

2026 Professional Keystone Media Award Winners
Division I - Multi-day publications over 25,000 circulation

Category Name	Award	Organization	Entry Title	Credits
Investigative Reporting	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Blue Divide	Barbara Laker & David Gambacorta
Investigative Reporting	Second Place	Spotlight PA	Missing Rapes	Min Xian & Mark Fazlollah
Investigative Reporting	Honorable Mention	Spotlight PA	The Institute	Wyatt Massey & Charlotte Keith
Enterprise Reporting	First Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Older, disabled Pennsylvanians bear brunt of home care staffing crisis	Jack Troy
Enterprise Reporting	Second Place	LocalNews1	Compassion & comfort	Robb Helfrick
Enterprise Reporting	Honorable Mention	Spotlight PA	Access Harrisburg	Stephen Caruso
News Beat Reporting	First Place	Spotlight PA	Money in politics	Stephen Caruso
News Beat Reporting	Second Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Healthcare	Sarah Gantz
News Beat Reporting	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Schools	Kristen Graham
Breaking News	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Three police officers fatally shot in ambush	PennLive staff
Breaking News	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Coverage of the Clairton Coke Works explosion	Post-Gazette Staff
Breaking News	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Philadelphia Plane Crash	Staff
Ongoing News Coverage	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	The devastating storm of spring 2025	Post-Gazette staff
Ongoing News Coverage	Second Place	LocalNews1	Closing of Penn State Mont Alto	Zack Taylor
Ongoing News Coverage	Honorable Mention	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Hazelwood, Harrison funeral director accused of pocketing \$650K for pet cremations, burials that didn't happen	Haley Daugherty & Tawnya Panizzi

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News Feature Story	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Former Rothman CEO Mike West didn't want to burden his family with his Alzheimer's. He quietly planned his suicide	Wendy Ruderman
News Feature Story	Second Place	Spotlight PA	No Coming Home	Danielle Ohl
News Feature Story	Honorable Mention	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	The Pulse of Pittsburgh: 24 Hours Downtown	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette staff
Business or Consumer Story	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	History in the Making? In the Mon Valley, hopes for a steelmaking comeback	Laura Malt Schneiderman
Business or Consumer Story	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Uncertainty and grief loom over Charleroi as historic glass factory nears closure	Madaleine Rubin
Business or Consumer Story	Honorable Mention	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Piatt's \$740M Esplanade project aims to spur Ohio River revival	Julia Burdelski
Editorial	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	ICE's Gestapo; Dauphin County taxpayers; Harrisburg doesn't have	Joyce Davis
Editorial	Second Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Founders' grievances against King George echo in Trump's royal presidency; Trump's mass deportation effort is a study in cruelty; Trump is unredeemable. What about his enablers?	Paul Davies
Editorial	Honorable Mention	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Going to seed: Dozens of Pittsburgh parks and recreation projects, To serve communities better, limit 'community engagement', How a one-word change to city law caused a yearlong delay to a Brighton Heights senior center renovation	Brandon McGinley

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Column	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Broad St. Market; domestic violence; the penny	Nancy Eshelman
Column	Second Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Civic rules and democratic guardrails	Lori Falce
Column	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	These South Philly dads bought personal street sweepers for their block: 'It's like a little Zamboni'	Stephanie Farr
Sports Beat Reporting	First Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh Penguins	Seth Rorabaugh
Sports Beat Reporting	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Steelers	Gerry Dulac
Sports Beat Reporting	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Penn State football	Max Ralph
Sports/Outdoor Column	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Jalen Carter spat on Dak Prescott. Selfish. Stupid. The Eagles should suspend him.	Marcus Hayes
Sports/Outdoor Column	Second Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Gap between Pittsburgh sports fans and local team owners has never been so vast	Tim Benz
Sports/Outdoor Column	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Penn State columns: James Franklin's; Drew Allar's; A shocking	Johnny McGonigal
Sports Feature	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Dick Allen was one of baseball's most misunderstood players. But in his hometown of Wampum, Pa., everyone 'knows the truth.	Alex Coffey
Sports Feature	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Eli Heidenreich, Alex Tecza formed bond at Mt. Lebanon that has carried all the way to Navy	Noah Hiles
Sports Feature	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Gettysburg swimmer Nicole Hasis overcomes rare condition, has newfound expectations	Evan Wheaton
Sports Enterprise	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Dick Allen goes into the Hall of Fame	Alex Coffey, Lochlahn March, Matt Breen & Claire Smith

