

2026 Professional Keystone Media Award Winners
Division VI - Weekly general news publications under 5,000 circulation

Category Name	Award	Organization	Entry Title	Credits
Enterprise Reporting	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	A swim in the Schuylkill	Kyle Bagenstose
Enterprise Reporting	Second Place	Bethlehem Press	Service animals	Theresa O'Brien
Enterprise Reporting	Honorable Mention	Dillsburg Banner	In the Military, Meet our Veterans	Chanty Webb
News Beat Reporting	First Place	East Penn Press, Allentown	Residents voice concern over public comment; Divided support over Cole-Borghi's Decision to Remain on the Board; 2026 Budget Passes	Tabitha Schade
News Beat Reporting	Second Place	The Canton Independent-Sentinel/Troy Gazette Regis	Local Canton Beat Coverage	Sherry Lambert
News Beat Reporting	Honorable Mention	Bethlehem Press	HARB and BHCC coverage	Ed Courier
Breaking News	First Place	The Rocket-Courier, Wyalusing	Salsman Back in Prison	Warren Howeler
Breaking News	Second Place	The Potter Leader-Enterprise, Coudersport	No fuel in the forest: only gas pump in town shut down	Donna LeSchander
Breaking News	Honorable Mention	The Wellsboro Gazette	Patterson Lumber, Galetton, announces closure after 104 years	Donna LeSchander
Ongoing News Coverage	First Place	The Wellsboro Gazette	Tioga County seeks to decertify tourism promotion agency	Kristie Bowles, Donna LeSchander & Natalie Kennedy
Ongoing News Coverage	Second Place	The Rocket-Courier, Wyalusing	Broadband Equity Access and Deployment	James Loewenstein
Ongoing News Coverage	Honorable Mention	East End Print, Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh school closure plan	Ann Belser
News Feature Story	First Place	The Potter Leader-Enterprise, Coudersport	Volunteers, DCNR uncover piece of Potter County's past	Natalie Kennedy
News Feature Story	Second Place	Bethlehem Press	Immigration and deportation	Theresa O'Brien
News Feature Story	Honorable Mention	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Philadelphia still spraying outlawed herbicides in city's public parks	Abby Weiss
Business or Consumer Story	First Place	Bethlehem Press	'Scissors cuts' hard to find	Theresa O'Brien

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Business or Consumer Story	Second Place	The Lititz Record Express	A candy company that sticks around	Laura Knowles
Business or Consumer Story	Honorable Mention	Dillsburg Banner	Right Foot Ranch	Chanty Webb
Column	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	A Vintage View	Len Lear
Column	Second Place	The Ephrata Review	The tracks of time go full circle; Thoughts while groaning; Another playground time warp	Andy Fasnacht
Column	Honorable Mention	Parkland Press, Allentown	We all need a bear hug occasionally; Take a chance and dance; check facts before you speak	Bonnie Lee Strunk
Sports Beat Reporting	First Place	Dillsburg Banner	Northern wins defensive battle; Overtime thriller; Northern captures District III opener; Northern regroup; PIAA State Tourney begins and Northern ends stellar season	Joe Guty
Sports Beat Reporting	Second Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	GFS girls play a nail-biter game at George School	Tom Utescher
Sports Beat Reporting	Honorable Mention	The Rocket-Courier, Wyalusing	2025 Running Schedule	Pete Hardenstein
Sports/Outdoor Column	First Place	The Potter Leader-Enterprise, Coudersport	Backwoods Extreme: Inquisitive kids prove to be very entertaining, First snow triggers hunting memories, It's another November in Pennsylvania bear woods	David Orlowski
Sports Feature	First Place	The Lititz Record Express	Proving he belongs; Rucci makes NFL regular-season debut; gets signed to Dolphins' active roster	Bruce Morgan
Sports Feature	Second Place	Dillsburg Banner	A tribute to Dave Reeder	Joe Guty

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Sports Feature	Honorable Mention	Jeffersonian Democrat, Brookville	Les Turner: 'Godfather of Brookville wrestling'	Rich Rhoades
Sports Breaking News/Event Coverage	First Place	Dillsburg Banner	A win for the ages as Polar Bears defeat Palmyra	Joe Guty
Sports Breaking News/Event Coverage	Second Place	The Lititz Record Express	Miller claims second District Three title	Kevin Frey
Feature Story	First Place	The Leader-Vindicator, New Bethlehem	Historic quilt returned to creator's family	Josh Walzak
Feature Story	Second Place	Catasauqua Press	Meet the newest 'Ruffie'	Samantha Anderson
Feature Story	Honorable Mention	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Close encounters: Coyotes move in	Abby Weiss
Personality Profile	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Kambel Smith's hidden talent is hidden no more	Kristin Holmes
Personality Profile	Second Place	Bethlehem Press	Death row artist paints his way out of corner	Ed Courier
Personality Profile	Honorable Mention	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	The secret life of Subtronics	Robert Calandra
Lifestyle/Entertainment Beat	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Essential cafe; Good idea; Light shine; Mighty Pawz; Musikfest meals; Seed farm	Tami Quigley
Lifestyle/Entertainment Beat	Second Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Act II Playhouse delivers murder most calculated	Hugh Hunter
Breaking News Photo	First Place	Dillsburg Banner	Car on fire	Curt Werner
Breaking News Photo	Second Place	Dillsburg Banner	State Trooper escorts Brian Price	Curt Werner
Breaking News Photo	Honorable Mention	Dillsburg Banner	Flames shoot out	Curt Werner
News Event Photo	First Place	The Lititz Record Express	A Look Back at Fire and Ice 2025	Mykenzie Davis
News Event Photo	Second Place	Whitehall-Coplay Press, Allentown	We celebrate your bright future	Donna Gewertz

