

**Detroit SPJ
Excellence in Journalism
Award Winners 2009**

Judged by Minnesota and North Central Florida SPJ chapters and the Chicago Headline Club

(At discretion of the judges, awards were not made for all places or all categories.)

Television Broadcast:

1. Spot or Breaking News Reporting

First:

Rosemary Wlodarczyk, Carolyn Clifford, Robbie Timmons, Don Bousquet

WXYZ-TV

Senior Apartment Fire

Judges said:

Overall team coverage was very impressive. Use of the double box to show both live shots and video from earlier in the day gave a good perspective of what was happening. Anchors, reporter and chopper pilot all did a good job of on-the-scene observation. Viewers got a play-by-play of what was happening even when fire officials weren't available to comment. Added plus: The meteorologist gave some insight on how winds could complicate the firefight. Could have included the ground reporter a little more.

5. Investigative Reporting

First:

Heather Catallo

WXYZ-TV

Double Standard?

Judges said:

Credit to the reporter for following the tips of dozens of angry viewers who said police officers ran stop signs while they were ticketed for the same. It shows that investigations can make a difference and "right the wrongs" of those in law enforcement. Good use of hidden cameras. Reporter did a good job of tying everything together so it made sense, rather than being an investigation that picked on the cops.

6 Newscast

First:

Tim Kochenderfer

WXYZ-TV

Mayor of Detroit Charged, 3-24-08

Judges said:

This was a huge story for the city of Detroit. The newscast tied all the elements together – from the announcement by the prosecutor's office, to the reaction from Detroit citizens, to responses from elected officials, and representatives of the two individuals. Breakouts were well-executed,

though a couple of the elements were stretching it a bit. Newscast had good flow and encouraged viewers to stay tuned as the story developed, which is key to building a station's core audience.

Second:

Tim Kochenderfer

WXYZ-TV

Mayor of Detroit Charged, 3-25-08

7. News Special/Documentary

First:

Laura Anne Moore

and WJBK FOX 2 News Team

Tribute to our Troops

Judges said:

This entry did an exceptional job of story-telling in tribute to the men and women who have already served and who are serving our country. Compelling for the viewer.

Radio Broadcast:

1. Spot or Breaking News Reporting

First:

WDET Staff

Kwame Kilpatrick Resigns

Judges said:

WDET follows Mayor Kilpatrick's resignation with on-the-spot urgency and clear expertise. This is among the most important events of the year and WDET gives the story its due with numerous live coverage events and compelling moment's such as Kilpatrick's guilty plea. Hosts and reporters draw from their repertoire of the Kilpatrick saga to build impressive context for this breaking event that carries a host of additional implications. The news personnel don't leave stones unturned as the story plays out. WDET is impressively committed to providing listeners with sophisticated, in-depth treatment of the region's top stories.

Second:

Michigan Radio Newsroom

Deciding on the Auto Bailout

Third:

Noah Ovshinsky, WDET

Kilpatrick Resigns

2. General News Reporting

First:

WDET-FM Staff

Dearborn Series

Judges said:

The series of stories focusing on a Detroit suburb is more than a snapshot of a community. It's a local microcosm of larger, more pressing issues. There's a variety of styles and approaches in the handful of stories zeroing in on Dearborn. They are largely well conceived, reported and produced. The stories range from the mundane observations of an eccentric record store owner to the insights and viewpoints of the local population of Middle East immigrants. The stories each look through a unique lens to provide the listener with a better understanding of the world. A behind-the-scenes tour of a local mall offers a reminder of local transportation policy. The portrait of a drive-in theater is both a ray of hope and a cloud on the economic horizon. The visit with Iraqi immigrants and Arab-American voters solidifies Detroit's relevance with evolving world events. This newsroom-wide effort is commendable both for its scope and its recognition of what is important to Michigan listeners. Not least among the compliments to be paid to WDET is the attention to sound makes for very good radio.

