: The Dadeville Record for "Rebels channel Chucky to beat Tallassee" by Henry Zimmer
2nd Place: The Onlooker (Foley) for "Recruiting's wild ride" by Cole McNanna
3rd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Fishing for Smiles: Zuggy Fishing Using Online Platform to Promote Positivity" by Noah Griffith

Division E

- 1st Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "One of one: Briarwood senior forges unique, necessary path" by Kyle Parmley, Erin Nelson Sweeney
2nd Place: Vestavia Voice for "Balancing father and coach" by Kyle Parmley
3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Lions seniors remembered for on-court production, off-court relationship" by Kyle Parmley, Erin Nelson Sweeney

Cat. 21 Best Local Sports Column

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Jax State's new identity is shoxing to the X-treme" by Joseph Goodman
2nd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Wrong answer for Nate Oats" by Chase Goodbread

3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "The 6 seconds that spawned another Iron Bowl icon" by Michael Casagrande

Division B

1st Place: The Cullman Times for "TALKIN' PREP BASKETBALL: New rules spark debate among local coaches" by Jake Winfrey

2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "PREP SPORTS: Looking back at some of the best games of 2022" by Sammy Confer

3rd Place: The Clanton Advertiser for "Boogity, boogity, boogity, let's bring back racing" by Carey Reeder

Division C

1st Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "Golsom creating a new MGM" by Jimmy Wigfield

2nd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "Unforgettable! Bama's TD bomb" by Jimmy Wigfield

3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "The memories created make it all worth the time" by Alec Etheredge

Division D

1st Place: The Tuskegee News for "Coaches are still hired to be fired" by Guy Rhodes

2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Can Auburn Add to the Madness?" by Wil Crews

3rd Place: The Tallapoosa Tribune for "Woods should've been a 2A Back of the Year finalist" by Lizi Arbogast Gwin

Division E

1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Football career ends but another chapter begins" by Skip Vaughn

2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Try to understand the referees' perspective" by Skip Vaughn

3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Let them celebrate" by Kyle Parmley

Cat. 22 Best Feature Photo

Division A

1st Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Tuscaloosa Gauntlet" by Gary Cosby Jr.

2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Apache flyover" by Jake Crandall

3rd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Graduation Wave" by Jake Crandall

Division B

1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Hold on" by Amanda Shavers

2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "The write stuff" by Amanda Shavers

3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Duck pond" by Amanda Shavers

Division C

1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Girl drops off letter for Santa Claus" by Noah Wortham

2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Hitting the trails with Helena's Mountain Bike Team" by Jeremy Raines

3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Barry Goggins in Ensley" by Bob Farley

Division D

- 1st Place: The Courier (Daphne/Fairhope) for "New Daphne business wants to help you release your rage" by Micah Green
- 2nd Place: The Tallassee Tribune for "Tallassee Pep Rally" by Cliff Williams
- 3rd Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Flora-Bama Mullet Toss" by Micah Green

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Moody environmental landfill fire" by Ron Burkett
- 2nd Place: The Birmingham Times for "Coping With Grief" by Joe Songer
- 3rd Place: The Homewood Star for "Ukrainian Soldier Rehab" by Erin Nelson Sweeney

Cat. 23 Best News Photo

Division A

- 1st Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Alice Marie Johnson celebrates freedom" by Gary Cosby Jr.
- 2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Ferry Family" by Jake Crandall
- 3rd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Drag March" by Mickey Welsh

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Going where the weld's at" by Amanda Shavers
- 2nd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "Justice for Tony" by Ed Howell
- 3rd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "Black Business Council Juneteenth Celebration" by Abigail Murphy

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Bull throttle" by Jeremy Raines
- 2nd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "WWII Vets stood for All" by Emmett Burnett
- 3rd Place: The Southern Star (Ozark) for "Juneteenth Line Dance" by Christina Faulkner

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Remembering Amore" by Robert Noles
- 2nd Place: The Onlooker (Foley) for "Nitro Extreme Motor Show flies fast in Foley" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "FREEDOM!" by Robert Noles

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Moody environmental landfill fire" by Ron Burkett
- 2nd Place: The Birmingham Times for "Mother's Love" by Joe Songer
- 3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Puppy love" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 24 Best Spot News Photo

Division A

- 1st Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Bloody sidewalk" by Jake Crandall
- 2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Selma Survivor" by Mickey Welsh
- 3rd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Hale County tornado damage" by Gary Cosby Jr.