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Sports Enterprise	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	20 years since the discovery of CTE	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette sports staff
Sports Breaking News/Event Coverage	First Place	LNP, Lancaster	Remembering No. 5	Jason Guarente
Sports Breaking News/Event Coverage	Second Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Mike Lange's legacy with the Penguins goes beyond his phrases	Seth Rorabaugh
Sports Breaking News/Event Coverage	Honorable Mention	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Fan falls at PNC Park	Noah Hiles
Feature Story	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Vietnam: 50 Years Later	Laura Malt Schneiderman
Feature Story	Second Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Big decisions, little access: behind the doors of the Pa. Capitol's mysterious 'rules' room	Tirzah Christopher
Personality Profile	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Suplex to sobriety: How that viral James Harrison tackle changed a fan's life for the better	Noah Hiles
Personality Profile	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	North Braddock pastor who came face to face with gunman confronts trauma and an uneven road	Megan Guza
Personality Profile	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	From Midtown Cinema to movie producer: Harrisburg lawyer finds Hollywood ending	John Luciew
Lifestyle/Entertainment Beat	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	The restaurant world	Hal B. Klein
Lifestyle/Entertainment Beat	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Music	Scott Mervis
Lifestyle/Entertainment Beat	Honorable Mention	LNP, Lancaster	Entertainment & Emotion	Mickayla Miller
Breaking News Photo	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Northeast Philly plane crash	Alejandro A. Alvarez
Breaking News Photo	Second Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Charleroi Corelle Brands plant closes	Kristina Serafini
Breaking News Photo	Honorable Mention	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Marc Fogel released from Russian prison	Kristina Serafini

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News Event Photo	First Place	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	Honor in his arms	Saed Hindash
News Event Photo	Second Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Down it goes	Joe Hermitt
News Event Photo	Honorable Mention	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	A hero fallen, a brother missed	Saed Hindash
Feature Photo	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Sweet spot	Tom Gralish
Feature Photo	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Deadly Toxic Trail: Thousands of miners left in danger by critical enforcement gaps	Giuseppe LoPiccolo
Feature Photo	Honorable Mention	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Bird flu devastates Cranberry's Seggond Chance Farm, a sanctuary for misfit birds	Sarah Qu
Sports Feature Photo	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Blood and guts	Joe Hermitt
Sports Feature Photo	Second Place	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	Pride Before the Kickoff	Saed Hindash
Sports Feature Photo	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Wydad fans	David Maialetti
Sports Action Photo	First Place	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	Error	Saed Hindash
Sports Action Photo	Second Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Collision	Sean Simmers
Sports Action Photo	Honorable Mention	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Safe ball	Chaz Palla
Photo Story/Essay	First Place	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	A Family's Grief, a Community's Farewell to Officer Brett Marino	Saed Hindash
Photo Story/Essay	Second Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Scoop of nostalgia	Tom Gralish
Photo Story/Essay	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Italian Market Festival	David Maialetti