Second:

Sarah Hulett
Michigan Radio
Obama and Muslim voters

Third:

Vincent Duffy
Michigan Radio
Ob/Gyns in Ghana

3. Features Reporting

First:

Jennifer Guerra
Michigan Radio
Northern Arts Series

Judges said:

Michigan Radio reporter Jennifer Guerra scours a sizable swath of the state's geography to present an inspired and diverse series of feature stories. This is what feature radio reporting should be. The first story in the series has a lovely sound track that's confidently woven in and among equally ear-catching quotes. The second story is a compelling portrait with tasty quotes like "this is not Kinkos" and "turning lead into gold" that propel an audio portrait of a visual medium. Guerra also manages to inject interesting and relevant context into almost every one of the stories, all the while unwrapping a surprising tale in a way that makes it seem like we've known about it all along. We'd never heard of 'local currency' until Guerra's matter-of-fact exploration of "Bay Bucks". The reporter finds great voices, records them well, edits them an expert's ear and delivers them to grateful listeners with accessibility and poise.

Second:

Tracy Samilton
Michigan Radio
Dogs in Prison

Third:

Grant Malsberger
WDET-FM
Grant Voting

4. Sports Reporting

First:

Pat Batcheller
WDET
Luckless Lions

Judges said:

Pat Batcheller cooks up an informed and well-constructed story of the Lions' doomed season. It's a timely subject that Batcheller enlivens with entertaining audio and sharp editing. The reporter packs a lot into a short amount of time and he makes it compelling throughout for both sophisticated sports enthusiasts and the passing fan. There's a considerable amount of expertise and viewpoints that make Batcheller that much more credible and inform the listener. This is smart, relevant reporting.

Second:

Pat Batcheller
WDET
Cecil Kaiser

Third:

Pat Batcheller
WDET
Jones in Tiger Stadium

5. Investigative Reporting**First:**

Vincent Duffy
Michigan Radio
Michigan's Connections to Africa Series

Judges said:

This is an impressive undertaking that clearly took a lot of forethought and effort. Duffy was able to highlight a strong connection between Michigan and Ghana that goes beyond just the university. The reports all retain depth and interest despite technical challenges and tight timelines. The subjects span a diverse collection from health to education to the arts. The reporter has a hold on the subject matter and was able to bring a great deal of information into a comprehensive whole.

Second:

Dustin Dwyer
Michigan Radio
Voices of the Auto Crisis

Third:

Rob St. Mary
WDET-FM
Michigan Nazis

6 Newscast**First:**

Pat Batcheller
WDET
2.27.2008 5:30 PM Newscast

Judges said:

This is a newscast rich with important local content, nicely delivered and reported. The Kilpatrick story is clearly one of the most important events of the year for Detroit residents. This newscast sets the tone with the most up-to-date information with the case and takes three different angles that all add valuable context--including a city council member who portends the ultimate outcome of the case with an enterprising, hard-hitting quote. WDET reporters bring a thoughtful, well-reported series of stories, capped off with additional news about the auto industry.

Second:

Charity Nebbe
and staff, Michigan Radio
9-1-08 Newscast

Judges said:

Michigan Radio has some of the most listenable and professional newscasts in the country. They are a joy to listen to and the reporting is superb.

Third:

Charity Nebbe
and staff, Michigan Radio
3.25.08 Newscast

7. News Special/Documentary

First:

Michigan Radio News Staff
Foreclosing on the American Dream

Judges said:

This series of stories presented in an hour-long format tackles a formidable subject in a moving, instructive way. The reporting goes beyond press conferences and the news-of-the-moment to shine a light on this troubling crisis. The mayor's troubles may have garnered headlines in 2008, but the foreclosure problems that Michigan Radio dived into have a much more profound and long-term affect on the residents of the state; this series proves that. Rather than trot out one produced story after another, Michigan Radio varies the voices and angles, focusing on the people with the most at stake. The pace is very well done throughout the entire 50 minutes, and enough cannot be said about the importance of production and editing that make it listenable so the message isn't lost in the medium.

Second:

Michigan Radio News staff
Kwame Kilpatrick Pleads Guilty

Third:

WDET-FM News staff
Kilpatrick Resignation Special

Print, Class A:

9. Spot or Breaking News Reporting

First:

Detroit Free Press

I lied ...

Judges said:

Very thorough coverage from the personal side to the impact on the city and other players. Just a very solid, all-encompassing look that was informative from beginning to end.