Division B

- 1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "The shoes and the night I will never forget" by Lizi Arbogast Gwin
2nd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "04162023 2nd Prayer Vigil 08.JPG" by Dalton Middleton
3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Severe weather downs tree" by Amanda Shavers

Division C

- 1st Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for "Lifelight" by Dee Ann Campbell
2nd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "Reid wins Oil Queen Crown" by Bonita Roberts
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Eager for education" by Jeremy Raines

Division D

- 1st Place: The Wetumpka Herald for "Lightwood tornado" by Cliff Williams
2nd Place: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for "Emelle mobile home destroyed, occupant survives" by Tommy McGraw
3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Early morning house fire" by Breanna Minter

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Moody environmental landfill fire" by Ron Burkett
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Straight-line winds leave their mark" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 25 Best Sports Photo

Division A

- 1st Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "UA adapted athletics championship" by Gary Cosby Jr.
2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Softball Slide" by Mickey Welsh
3rd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Terrion Arnold pass break-up" by Gary Cosby Jr.

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Home plate collision" by Jake Winfrey
2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Back to B'ham" by Jason Bowen
3rd Place: The Cullman Times for "Hangtime" by Jake Winfrey

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Bull throttle" by Jeremy Raines
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Helena receiver makes catch over defender" by Jeremy Raines
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Hitting the trails" by Jeremy Raines

Division D

- 1st Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Carter Byrd upends UMS ball carrier" by Cole McNanna
2nd Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Dolphin dive for a state championship" by Micah Green
3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Eagles FACS at 3rd" by Ray Stansell

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun for "Making Plays" by Erin Nelson Sweeney

- 2nd Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Moody receiver KD Barnes with a touchdown against Southside Gadsden" by Ron Burkett
- 3rd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "One of one, Emmi Claire Willoughby" by Erin Nelson Sweeney

Cat. 26 Best Photo Essay

Division A

- 1st Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "Packers Bend" by Jake Crandall

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Bulls and broncs: 'It's a unique and fun event.'" by Martha Needham
- 2nd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "Annual Kiwanis Track and Field Day a huge success" by Ron Harris
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Dreams come true at Night to Shine" by Amy Leonard, Dustin Isom

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Fun at the fair" by Keith McCoy
- 2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Innovation Depot" by Bob Farley
- 3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Fairfield renewal" by Bob Farley

Division D

- 1st Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Christmas on the River 2023" by Tommy Campbell
- 2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Take A Big Bite" by Robert Noles, Michelle Key
- 3rd Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Hollywood Nights: First-ever Senior Prom draws packed house" by Dee Ann Campbell

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times for "Works of Art" by staff
- 2nd Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Celebrating the 2023 Grads" by Erin Nelson Sweeney
- 3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Army band sets week's tone with concert in park" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 27 Best Use of Graphics or Illustrations

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "How much do concessions cost at an Alabama basketball game? Hint: It's a lot" by Ben Flanagan, Ramsey Archibald
- 2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "God and guns, grocery taxes, and death" by J.D. Crowe

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Newsies Playbill newspaper inclusion" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, staff
- 2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Childhood Cancer Awareness" by Elizabeth Law
- 3rd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Sepsis Awareness" by Elizabeth Law

Division C

- 1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Middle Market 30" by Laurie Lawrence

- 2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Pay to play illustration" by Laurie Lawrence, Stephanie Rebman, Marie Leech
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Built upon flavor" by Connor Bucy

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "FREEDOM!" by Michelle Key, Robert Noles
2nd Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Memorial Day" by Tommy Campbell
3rd Place: The Dadeville Record for "AU researchers conduct Camp Hill history project" by Abigail Murphy

Division E

- 1st Place: The Alabama Baptist for "Taking Care" by Lauren Grim
2nd Place: The Birmingham Times for "Black History Month- From Science to Sports" by Kacy Sesser-Dorne'
3rd Place: The Alabama Baptist for "5 ways pastors can help families navigate social media" by Lauren Grim

