

WINNERS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS CONTEST

A. JOURNALISTS OF THE YEAR

A1. PRINT, over 50K

Thomas Curwen, *Los Angeles Times*

<http://lat.ms/2Aczbzm>; <http://lat.ms/2AzteNN>; <http://lat.ms/2uQ9iEO>

Judges' comment: A master storyteller like this can take on a hard-news event like the California wildfires and help us understand what the news means to people.

2nd: Daniel Miller, *Los Angeles Times*

3rd: Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*

A2. PRINT, under 50K

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*

<https://bit.ly/2oTjR4S>; <https://bit.ly/2tJ6v1A>; <https://bit.ly/2vPL2Bt>

Judges' comment: Here is why local watchdog journalism matters - perhaps now more than ever.

2nd; Brian Hews, *Los Cerritos Community News*

A3. TELEVISION JOURNALIST

Nic Cha Kim, *KCET*

<https://youtu.be/oYvOEq4lJ74>

Judges' comment: A standout in a very tough category! Nic Cha Kim's involvement in his stories, and the depths of the investigations demand your attention. Great job!

2nd: Gigi Graciette, *Fox 11 News/KTTV*

3rd: Christina Pascucci, KTLA 5 NEWS

A4. RADIO JOURNALIST

Deepa Fernandes, Freelance

<https://soundcloud.com/deepaf/2017-reel>

Judges' comment: Great, worldly storytelling. Very neat to hear someone do this in so many important places around the globe. She's clearly got a strong passion for this, too.

2nd: Morris O'Kelly (Mo'Kelly,) KFI AM640/iHeartRadio

3rd: Susan Valot, Freelance for KCRW and KQED

A5. ONLINE JOURNALIST

Norberto Santana, Jr., Voice of OC

<http://bit.ly/2q8KzZB>; <http://bit.ly/2q6YwHY>; <http://bit.ly/2JoczKH>

Judges' comment: This was an extremely competitive category. It was very difficult to select five finalists among so many worthy entrants -- from reporters on the leading edge of #MeToo in the entertainment industry to a one-(wo)man band keeping her website alive -- let alone choose a winner. But Norberto Santana Jr.'s dogged reporting and the results it brought in the community put him at the top. His writing is topnotch and puts a human face on many of the social ills in the area. Excellent work!

2nd: Daniel Heimpel, *The Chronicle of Social Change*

3rd: Julia Wick, *LAist*

A6. ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALIST

Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*

<http://bit.ly/2qevjtB>

Judges' comment: Ramin Setoodeh takes his readers deep into the inner workings of Hollywood. His profiles are intimate and allow the reader to get a glimpse of the person behind the name. His stories are packed with well-researched details, background and anecdotes and his writing is fluid and engrossing.

2nd: Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*

3rd: Matt Donnelly, *TheWrap*

A7. SPORTS JOURNALIST

Aitana Vargas, *HITN TV / HispanoPost / DirecTV Sports*

<https://youtu.be/x3jYtYf6p4>

Judges' comment: Aitana's body of work shows a dedication to showcase the talents and experiences of athletes and fans often overlooked by mainstream media. She brings a humanist approach that goes far beyond play-by-play reporting. She is a journalist for the people and a clear choice for Sports Journalist of the Year.

2nd: Andy McCullough, *Los Angeles Times*

A8. PHOTOJOURNALIST

Marcus Yam, *Los Angeles Times*

<https://bit.ly/2v1SAVF>

Judges' comment: Still photojournalist Marcus Yam's stunning body of work is as powerful as it is beautiful. Capturing tragic scenes with sensitivity while remaining dynamic in composition.

2nd: Phil Ige, *KTLA 5 NEWS*

3rd: Ernesto Torres, *KNBC 4 TV*

B. ALL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Print, Radio, TV or Online.

B1. HUMOR/SATIRE WRITING

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; "The New LAPD Cadet Program Handbook"

<https://bit.ly/2uitXzN>

Judges' comment: Laugh out loud funny in several points. Topical and on point.