Second:

Detroit Free Press

No Deal

Third:

The Detroit News

120 Days: No More, No Less

Honorable mention:

Detroit News

Behind Bars

10. General Reporting

First:

Detroit Free Press

Why Things Changed

Judges said:

This project should be required reading. Fantastic use of numbers. Great sourcing throughout from professional people both explaining the problem and giving practical advice. And, fantastic job of illustrating the story using real people and their experiences.

Second:

Kim Kozlowski

Detroit News

Stem Cell Research series

Judges said:

Touching look at the debate through the eyes of a family that struggled through so much.

Third:

George Hunter

The Detroit News

Ticket Project series

Judges said:

Good job of sourcing, telling the story without moralizing. Clearly used some shoe leather gathering the story. Interesting read.

Honorable mention:

Sandra Svoboda
Beyond Innocence

11. Features Reporting

First:

Rebecca Mazzei
Metro Times
Method to Madness

Judges said:

A wonderful, inside look at a man, a play and how the arts evolve.

Second:

Brian Smith
Metro Times
Invincible Summer

Judges said:

A great read. Thorough reporting makes this story sing.

Third:

Kathleen Galligan, Robin Erb, Brian Kaufman, Regina Boone
Detroit Free Press
The Boys of Christ Child House

Honorable mention:

Mark Stryker
Detroit Free Press
A Year of Arts Reporting

12. Investigative Reporting

First:

Jim Schaefer, ML Elrick and staff
Detroit Free Press
A Mayor in Crisis

Judges said:

Amazing journalism. The kind of work that shows how critical newspapers are to our democracy.

Second:

Curt Guyette
Metro Times
An Incinerator Made Interesting

14. Criticism

First:

Rebecca Mazzei
Metro Times
A Manifesto

Judges said:

What a thoughtful call to action, reminding citizens of the great resources available to them. Vivid and engaging writing.

Second:

Bill Holdship
Metro Times
Raw Power

Judges said:

A great idea for a music feature. Well written and nicely packaged.

Third:

Jeff Meyers
Metro Times
Film reviews

15. News Columnist

First:

Rochelle Riley
Detroit Free Press
Columns

Judges said:

The entries underscore critical elements of a standout news column: Thought provoking, compelling, informative, current and reporter-driven. Well done.

Second:

Nolan Finley
Detroit News
Columns

Judges said:

Insightful, well-reported, clearly written. Resonates long after reading.

Third:

Brian Dickerson
Detroit Free Press
Columns

Judges said:

Like a bull dog with press credentials, Dickerson sunk his teeth into the outrageous police interrogation of a disabled teen. Well done.

16. Sports Columnist

First:

Mitch Albom
Detroit Free Press
Columns

Judges said:

Beijing column took me to the place. Homeless refuge column was incredibly moving and a the use of a the former sports star as an example was a great tie-in. Each of the entries in this category was very strong. I rarely judge a category where, from top to bottom, the entries were as strong as these.

Second:

Bob Wojnowski
The Detroit News
Columns

Judges said:

Strong language, great quotes. "Cup Heals Wounds" column was a good example of finding the story inside the story.

Third:

Drew Sharp
Detroit Free Press
Columns

Honorable mention:

Michael Rosenberg
Detroit Free Press
Columns

17. Editorial, single

First:

Nolan Finley
The Detroit News
For the Good of Detroit, Mayor Should Step Down

Judges said:

A compelling argument for the mayor's resignation. Good job comparing his promises to what he's delivered or failed to deliver.

Second:

Detroit Free Press
Editorial Board
Invest in America

Third:

Stephen Henderson
Detroit Free Press
The Mayor We Have Come to Know

18. Editorial, series

First:

Jeff Gerritt
Detroit Free Press
Cities Now and Tomorrow

Judges said:

Series makes a solid case for why investment in our nation's cities should top the agenda of presidential candidates and the president. Extremely well-researched providing detail on current and future issues facing cities.

Second:

Ron Dzwonkowski
Detroit Free Press
Detroit Mayor

Judges said:

A cool-headed and reasonable series on Detroit's disgraced mayor. The Free Press did well to first call on the mayor to tell the truth, then outline the impact his misdeeds will have on the city.