Cat. 28 Best Headline

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Tuberville's butt fumble proves one thing: He has no business in the Senate" by John Archibald, Challen Stephens
2nd Place: The Tuscaloosa News for "Why will the Tuscaloosa Chick-fil-A cross the road? To get to the other side" by Ken Roberts
3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "'Who's going to buy my house now?' Alabama Power reservoir plan raises ire" by Challen Stephens, Dennis Pillion

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Heaviest Tomato? You got that ripe." by Amanda Shavers
2nd Place: The Cullman Times for "The Write Stuff" by Amanda Shavers
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Fortunes told, crystals sold at new metaphysical supply shop" by Cayla Grace Murphy

Division C

- 1st Place: Colbert County Reporter (Tuscumbia) for "GRIDDLE ME THIS: Over 1,000 served in annual Pancake Day" by JR Tidwell
2nd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Dam it — Foley officials to remove 'Taj Mahal' beaver dam replete with hot tub" by Brady Petree
3rd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Thar she slows! — Petition seeks to limit vessel speeds on Gulf Waters" by Rob Holbert

Division D

- 1st Place: The Moundville Times for "Goodness gracious, great bales of fire!" by Travis Vaughn
2nd Place: The Leader (Linden) for "Bridge the Bigbee with Cocks" by Tommy Campbell
3rd Place: The Moundville Times for "Blessed by the best, incarcerated like the rest" by Travis Vaughn

Division E

- 1st Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Flying High: Briarwood student soars with epilepsy awareness efforts" by Jon Anderson
- 2nd Place: Hoover Sun for "Food For Our Journey: Nonprofit fills gaps to nourish stomachs, spirits, souls" by Jon Anderson
- 3rd Place: Lider News for "Tragedia Ambiental, Chernobil Quimico en EEUU" by Gerardo Flores, Adriana Sanchez

Cat. 29 Best Special Section - Newsprint

Division B

- 1st Place: The Clanton Advertiser for "76th Chilton County Peach Festival Guide" by Carey Reeder
- 2nd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "Gridiron Guide" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Newsies Playbill" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, staff

Division C

- 1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "40 Under 40" by staff
- 2nd Place: Call News (Citronelle) for "2023 High School Football Preview" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for "Graduation" by Dee Ann Campbell

Division D

- 1st Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Gulf Shores football state championship commemorative edition" by Cole McNanna, Micah Green
- 2nd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Home & Garden Guide" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Breast Cancer Awareness" by staff

Division E

- 1st Place: The Birmingham Times for "Black History From Science to Sports" by staff
- 2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Breast Cancer Awareness 2023" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Alabama Baptist for "Aging Well" by staff

Cat. 30 Best Niche Publication - Newsprint or Glossy

Division B

- 1st Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "InSight magazine" by staff
- 2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "The Wedding Issue" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Clanton Advertiser for "Faces & Places 2023" by Carey Reeder

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Profile" by staff
- 2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Visitors Guide" by Alec Etheredge, Connor Bucy
- 3rd Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City) for "Fall 2023 Gametime" by staff

Division D

- 1st Place: The Baldwin Times for "Big Beautiful Baldwin 2023" by staff
- 2nd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "At Home in Clay County May 2023" by staff
- 3rd Place: The Baldwin Times for "Stay Alert 2023" by staff

Division E

- 1st Place: 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Under the Lights" by staff
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Global Force Symposium" by staff
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Engineers Week 2023" by staff

Cat. 31 Creative Use of Multimedia

Division B

- 1st Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "PrepZone Show" by Johnathan Bentley, Zak McCullar, Jake Aaron
2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Bedtime Stories" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, staff
3rd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "Timeline" by Abigail Murphy

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Showcase of Bands" by Alec Etheredge, Noah Wortham
2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Birmingham 100" by Shelby Harris, Laurie Lawrence
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Capella Pizzeria" by Alec Etheredge