2nd: Austin Bragg, Meredith Bragg, and Andrew Heaton; *Reason*; "Libertarian Game of Thrones"

3rd: Tim Molloy, *TheWrap*; "What 'It' Gets Right About Being a Kid in 1989"

B2. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION – Film/TV Personalities

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*; "Jonathan Demme Appreciation: A Filmmaker Who Turned His Humanity Into Art"

<http://bit.ly/2oK9Oyk>

Judges' comment: Insightful and authoritative. A deep reflection on Demme's life and work.

2nd: Justin Chang, *Los Angeles Times*; "John Hurt on Film: A Voice of Wit, Mischief and Wily Humanity"

3rd: Tom Walters and Liam Hyland; *CTV - Canadian Television*; "Adam West: Batman Forever"

B3. OBITUARY/IN APPRECIATION – Politics/Business/Arts

Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*; "Sam Shepard, the Cowboy Playwright Who Rewrote the Rules of the American Stage"

<https://lat.ms/2va8f0A>

Judges' comment: "An insightful, contextual look at Sam Shepard's place in American theater."

2nd: Randy Lewis, *Los Angeles Times*; "Tom Petty's final interview: There was supposed to have been so much more"

3rd: Tom Walters and Liam Hyland; *CTV – Canadian Television*; "Hugh Hefner: Prophet or Profiteer?"

B4. ACTIVISM JOURNALISM

David Bier, *Reason*; "Why the Wall Won't Work"

<https://bit.ly/2vmtXDt>

Judges' comment: A thorough, brick-by-brick explanation why the Trump wall won't work.

2nd: Judith Lewis Mernit; *Capital & Main*; "For Whom the Road Tolls: Is It Fair to Put a Price on Freeways?"

3rd: Christopher Langley and Osceola Refetoff, *KCET Artbound*; "Glimpse of Another America"

B5a. PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS or FEATURE

Meghan McCarty Carino and Aaron Mendelson; *Southern California Public Radio / KPCC*; "Big rigs, big risks: As SoCal economy improves, truck traffic is rising and so are crashes"

<https://bit.ly/2pP7vwf>

Judges' comment: Excellent writing, voicing and production in both the audio piece and the web version, as well as exploring multiple perspectives to the issue.

2nd: Liam Dillon, *Los Angeles Times*; "California's 'Elaborate Shell Game' on Housing"

3rd: Dina Demetrius, Deepa Fernandes and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*: "Substandard of Living"

B5b. CONSUMER NEWS or FEATURE

Jazmine Ulloa, *Los Angeles Times*; "Quietly, a Cop Skims Info"

<https://lat.ms/2ggow1J>

Judges' comment: Excellent writing, use of photos and extra information.

2nd: Robin Urevich, Dean Kuipers, Bill Raden, *Capital & Main*; "Investigating Labor Secretary Nominee Andrew Puzder's Fast Food Empire"

3rd: Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy, *KCRW*; "Can Gita, the cargo-carrying robot, make you walk more?"

B6a. HEALTH REPORTING

Keith Wagstaff, *Mashable*; "If Obamacare dies, a Facebook post could cause you to lose your health insurance"

<http://on.mash.to/2DQXeGf>

Judges' comment: This reporters unique approach, which included some first-person storytelling, makes the story resonate among readers who have and have not experienced depression. It brings the risks of social media misuse to light, as well as how easily the depression stigma can resurface after so many years of progress.

2nd: Danielle Nottingham, *CBS News- Newspath*; "Egg Freezing Parties"

3rd: Jessica Goodheart, *Capital & Main*; "The Virtual Couch: Is Online Therapy Going Viral?"

B6b. SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY REPORTING

Dina Demetrius, Deepa Fernandes and Alberto Arce, *KCET*; "The Assassin Bugs"
<http://bit.ly/2FML42Z>

Judges' comment: Very nice writing - descriptive with lots of context. Good storytelling. The video was well done, well edited.