Third:

Amber Arellano
The Detroit News
Charting Detroit's Educational Future

Judges said:

A well-researched series on the sorry state of Detroit's public school system. Tells what should be done to fix it.

19. Editorial cartoon

First:

Henry Payne
The Detroit News

Judges said:

Simple images, strong messages in a straightforward manner.

Second:

Mike Thompson
Detroit Free Press

Judges said:

Stunning backdrops coupled with engaging caricatures.

Third:

Mikhaela Reid
Metro Times
The Boiling Point

Judges said:

Welcome breath of fresh air with great promise for the future.

20. News Graphics

First:

David Pierce
Detroit Free Press
Kwame Kilpatrick's Rise

Judges said:

A very easy to read chronicle of the city's stressed mayor. Great concept.

Second:

Sean Bieri, Curt Guyette, W. Kim Heron
Metro Times
The Rise and Fall of Kwame-Man

Judges said:

A fun and creative take on a much-covered story. Good thinking.

Third:

Eric Milliken
Detroit Free Press
Exhibit 13 Explained

21. Headline writing

First:

Karen Scally
The Detroit News
Hard to Swallow: Meals on Wheels Struggles

Judges said:

Beautifully straddles the fine line between the clever headline and the serious story. Not too bright, not too flip, it gets down to business and draws in the reader with a good art lead and a subhead that complements it.

Second:

Andreas Supanich
The Detroit News
T Party: Metro Events to Celebrate Ford's Iconic Model

Judges said:

Skillful use of headline as a visual completion to the feature. One look at the art with the art headline below, and the reader is immediately and delightfully invited along for the ride.

Third:

Steve Wilkinson
The Detroit News
Kilogram Crisis is Registering on a Global Scale

Judges said:

Wit lures readers to learn about physics. Masterful!

Honorable mention:

Jeremy Verduco
The Detroit News
Japan Head Over Eels for Drink

Judges said:

Ingenuous wordplay on a piece that might otherwise have gone unnoticed. Laugh-out-loud smart.

22. Front page design

First:

Robert Huska
Detroit Free Press
Invest in America

Judges said:

Bold move on an important issue putting an editorial on the front page.

Second:

Robert Huska
Detroit Free Press
Home Again

Third:

Robert Huska
Detroit Free Press
"I Lied"

23. Magazine cover design

First:

Deborah Schultz
Beaumont Hospital's House Call
Summer 2008

Judges said:

Fun cover. Good concept, well-executed. Good use of color.

24. Magazine spread design

First:

Deborah Schultz
Beaumont Hospital's House Call
Get Down and Dirty

Judges said:

Artistic use of photography.

Second:

Deborah Schultz
Beaumont Hospital's House Call
Mediterranean Menu

25. Feature page design

First:

Sean Bieri
Metro Times
Just Go

Judges said:

Photo and headline work well together.

Second:

Sean Bieri
Metro Times
Love is Not the Enemy

Judges said:

Good use of a compelling photo

26. Editorial page design

First:

Garry Skora
Detroit Free Press
Road deterioration

Judges said:

Good use of illustrations to break up what could have been a very grey page.

27. Sports page design

First:

Emily Irvine
The Detroit News
Planting the Seeds

Judges said:

Very clear photo-illustration and well-placed story.

Second:

Ryan Ford
Detroit Free Press
11th Ours

Judges said:

This was in the running for first place but we felt – even though we know what it looks like – we would like to have seen the cup in the photo.

Third:

Cindy Jacobs
The Detroit News
Detroit Lumber Company

Honorable mention:

Ryan Ford
Detroit Free Press
Forever Hockey Town

Judges said:

Very similar to the second place entry but the photo treatment hurt the overall design.

Photojournalism

28. News Photo

First:

Stephen Perez
The Detroit News
He Was a Hero

Judges said:

An excellent composition combined with a dramatic sky creates a photo that reflects a somber event. The line of saluting firefighters provides emotion and context while leading the viewer's eye to the main subject in the image – a flag-draped casket.