Division D

- 1st Place: Selma Sun for "Black Belt Newscast" by Cindy Fisher, Todd Prater

Division E

- 1st Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Tribune Unscripted" by Brandon Dawkins, Scott Buttram, and Ron Burkett
2nd Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Tribune Sports LIVE!" by Zack Steele, Johnny Sanders, and John Goolsby
3rd Place: Village Living (Mountain Brook) for "Jemison Park Trail Renovations" by Erin Nelson Sweeney

Cat. 32 Online Breaking News Coverage

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Dadeville mass shooting coverage" by William Thornton, Carol Robinson, AL.com staff
2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "The mysterious disappearance of Carlee Russell" by Carol Robinson

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Stabbing incident shocks local community" by Noah Galilee, Lauren Estes
2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Late Night Shooting" by Noah Galilee
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Berlin fire" by W.C. Mann, Lauren Estes, Noah Galilee

Division C

- 1st Place: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City) for "Suspect arrested in weekend murder" by Eli Woods
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Two crew members killed in LifeSaver helicopter crash in Shelby County" by Alec Etheredge

3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Birmingham-Southern College" by Laurel Thrailkill, A.J. O'Leary

Division D

1st Place: Selma Sun for "Selma Tornado 2023" by staff

2nd Place: The Dadeville Record for "Mass shooting in Dadeville, April 2023" by staff

3rd Place: The Moundville Times for "Fatality wreck on Hwy 69- Facebook post" by Kasey DeCastra

Division E

1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "2 killed in Tennessee National Guard helicopter crash" by staff

2nd Place: Hoover Sun for "Hoover school board to meet Thursday about potential superintendent search" by Jon Anderson

3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Outbound Lanes at Gate 1 temporarily closed" by staff

Cat. 33 Best Use of Social Media

Division A

1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Season of Change 1963" by Kalyn Dunkins, Jonathan Sobolewski, Amanda Khorramabadi

2nd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Best food in Alabama" by staff

3rd Place: Alabama Media Group for "Carlee Russell X thread" by Madison Underwood

Division B

1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Rock The South Recap" by Cayla Grace Murphy

2nd Place: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro) for "Back to School Keepsake" by staff

3rd Place: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for "DME social media" by Nicole Smith

Division C

1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "BBJ Social media" by staff

2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Shelby County Instagram Reels" by staff

3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Shelby County Facebook Live Pregame Show" by Alec Etheredge and Andrew Simonson

Division D

1st Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "The Observer Facebook" by staff

2nd Place: The Baldwin Times for "Gulf Coast Media Sports social media" by Cole McNanna

3rd Place: Selma Sun for "Selma Sun TikTok" by Cindy Fisher, Todd Prater, Chico Cleveland

Division E

1st Place: Hoover Sun for "Hero Doughnuts opens in Hoover" by Erin Nelson Sweeney

2nd Place: Lider News for "Justice for Carmen Lopez" by Gerardo Flores, Adriana Sanchez

3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Redstone Rocket Facebook" by staff

Cat. 34 Best Podcast Series

Division A

1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Panther: Blueprint for Black Power" by Roy S. Johnson, Eunice Elliott, John Hammontree

Division B

1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Bedtime Stories" by Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, staff

Division C

1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "One on One " by Alec Etheredge and Andrew Simonson

2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Shelby County Facebook Live Pregame Show" by Alec Etheredge, Andrew Simonson

3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Shelby County Football Show" by Alec Etheredge, Andrew Simonson

Division D

1st Place: Selma Sun for "In the Black Belt" by Todd Prater

2nd Place: The Observer (Opelika) for "Lee County Listener - Listen to the Music Series" by Sam DiChiara, Garrett Martinez

Division E

1st Place: Hoover Sun for "Under the Lights Podcast" by Kyle Parmley, Gary Lloyd

2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Rocket brief" by staff

Cat. 35 Best Use of Video (Shorter than 2 minutes)

Division A

1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "The Clotilda, America's last known slave ship" by Amanda Khorramabadi

Division B

1st Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "Backpack Buddies aids students who experience food inefficiency" by Abigail Murphy

2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Farmers Market Opening Day" by Cayla Grace Murphy

3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Cullman Christkindlmarkt" by Cayla Grace Murphy