2nd: Cara Santa Maria, Lata Pandya and Alberto Arce, *KCET*; "Cleantech Incubator Is Growing L.A.'s Green Economy"

3rd: Lori Cameron and Michael Martinez, *IEEE Computer Society*; "The Epic Journey of Women in Computing: Advances, Setbacks, and an Uncertain Future"

B7a. LOCAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Tony Barboza, David Zahniser and Jon Schleuss, *Los Angeles Times*; "Freeway Pollution"
<https://lat.ms/2mdPKHh>

Judges' comment: Excellent use of multiple platforms to tell the story.

2nd: Aaron Mendelson and Mary Plummer; *Southern California Public Radio / KPCC*; "KPCC Investigates: Behested Payments"

3rd: Patrick McGreevy and Kyle Kim; *Los Angeles Times*; "What Californians Need to Know About the State's \$52-Billion Transportation Plan"

B7b. NATIONAL POLITICAL/GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Jesse Walker, *Reason*; "The Indestructible Idea of the Basic Minimum Income"
<https://bit.ly/2fi6s8q>

Judges' comment: The historical information gives a complicated issue much needed context.

2nd: Pablo Ximenez de Sandoval, *El País*; "Contractors and Border Experts follow the money and get behind Trump's wall"

3rd: Christopher Palmeri, *Bloomberg Businessweek*; "What Did Sheldon Adelson Get for His \$200 Million?"

B8. EDUCATIONAL REPORTING

Ashley Powers, *The California Sunday Magazine*; "The College Try"
<http://bit.ly/2xQzLFr>

Judges' comment: The number one choice for me was the story regarding two college students dealing with homelessness, finances and other issues while attending college. I thought the writer was extremely detailed in sharing the lifestyles of these young women. It gave the reader insight into some of the real life issues on college campuses and how students try to deal with them. I'm curious how long it took Ashley Powers to produce this piece. Definitely an award-winning story.

2nd: Anna M. Phillips, *Los Angeles Times*; "Few School Supplies but a Lavish Party"

3rd: Roxana Kopetman, Chris Haire and Kelly Puente, *Orange County Register*; "113 sexual harassment cases reported in the University of California system in 3 years"

B9. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Jason G. Goldman, *BioGraphic*; "Shoot to Save"
<https://bit.ly/2rxMDca>

Judges' comment: Fascinating and deeply layered look at the push and pull of hunting.

2nd: Emily Guerin, *Southern California Public Radio / KPCC*; "They didn't know the LA River was full of E. coli — but public officials did"

3rd: Kathryn Keeney Jaeger, Deepa Fernandes and Alberto Arce, *KCET*; "Blowing Concerns"

B10a. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING, Broadcast

Juan Devis, Matthew Crotty, Nathan Masters, Adebukola Bodunrin and Kelly Parker, *KCET*; "Lost LA – The Green Book"
<https://bit.ly/2GJ28Xb>

Judges' comment: A beautifully told story of Victor Green's travel guide for Black Americans visiting Los Angeles during the Jim Crow Era.

2nd: Mike Sonksen, KCET; "The History of South Central Los Angeles and Its Struggle with Gentrification"

3rd: Deepa Fernandes and Jeb Sharp, *Public Radio International*; "The death of an undocumented teen"

B10b. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING, Print

Frank Shyong, *Los Angeles Times*; "A Dying Mother's Plan: Buy a Gun. Rent a Hotel Room. Kill Her Son"

<https://lat.ms/2qM3Gu4>

Judges' comment: A remarkable story of Asian-Americans, violence and mental illness written with depth, insight and most importantly, empathy.