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News Event Photo	Honorable Mention	The Ephrata Review	'Snowy Days and Mondays...'	Mykenzie Davis
Feature Photo	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Cover photo, Wissahickon magazine, Summer 2025	Julia Lehman
Feature Photo	Second Place	Dillsburg Banner	Claire Zeiders in Blacksmith Shop	Curt Werner
Feature Photo	Honorable Mention	The Rocket-Courier, Wyalusing	Wreaths Across America	Nancy Sharer
Sports Feature Photo	First Place	Dillsburg Banner	All-Star team rounds the bases	Curt Werner
Sports Feature Photo	Second Place	The Canton Independent-Sentinel/Troy Gazette Regis	Soaring to States	Joseph Carreon
Sports Action Photo	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Freedom's Aidan Dandrea pushes Liberty's Gabe Green out of bounds at the one-yard line	Mark Kirlin
Sports Action Photo	Second Place	Dillsburg Banner	Rodeo clown distracts the bull	Curt Werner
Sports Action Photo	Honorable Mention	The Ephrata Review	Cocalico boys rally to keep state hopes alive	Dennis Bicksler
Photo Story/Essay	First Place	The Ephrata Review	Tent City	Mykenzie Davis
Photo Story/Essay	Second Place	The Lititz Record Express	Barons bring home PIAA gold	Mykenzie Davis
Photo Story/Essay	Honorable Mention	Bethlehem Press	Holiday with the horses	Dana Grubb
News Page Design	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Southside mural; Timeless; Farewell; Hotel; Vigil; Sam's story	George Taylor
News Page Design	Second Place	The Canton Independent-Sentinel/Troy Gazette Regis	Canton Sentinel Front Page - District Thriller	Joseph Carreon
News Page Design	Honorable Mention	The Rocket-Courier, Wyalusing	Rocket-Courier Front Page - Santa Flight Raises More Than \$1K for Heart Association	Joseph Carreon

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Feature Page Design	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Musikfest; Holiday with horses; Live Nativity; Welcome Roebuck; Freddys; Polar Plunge	George Taylor
Feature Page Design	Second Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	New gallery will provide a permanent place for a pioneering painter	Richard Stein
Headline Writing	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Bach to school; Banana peeled; 2025 Mayfaire 'drones' on	Nate Jastrzemski, Ed Courier & George Taylor
Headline Writing	Second Place	The Ephrata Review	Ice drilling; Roars of a century; Full stream ahead	Andy Fasnacht
Graphic/Photo Illustration	First Place	Bethlehem Press	Funding cut, please help	Ed Courier
Graphic/Photo Illustration	Second Place	East End Print, Pittsburgh	Pen Avenue	Jason Togyer
Podcast	First Place	The Canton Independent-Sentinel/Troy Gazette Regis	The Average Joe Show	Joseph Carreon
Special Section	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	Wissahickon magazine	Catherine Lee, Anndee Hochman, Clark Perks & Richard Stein
Special Section	Second Place	Bethlehem Press	2025 graduation supplement	George Taylor
Special Section	Honorable Mention	The Leader-Vindicator, New Bethlehem	Trail Guide 2025	Josh Walzak
Excellence in Reporting on Diversity- Equity and Inclusion	First Place	Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia	OMC student is an expert: 'Carol of the Bells' has roots in Ukraine; Scout leader celebrates Golden Eagle anniversary; Kambel Smith's hidden talent is no more; Family's escape from Taliban ends in NW Philadelphia; Miles and memories: How Wissahickon Park created bonds that last a lifetime	Kristin Holmes, Jeff Meade, Maggie Dougherty & Len Lear

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Excellence in Reporting on Diversity- Equity and Inclusion	Second Place	East End Print, Pittsburgh	Ahmad Jamal's piano comes home; Housing for LGBTQ+ seniors nearly ready; The legacy of redlining still exists today; Hundreds remember the victims of Oct. 27, 2018	Ann Belser & Jan Kurth