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News Page Design	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Patriot-News top news pages of 2025	Patriot-News staff
News Page Design	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	World mourns Francis; Hungry in rural PA; Oakmont opens up; Oakmont, meet artificial intelligence; The pulse of Pittsburgh 24 hours downtown	Melanie Wass
News Page Design	Honorable Mention	LNP, Lancaster	Path of a package; Staying cautious; Celebrating a better life; Faith over fear; Missing no more	Abby Rhoad
Feature Page Design	First Place	LNP, Lancaster	Palette; Bloom; Water; Repair; Tomatoes; Bugging	Elizabeth Patton
Feature Page Design	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Fresh powder; 'An undeniable power'; Vinyl makes it real; It's unbelievable	Ashley Marchetti
Feature Page Design	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	You can't teach that; The damage done; The magic of Calder Gardens; LeMans 24, Philly 24; Fall Arts Guide	Anton Klusener, Sterling Chen & Julia Duarte
Sports Page Design	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	In all its glory (Oakmont Country Club); 'I think the fans hate each other'; Cy, sealed, delivered; Spectator's Guide; Hope springs; Ready?	Daniel Mann
Sports Page Design	Second Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Eagles: stay or go?; Eyes on another; Fly, snow birds, fly; Time to fly; Kyle Schwarber's epic year	Luke Reasoner, Anton Klusener, John Duchneskie & Max Guther
Sports Page Design	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Penn State cover; Eagles cover; Penn State chart; UCLA loss	Patriot-News staff
Headline Writing	First Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Jumping Beans; Script Flipped; Woodstock Willie burrows his way into Phil's big day	John Lehner

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Headline Writing	Second Place	LNP, Lancaster	Knight; Shreks; Stops	Amanda Dash
Graphic/Photo Illustration	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Bird Brains: Eagles Trivia Game	Julia Duarte, Matt Mullin & Steve Madden
Graphic/Photo Illustration	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Aging (Well) Guide	James Hilston
Graphic/Photo Illustration	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Kyle Schwarber's Epic Year	John Duchneskie
Documentary	First Place	Spotlight PA	Unprotected	Mitch Blacher & Angela Couloumbis
Documentary	Second Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	An unlikely path: How a Harrisburg boy grew up to be one of the few Black pro bull riders	TJ Smith
Documentary	Honorable Mention	LNP, Lancaster	The Underground Railroad in Lancaster County	Tyler Huber
News Videos	First Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Healing the Scars of Incarceration	Joshua Vaughn
News Videos	Second Place	Spotlight PA	The Cost of Failing	Danielle Ohl & Mitch Blacher
News Videos	Honorable Mention	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	ICE detains workers at two Pittsburgh-area restaurants	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette staff
Sports Videos	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Two years after Terrence Butler's untimely death, his loved ones spread mental health awareness	Jenna Miller
Sports Videos	Second Place	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	The NFL didn't work out but this football coach found big success with small players	TJ Smith
Sports Videos	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Meet Mary "Trish" Kulle, Jaron Ennis' cutwoman and Philly's boxing mom	Gabe Coffey
Features Videos	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Meet the 21-year-old behind Philly's hottest new pop-up supper club	Ariane Datil

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Features Videos	Second Place	lehighvalleylive.com/The Express-Times,Easton	Improving habitat through prescribed burns in Pennsylvania's Poconos	Saed Hindash
Features Videos	Honorable Mention	Spotlight PA	What you need to know about judicial retention in Pennsylvania	Kate Huangpu
Podcast	First Place	TribLive, Pittsburgh	Breakfast with Benz	Tim Benz & Mark Madden
Podcast	Second Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer & The Logan Center for Investigative Reporting at Temple University	MOVE: Untangling the Tragedy	Daniel Rubin, Yvonne Latty, Linn Washington, Jr. & Natalie Reitz
Podcast	Honorable Mention	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Today in PA, a PennLive daily news briefing with Claudia Dimuro	Claudia Dimuro
Special Section	First Place	The Philadelphia Inquirer	The Philadelphia Inquirer's Sunday Specials	Evan Benn, Suzette Moyer, Anton Klusener & Danese Kenon
Special Section	Second Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	U.S. Open Preview	Daniel Mann
Special Section	Honorable Mention	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Calder Gardens special section	Anton Klusener & Inquirer Staff
Excellence in Reporting on Diversity- Equity and Inclusion	First Place	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Gender affirming care; UPMC gender care protest; UPMC gender affirming care; Gender care lawsuit; TransYOUning	Hanna Webster
Excellence in Reporting on Diversity- Equity and Inclusion	Second Place	Spotlight PA	How Berks County cooperates with ICE without helping it make arrests; Fear grips one of Pa.'s biggest Latino communities as ICE raids take place nearby; As Trump tightens English requirements, this Pa. career center adds new class for truckers; Berks County may have violated federal law by failing to update Spanish-language elections site	Gabriela Martínez