Division C

1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Monster Walk" by Alec Etheredge

2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Patriots Park grand opening" by Alec Etheredge and Noah Wortham

3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Band camp" by Alec Etheredge and Noah Wortham

Division D

1st Place: Selma Sun for "Immediate tornado damage" by Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland

2nd Place: Selma Sun for "Gee's Bend Quilters" by Cindy Fisher, Todd Prater

3rd Place: Selma Sun for "Hero saves children at daycare from tornado damage" by Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun for "Spain Park High Class of 2023 Graduation Cap Toss" by Jon Anderson
2nd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "2023 Veterans Day Parade" by Jonathan Stinson
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Redstone pulls back curtain on global operations" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 36 Best Use of Video (Longer than 2 minutes)

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Maternal care deserts in Alabama" by Amanda Khorramabadi

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Christmas in Cullman Tree Lighting" by staff
2nd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City) for "A Tale of Ghosts and Murder" by Abigail Murphy
3rd Place: The News Courier (Athens) for "JNES goodbye" by C.P. Bailey

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Helena tops Briarwood in thriller to remain perfect" by Alec Etheredge
2nd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Oak Mountain hosts Eagle Day" by Alec Etheredge
3rd Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for "Showcase of Bands" by Alec Etheredge

Division D

- 1st Place: The Wetumpka Herald for "The Wetumpka Herald's 125th Anniversary" by Angela Mullins
2nd Place: Selma Sun for "Black Belt Newscast: Year in Review" by Cindy Fisher, Todd Prater
3rd Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Gulf Shores High School Dolphins football Media Day" by Cole McNanna

Division E

- 1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "December is drugged and drunk driving prevention month" by Jonathan Stinson
2nd Place: The Trussville Tribune for "Moody environmental landfill fire" by Ron Burkett
3rd Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for "Get Ready for Back to School with Redstone's School Liaison Officer" by Jonathan Stinson

Cat. 37 Best Community Event

Division C

- 1st Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Women's Summit" by Stephanie Rebman
2nd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "Mentoring Monday" by staff
3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal for "40 Under 40" by staff

Division D

- 1st Place: The Islander (Gulf Shores) for "Gulf Shores state championship celebration series" by staff

FOI-First Amendment Award

Division A

- 1st Place: Alabama Media Group for "Freedom of the press in Atmore" by John Sharp
2nd Place: Montgomery Advertiser for "LGBTQ library book ban" by Hadley Hitson

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times for "Dodge City corrects action taken in executive sessions" by Patrick Camp
2nd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Wagon Trail Med Serv Saga" by Cheyenne Sharp, Noah Galilee, Tiffany McKoy
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune for "Editorial: The great debate...back to the basics for the 2024 Primary Election" by Noah Galilee

Division C

- 1st Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "Jawan Dallas police killing" by Dale Liesch, Brady Petre, Kyle Hamrick
2nd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile) for "MCSO Overtime Investigation" by Scott Johnson
3rd Place: The Montgomery Independent for "Holy Smoke" by Brian Hodge

Division D

- 1st Place: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for "Legislators are trying to hide local legals online" by Tommy McGraw
2nd Place: The Perry County Herald (Marion) for "Apparent Violation of State Bid Law by City" by staff
3rd Place: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville) for "Concerns raised over Alta Pointe Services" by Tammy Andrews

Division E

- 1st Place: Hoover Sun for The Hoover Channel by Jon Anderson

General Excellence

Division A

- 1st Place: The Anniston Star

Division B

- 1st Place: The Cullman Times
2nd Place: The Outlook (Alexander City)
3rd Place: The Cullman Tribune

Division C

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)
2nd Place: Lagniappe (Mobile)
3rd Place: Birmingham Business Journal

Division D

- 1st Place: The Observer (Opelika)
2nd Place: The Wetumpka Herald
3rd Place: The Dadeville Record

Division E

1st Place: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)

2nd Place: Hoover Sun

3rd Place: The Birmingham Times

Story of the Year

Hoover Sun for "Food for our Journey" by Jon Anderson

Photo of the Year

Tuscaloosa New for "UA adapted athletics championship" by Gary Cosby Jr.