2nd: Joe Coon, Reason; "Bringing Bandar Home"

3rd: Anh Do, *Los Angeles Times*; "Behind Little Saigon's riches, the poor pack into small rooms to survive"

B10c. MINORITY/IMMIGRATION REPORTING, Online

Michael Martinez and Lori Cameron, *IEEE Computer Society*; "Untold Stories: Setting the Record Straight on Tech's Racial History"

<http://bit.ly/2i4NUIV>

Judges' comment: Setting the Record Straight On tech's Racial History. I found this story to be quite interesting in terms of the research done to showcase people of color that contributed in the computer industry. It also can be an educational tool for future use with youth benefiting from the knowledge of contributions made by people of color.

2nd: Paul Street, *Truthdig*; "Government Structure – Not Just Personnel – Needs to Change"

3rd: Thy Vo, *Voice of OC*; "Westminster May Create "Mendez Historic Trail" to Honor Landmark School Desegregation Case"

B11. GENDER/LGBTQ REPORTING

Amelia Pang, *Truthdig*; "Native American Rape Survivors Tell How Deck Is Stacked Against Them"

<http://bit.ly/2hwWNdP>

Judges' comment: Kudos to Amelia Pang for this wonderfully written in-depth story looking at the pervasive culture of rape on Indian Reservations. Her story is gripping and horrifying. This is journalism at its best. And this is yet another example of why a dynamic and vibrant press is needed. Congrats on a job well done.

2nd: Thomas Philip Lick, *KCET*; "The Paradoxical Nature of Gentrification in Long Beach's Gayborhood"

3rd: Jeremy Fuster and Beatrice Verhoeven, *TheWrap*; "Happy Women's Day, Hollywood: Disney, Fox Have No Female Directors on This Year's Movies"

B12. MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE

Los Angeles Times Staff, *Los Angeles Times*; "California's Power Glut"

<https://lat.ms/2kaGMGS>

Judges' comment: A great, immersive experience for the reader - provides multiple opportunities to engage with a fascinating and troubling story through different forms of media without being overwhelming. Well done.

2nd: Christina Bellantoni, Julie Westfall, Alison Wisk, Joe Fox and Priya Krishnakumar; *Los Angeles Times*; "As a Crucial Primary Nears, Track the California Races That Could Flip the House"

3rd: Juan Devis, Justin Cram and Bijan Rezvani, *KCET*; "Earth Focus: Dakota Access Pipeline"

B13. CRIME REPORTING

Jeff Maysh, *Freelance /LA Magazine*; "The Cop Who Became a Robber"

<http://bit.ly/2o9y11Q>

Judges' comment: An outstanding piece of reporting: vivid, detailed and colorful. The unraveling of the life of a former LAPD detective turned geriatric bank robber is powerfully told. The story could be the basis of a great movie.

2nd: Kate Mather, *Los Angeles Times*; "Cold Case"

3rd: Jason Kandel, *KNBC Los Angeles*; "The Sweetheart Scammer"

B14. TRAVEL REPORTING

Christopher Reynolds, *Los Angeles Times*; "Tenderfoot Trail"

<https://lat.ms/2lxQjU5>

Judges' comment: Coupled with breathtaking photos, Christopher Reynolds guides the reader through a pack trip without the drudgery of many step-by-step pieces. His writing is charming and engaging.

2nd: Jean Trinh, KCET, "Granite Monuments"

3rd: Val Zavala, Lata Pandya, Dennis Nishi, Alberto Arce, KCET; "Channel Islands"

B15a. COMMENTARY ON TV/FILM

Carrie Rickey, *Truthdig*; "What Happened to the Female Directors of Hollywood?"

<http://tdig.it/2JcRV6X>

Judges' comment: In a category filled with strong entries, Rickey's series stands out for its examination of the gender gap in the film industry - how it started, and how it has been allowed to continue for so long. The research is exhaustive and the writing engaging."

2nd: Simi Horwitz, *Film Journal International*; "It's Not Simply Black and White: Onscreen Mixed-Race Romances (sort of) Grow Up"

3rd: Justin Chang, *Los Angeles Times*; "Has horror become the genre of the Trump era?"