Second:

Daniel Mears
The Detroit News
Remembering Those Who Served

Third:

Elizabeth Conley
The Detroit News
Council to Mayor: Resign

29. Feature Photo

First:

Elizabeth Conley
The Detroit News
A Gift for Mia

Judges said:

Using lighting and perspective to her advantage, the photographer was able to create a photo that shows how the subject is able to escape the pain associated with her disease, though the expression on the girl's face reminds us that the pain is all but gone.

Second:

Brandy Baker
The Detroit News
Book of Memories

Third:

Angie Baan
Beaumont Hospital's House Call
Timely Learning

30. Sports Photo

First:

Daniel Mears
The Detroit News
PGA Championship

Judges said:

A strong composition from an eye-level vantage point connects the viewer with the golfer as he eyes the result of his last shot. The layers in the photo allow the viewer to see where the ball is while focusing on the intensity of the golfer's eyes.

Second:

Daniel Mears
The Detroit News
Plane Crazy

Third:

David Guralnick
The Detroit News
Stanley Cup

Print, Class B:

9. Spot or Breaking News Reporting

First:

Paula Pasche
The Oakland Press
Cinderellas Sent Home From the Ball

Judges said:

Pasche's colorful and quick-paced writing style makes this much more than a "game" story. She builds suspense in the lead on her way to retelling the Cinderella season of a small school that just ended an unlikely run. It made me read to the end, even though I knew the outcome.

Second:

Bruce McLeod
The Macomb Daily
Eleventh Heaven

Third:

Keith Dunlap
The Oakland Press
Lake Orion Says Players Can Go

10. General Reporting

First:

Sally York
The Flint Journal
Too Close for Comfort

Judges said:

A good look at one of parents' biggest fears – that, try as they might, they won't be able to protect their children. In this case, as the reporter shows, it's a well-founded concern regarding sex offenders in the neighborhood.

11. Features Reporting

First:

Jim Hawkins
The Oakland Press
The Boys of '68

Judges said:

Terrific piece! Hard to put down. Captured the spirit of the times and the emotions of the Series. Wonderful quotes. Solid editing.

Second:

Don Gardner
The Macomb Daily
Hot Under the Blue Collar

Judges said:

Conveyed what it was like to do these jobs. Writing was clean and fresh as soon as he got to his experiences, but it took a while to get there. Sharpening the focus would help.

Third:

Ann Zaniwski

The Oakland Press
Scrutiny in the Balance

Judges said:

Best lede of the bunch. Clearly explained how the jury system works. Is this part of series? Clean, simple language.

Honorable Mention:

Carol Azizian
The Flint Journal
When Autism Wears Pink

Judges said:

Lots of great vignettes capture the experience of living with four “rain men.” Describes the struggles of getting these kids to participate in the world. Tighter editing would have helped.

12. Investigative Reporting

First:

Shaun Byron
Oakland Press
Too Rigid to Reform?

Judges said:

The reporter presents a compelling examination of what clearly seems to be an outrageous application of the law, in which the government is failing to do what it should – and basically doesn’t care. Good subject, strong reporting.

15. News Columnist

First:

Chad Selweski
The Macomb Daily
Political columns

Judges said:

Selweski has in-depth knowledge of the local political scene. He judges politicians actions by how they help, or hurt, the readers.

16. Sports Columnist

First:

George Pohly
The Macomb Daily
Game Over

Judges said:

Engaging writing style with a clear display of empathy and understanding for his subjects.

17. Editorial, single

First:

Roger Wingelaar

The Oakland Press

Incumbents Should Be Replaced on OCC Board

Judges said:

Editorial convincingly argues that the entire college board should be replaced. This is a strong, fact-based example of editorial writing on an important local issue.

Second:

Ken Kish

The Macomb Daily

State Lawmakers Fail to Fund Headlee Mandated Programs

18. Editorial, series

First:

Allan Adler

The Oakland Press

Contracting with the Sheriff

Judges said:

The series does an excellent job of analyzing a serious problem and recommending sound solutions.

20. News Graphics

First:

Kevin Martin

The Macomb Daily

Dreams: A Matter of Interpretation

Judges said:

Clever in meshing artwork with dictionary definitions.

