

Nominated by their peers, selected by panel of journalism educators

Journalist of the Year — 2011 Finalists



John Carlisle **“Detroitblogger John”**

Detroitblogger John finds people who don't get written about and spends the time needed to tell their stories from the trenches in which they, more often than not, are fighting for a place in the city.

He gained a following with his anonymously written website before the *Metro Times* added his column three years ago. Now he reposts his material for thousands of online readers and Facebook fans.

In his other life as John Carlisle, he is a full-time editor at C&G Newspapers, in charge of six newspapers and seven reporters.



Curt Guyette

As news editor of the *Metro Times*, Curt Guyette sees the role of the alternative press as providing coverage of issues underplayed or missed by the mainstream, maintaining an irreverent attitude to those in power, and providing a consistent voice for progressive values and policies. And also keeping a critical eye on the area's mainstream media.

His recent writing has covered controversies in Michigan's medical marijuana law, the Detroit schools' financial crisis, the Ambassador Bridge situation, and the demise of the national organization ACORN. He also wrote a major editorial calling for the end of the war on drugs via legalization.



Rochelle Riley

For a decade, Detroit Free Press readers never knew whether Rochelle Riley's columns would make them sad, glad, or mad. Or what they would learn, or who they would meet. Or what she would ask them to do. But they knew they would be compelling. Her work is distinguished by its breadth of subjects, effective writing, and results.

Riley has been writing about the illiteracy problem for years. Last year, the Detroit Public Schools ended 'social promotion' and set up a volunteer "reading corps."

Riley connects with people, sharing her own story in columns that resonate with everyone. She appears frequently on local and national TV and radio programs and as a speaker to organizations and colleges around the country.

Rebecca Williams

Covering the environmental beat for *Michigan Radio*, Rebecca Williams focuses on relationships between the latest environmental science and the everyday lives of Michigan's citizens.

Last summer when most of the nation was watching the Gulf of Mexico, she covered many angles of the local environmental disaster when a pipeline break spilled oil into the Kalamazoo river and threatened Lake Michigan.

She also produced a revealing series about largely-unreported hazards of prevalent flame retardant chemicals called PBDEs. With a University of Michigan degree in natural science, she brings deep knowledge to her reports.



The Journalist of the Year must have broken new ground in a way that impacts the practice of journalism, including service to the profession.

The Young Journalist of the Year honors a top professional who was 30 years old or younger in 2010.

The competition is open to all print, broadcast, and new media journalists and editors in southeastern Michigan.

Journalists of the Year

1991	Jane Briggs-Bunting <i>Oakland University</i>	2001	Scott Lewis <i>WJBK-Fox TV2</i>
1992	John Wark <i>The Detroit News</i>	2002	Jack Lessenberry <i>Wayne State University</i>
1993	Gary Baumgarten <i>WWJ Radio</i>	2003	John Wisely <i>The Oakland Press</i>
1994	James Mitzelfeld <i>The Detroit News</i>	2004	George Bullard <i>The Detroit News</i>
1995	Joanne Muller <i>Detroit Free Press</i>	2005	David Zeman <i>Detroit Free Press</i>
1996	Rod Hansen <i>WJR Radio</i>	2006	Jim Schaefer <i>Detroit Free Press</i>
1997	Jack Kresnak <i>Detroit Free Press</i>	2007	Ron French <i>The Detroit News</i>
1998	Diana Dillaber Murray <i>The Oakland Press</i>	2008	Jack Kresnak <i>Detroit Free Press</i>
1999	Lisa Zagaroli <i>The Detroit News</i>	2009	M. L. Elrick Jim Schaefer <i>Detroit Free Press</i>
2000	Patricia Anstett <i>Detroit Free Press</i>	2010	Jennifer Dixon <i>Detroit Free Press</i>