B15b. CRITICISM ON TV/FILM- Reviews

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*; "Film Review: Roxanne Roxanne"

<http://bit.ly/2kzMp59>

Judges' comment: A review containing astute analysis and as much "street cred" as the subject of the film Roxanne, Roxanne. Smart, penetrating insights that hook the film lover on his beautifully written critiques.

2nd: Daniel Fienberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Daniel Fienberg Reviews"

3rd: Peter Rainer, *The Christian Science Monitor*, "Dunkirk"

B16. CRITICISM ON THEATER/PERFORMING ARTS

Charles McNulty, *Los Angeles Times*; "Charles McNulty: Theatre Criticism"
<https://lat.ms/2mp7P2q>

Judges' comment: Charles McNulty showcases a variety of writing styles in his reviews. Of note is his epistolary review of "Letters from a Nut." Mr. McNulty escapes the trap to which many theater reviewers fall victim: that is, well-written reviews that all sound the same, marking each production as forgettable. Mr. McNulty's insightful writing is diverse enough that I was entertained just reading his reviews without having seen the plays.

2nd: David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "David Rooney"

3rd: Robert Hofler, *TheWrap*; "Robert Hofler Broadway reviews"

B17. CRITICISM ON BOOKS/ART/ARCHITECTURE/DESIGN

Shana Nys Dambrot, *Artillery*, "Ellen Gallagher at Hauser Wirth LA"
<https://bit.ly/2kNqkxG>

Judges' comment: Writer really captures the feel of the work she's discussing.

2nd: Brian Doherty, *Reason*; "The Great James Buchanan Conspiracy"

3rd: Paul Von Blum, *Truthdig*; "Poster Power: The Dramatic Impact of Political Art"

B18. CRITICISM ON FOOD/CULTURE

Brad A. Johnson, *Orange County Register*; "Restaurant Reviews"
<http://bit.ly/2mSbjvF>

Judges' comment: Writer's style makes me want to fly the 3,000 miles to eat at these restaurants. (Might skip the Royal Hot Pot, though.)

2nd: Brian Addison, *LongBeachize*; "These 15 Underrated Long Beach Grub Hubs Are Must-Visits"

3rd: Peter Suderman, *Reason*; "Government Almost Killed the Cocktail"

C. PRINT – ANY OUTLET, including news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

C1. HARD NEWS

Kim Masters and Lesley Goldberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Amazon Studios' Roy Price: Inside the Fall of a Top Executive"

<https://bit.ly/2xEmZuw>

Judges' comment: In its exposé of the sexual misconduct of an Amazon executive, which resulted in his exit, The Hollywood Reporter made a lasting impact in journalistic history, adding another chapter about ongoing Hollywood scandals.

2nd: Jason Henry and Steve Scauzillo; *San Gabriel Valley Tribune / SCNG*; "Tres Hermanos Ranch"

3rd: Christopher Palmeri, Jennifer Kaplan and Mark Chediak, *Bloomberg News*; "L.A. Fires Halt Filming, Menace Crops, Send Edison Plunging"

C2. HEADLINE.

Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg News*; "U2's Edge Helps Fender Find What It's Looking for With New App"

<https://bloom.bg/2Ee4Qlh>

Judges' comment: Clever play on words

2nd: Dave Bowman, *Los Angeles Times*; "Squirrels? Always a Cache"

3rd: Glenn Rabinowitz, *Pacific Coast Business Times*; "Ripe for going public"

C3. SPORTS

Joey Kaufman, *Southern California News Group*; "USC vs. UCLA: O.J. Simpson's legacy leaves tangled emotions 50 years after 'Game of the Century'"

<http://bit.ly/2FeaxUP>

Judges' comment: A moment in USC sports history from some 50 years ago is relived and illuminated. A fine piece of writing conveying both the irony and the tragedy that is the career and life of O. J. Simpson.