21. Headline writing

First:

Matt Mowery

The Oakland Press

“Just More of the Shame” and “Spanksgiving”

22. Front page design

First:

Kevin Martin
The Macomb Daily
Stanley Champs

Judges said:

Strong visual presence for keepsake edition.

25. Feature page design

First:

Kevin Martin
The Macomb Daily
Pickin' Produce

Judges said:

Clearest page of all the entries. Attractive centerpiece design with nice execution on the angel food cake tease up top.

Photojournalism

28. News Photo

First:

Tim Thompson
The Oakland Press
Hundreds Evacuated

Judges said:

Strong composition, a moment that brings readers to the scene.

Second:

David Posavetz
The Macomb Daily
8-Hour Standoff

Judges said:

Good job of getting in close and getting the resolution of the stand-off.

30. Sports Photo

First:

Ray Skowronek

The Macomb Daily

Giving 'em Fitz

Judges said:

Good reaction. Decisive moment. Background clear but goalie and diving defender add drama.

Second:

Craig Gaffield

The Macomb Daily

State Title

Judges said:

Tight composition, although busy. Good reaction shot of the decisive pin.

Print, Class C:

9. Spot or Breaking News Reporting

First:

Robert Sklar, Bill Carroll, Keri Guten Cohen, Alan Hitsky

Detroit Jewish News

A Community's Resolve

Judges said:

A very complete package covering a family and community coming together. We found every entry in this category to be an interesting read as a result of solid writing and reporting.

Second:

Heidi Roman

C&G Newspapers

Husband's Trial Continues

Judges said:

A well-written, clearly organized overview and update of a tragedy.

Third:

Brad Lindberg

Grosse Pointe News

Felon Pawns Stolen Mini

Judges said:

The detail made this story, which could have been too cute.

Honorable Mention:

Erin McClary

C&G News

Body of 13-year-old Exhumed

Judges said:

We thought this was a wonderfully written piece with the right amount of detail to move the story along. This would have been a choice for first place if there had been a graph or two explaining why/how investigators got this case going.

10. General Reporting

First:

Maria Allard

Warren Weekly

Community Mourns Loss

Judges said:

Very thorough reporting. A nice mix of facts and emotion.

Second:

Cortney Casey

C&G Newspapers

Vandalism and Neglect

Judges said:

Nice take on a non-essential story. Fine reporting and writing.

Third:

Brad Lindberg

Grosse Pointe News

Swinging the Deal

Judges said:

Excellent exploration from all angles.

11. Features Reporting

First:

Richard Bak

Hour Detroit

Murphy's Law

Judges said:

Elegant and clear storytelling. Draws readers in a combination of historical background tied in with present-day relevance.

Second:

Brad Lindberg

Grosse Pointe News

Life In the Fast Lane

Judges said:

Nice leads, strong organization of a series. Good story development.

Third:

Mary Beth Almond

C&G News

Standing Tall in the Face of Adversity

Judges said:

Interesting subject covered without unnecessary sympathy. Clear storytelling.

Honorable Mention:

Jeremy Carroll

Royal Oak Review

A Well-Deserved Honor

Judges said:

Nice profile. Good historical background. Interesting and timely quotes.

Honorable Mention:

Jay Greene

Crain's Detroit Business

The Long Road To Recovery

Judges said:

Strong subject matter. Good reporting on a delicate subject. Engaging writing style.

12. Investigative Reporting

First:

Sherri Welch

Crain's Detroit Business

Unchecked Passion

Judges said:

Fine reporting on an interesting topic.

Second:

Daniel Duggan, Tom Henderson
Crain's Detroit Business
Easy Money

Judges said:

Thorough localization of the major business story of the year.

Third:

Jeri Packer
The Voice
School Bus Drivers

Judges said:

Good sourcing and details.

13. Open Government Reporting

First:

Jeremy Carroll
Royal Oak Review
City Manager's Comment Called Into Question

Judges said:

Carroll did an excellent job in reporting an untruth told by a city manager. His legwork and reporting were just as effective as a Freedom of Information request.