2nd: Will Cockrell and Cheryl Angelheart, *The Red Bulletin*; "The Ironman Algorithm"

3rd: Nathan Fenno, *Los Angeles Times*; "A Prospect Becomes a Suspect"

C4. EDITORIALS

Jon Regardie, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; "The DWP Pay Hike Stinks"
<https://bit.ly/2tJ6v1A>

Judges' comment: The hard-hitting Downtown News editorial decrying the lack of transparency and public participation in the pay raises approved for DWP workers demonstrates how such opinions work to effect societal changes.

2nd: Los Angeles Times Editorial Board, *Los Angeles Times*; "Our Dishonest President"

C5. DESIGN

Kelli Sullivan, Tim Hubbard, Jason Clark and Michael Whitley, *Los Angeles Times*; "World Series Preview"
<https://bit.ly/2Hfrq2z>

Judges' comment: Good design isn't just about the photos. It's about the way the photos are put together, the typesetting, the mood they convey. This has everything. I love the way this is set up, from the cover to the last page. Every graphic complements the text it accompanies. The baseball-card-like setup to profile each player is just the icing on the cake. Knowing the time constraints the staff was under just cements it. Beautifully done. (But the Dodgers still suck.)

2nd: The Hollywood Reporter Art Department, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Oscar Issue 2017"

3rd: Los Angeles Times Staff, *Los Angeles Times*; "Los Angeles Times: Nov. 5, 2017"

C6. PAGE DESIGN

Shanti Marljar and Kelsey Stefanson, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "'Murder, Mayhem and Torture' Off the Sunset Strip"
<https://bit.ly/2sCdFS8>

Judges' comment: The clever thing about the design choices made for the "'Murder, Mayhem and Torture' Off the Sunset Strip" spread is that they transport the reader to the scene of the crime. This spread is an excellent example of impactful use of color, photography and illustrations.

2nd: Kelli Sullivan, Michael Whitley and Greg Houston; *Los Angeles Times*; "The Year in Review: Sexual Harassment"

3rd: Ross May and Edel Rodriguez; Los Angeles Times; "Horrrifying"

D. ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

All Platforms

D1. NEWS PHOTO

Marcus Yam, *Los Angeles Times*, "Raining Ember"

<https://bit.ly/2JmM0PH>

Judges' comment: Flying and streaking sparks gave the photo more impact in comparison to the other fire entries. High action and emotion compensate the soft focus.

2nd: Gina Ferazzi, *Los Angeles Times*, "Exploding Flames"

3rd: Irfan Khan, *Los Angeles Times*, "Violence Breaks Out at Pro-Trump Rally"

D2. FEATURE PHOTO

Jay L. Clendenin, *Los Angeles Times*, "Hermosa Christmas"

<https://bit.ly/2LUE9qL>

Judges' comment: Hard choice to judge first place due to mixture of image style. Winner has good depth, moment and light. This category shows 'found features' and 'portraits' for feature stories. As a photo contest judges feel that 'found features' were stronger.

2nd: Lucy Nicholson, *Reuters*, "Adelanto Detention Center"

3rd: Chris Mihal, Cheyne Gateley, Bailey Franklin, Marco Grob, *Variety*, "Alexander Payne"

D3. PORTRAIT

Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Carrie Smith and Michelle Stark, Joe Pugliese, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "John Lithgow"

<https://bit.ly/2qjWUdk>

Judges' comment: Easy choice with great light and composition. Photographer worked hard to make this look like a natural light portrait. Good job.

2nd: Genaro Molina, *Los Angeles Times*; "Tom Petty's Last Portrait"

3rd: Miko Lim, *The Red Bulletin*; "The Real Damme Deal"

D4. SPORTS PHOTO

Gina Ferazzi, *Los Angeles Times*; "Off Balance"

<https://bit.ly/2Jrt2Hz>

Judges' comment: Following the action really paid off with this shot. Peak action high emotion and nice composition.