14. Criticism

First:

Brad Lindberg
Grosse Pointe News
Hello to Monet and Dali

Judges said:

Less criticism than reporting, Lindberg still did a terrific job of putting the Monet to Dali exhibit in context.

15. News Columnist

First:

Robert Sklar
Detroit Jewish News

Judges said:

Strong. Deliberative. Well-constructed.

Second:

CJ Carnacchio
The Oxford Leader
My Way

Judges said:

Pugnacious.

Third:

Brad Lindberg
Grosse Pointe News
I Say

17. Editorial, single

First:

CJ Carnacchio
The Oxford Leader
Vote No on Cityhood

Judges said:

Strong, definitive, persuasive.

Second:

Robert Sklar
Detroit Jewish News
What Now?

Judges said:

Well-reasoned and thoughtful.

21. Headline writing

First:

K. Michelle Moran
C&G News
Making A French Connection

Judges said:

Creative and sly. Doesn't beat you on the head with puns.

Second:

George Bulanda

Hour Detroit

Eater's Digest

Judges said:

Witty headlines nicely capture the story.

Third:

Vic Doucette, Gary Piatek

Crain's Detroit Business

Judges said:

Fine headlines draw readers into the stories.

22. Front page design

First:

Angie Baan, Deborah Schultz, Lindsay Schwartz

Detroit Jewish News

4 Teens to Watch

Judges said:

Very creative cover that catches your eye. Makes you want to find out more about these young leaders.

Second:

Deborah Schultz, Angie Baan

Detroit Jewish News

Israel At 60

Judges said:

Another creative cover that is eye-catching.

Third:

Nancy Clark

Crain's Detroit Business

Judges said:

Very clean layout.

23. Magazine cover design

First:

Deborah Schultz, Chris Chlor

X-Ology

Summer '08 cover

Judges said:

Striking photo. Great colors as well.

Second:

Michelle Franzen Martin, Margaret Kelly, Sarah Freeman

Wayne State Magazine

Fall '08 cover

Judges said:

Good depth of field but would like to see an emotional connection with the reader.

24. Magazine spread design

First:

Cassidy Zobl

Hour Detroit

Mayday!

Judges said:

Eye-catching spread. Excellent use of typography and very clever approach. This is one feature that every reader would at least give pause to ... and that's all you can ask for.

25. Feature page design

First:

Nancy Clark, Nathan Skid

Crain's Detroit Business

Business Lives

Judges said:

Terrific art element to go with the story. Creative story idea that works well in telling the story.

Second:

Lindsay Schwartz, Morris Alkalay

Detroit Jewish News

Our Beloved Homeland

Judges said:

Well-designed page that, visually, needed a little more substance.

Photojournalism

28. News Photo

First:

CJ Carnacchio
The Oxford Leader
Giving Thanks

Judges said:

Cute photo of a little girl that truly tells the story. A beautiful feature image.

Second:

CJ Carnacchio
The Oxford Leader
Good Game Little Man

Judges said:

Humorous juxtaposition makes for an interesting image.

29. Feature Photo

First:

Irakly Shanidze
Xology
Bragging Rights

Judges said:

Nice, simple image that works well with the subject matter.

Second:

Nathan Skid
Crain's Detroit Business
20 in Their 20s

Judges said:

Nice sample of portraiture that shows personality.

Third:

CJ Carnacchio
The Oxford Leader
Get the Blues

Judges said:

Great expressions. You captured the image at the right moment.

30. Sports Photo

First:

Patricia O'Blenes

Macomb Township Chronicle

Hold Them Back

Judges said:

Excellent job capturing the action. Nice, clean image.

Second:

CJ Carnacchio

The Oxford Leader

Houston, We Have Lift-off

Judges said:

Good work finding correct reaction time.

Third:

Patricia O'Blenes

Sterling Heights Sentry

Celebration

Judges said:

Good, emotional image.

New Media

31. Web site

First:

Detroit Free Press

Judges said:

The Detroit Free Press has a very impressive website. It's easy to navigate and has strong centerpieces that command a reader's attention – such as the “Hail to the Chief” report. The Kwame Kilpatrick report was very strong with several pieces and multimedia entry points.

Second:

Crain's Detroit Business