2nd: Harry How, *Getty Images*; "Doug Ghim Cloudy First Tee"

3rd: Christian Anwander, *The Red Bulletin*; "Perfect Foil"

D5. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTO

Donna Balancia, *CaliforniaRocker.com*; "Valerie June is a dynamic performer and a rising star"

<https://bit.ly/2qpuvDI>

Judges' comment: Donna Balancia's photo of musician Valerie June is exemplary of what entertainment photographers should aspire to. She captures the performer's energy and joy at being on stage and frames it beautifully.

2nd: Chris Mihal, Chuck Kerr, Bailey Franklin and Andrew Hetherington; *Variety*; Stephen Colbert/ *Emmy Preview*

3rd: Jenny Sargent, Jennifer Laski, Shanti Marlar, Carrie Smith and Joe Pugliese; *The Hollywood Reporter*; "SNL – Melissa McCarthy"

D6. PHOTO ESSAY (single topic)

Marcus Yam, *Los Angeles Times*; "California Burning"

<https://bit.ly/2v1SAVF>

Judges' comment: California wildfires are common to cover but this set of photos stands above with its usage of natural light and dramatic framing.

2nd: Gema Galiana and Amy DePaul, *Capital & Main*, *OC Weekly*, *the Economic Hardship Reporting Project*; "What the Final Moments of Homeless People Can Teach Us"

3rd: Joseph Rodriguez and Rubén Martínez, *The Economic Hardship Reporting Project, The New York Times*; "The Gangs of L.A."

D7. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Steve Brodner, *Los Angeles Times*; "The Court of Donald I"
<https://bit.ly/2Ja5bJe>

Judges' comment: Great concept. Great artistry. Great information. Excellent execution.

2nd: Mr. Fish, *Truthdig*; "Grope Therapy"

3rd: Doug Davis, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; "Sheriff Lee Baca's Legacy"

D8a. ILLUSTRATION or GRAPHIC, covers/reviews

Chris Mihal, Allison Cressey and Margherita Morotti, *Variety*; "The Young Pope review"
<https://bit.ly/2J3Yn3E>

Judges' comment: Icons (cigarette and stole) and symbolism (characters in stole) - this instantly references the series and works on subtler levels. Never mind the careful stylizing that mixes the modern with the ancient, literally from head to toes.

2nd: Michael Whitley, Paul Gonzales and Adam Simpson, *Los Angeles Times*; "Year in Review: Calendar and Arts & Books"

3rd: Chris Mihal, Chuck Kerr, and Tim McDonagh, *Variety*; "Shows like GOT are burning through money"

D8b. ILLUSTRATION or GRAPHIC, current events

Los Angeles Times Staff, *Los Angeles Times*; "Wine Country Fires"
<https://lat.ms/2lueaEb>

Judges' comment: This clean, fact-filled report lets the user delve into layers that make the destruction of homes personal. The sliders are a neat surprise to quickly compare the neighborhood devastation. The maps and pointers make it easy for even someone unfamiliar with the area to place the damage within the fire perimeters. Good organization and parallel structure help the user get an overall view, then jump from fire to fire.

2nd: Shanti Marlar, Kelsey Stefanson and Owen Freeman, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Murder, Mayhem, and Torture Off the Sunset Strip"

3rd: Ed Baker, *Hornet Stories* (Hornet Social Media); "The Worst of 2017: A Top 10 List"

E. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

Over 50,000 circulation – including news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

E1a. NEWS FEATURE, Environment, Science and Technology

Thomas Curwen, *Los Angeles Times*; "Climb inside the massive tunnel 60 feet below downtown L.A.""

<http://lat.ms/2qjVT4P>

Judges' comment: Curwen's anatomy of the regional connector subway tunnel under downtown L.A. is a masterpiece of exposition accompanied by outstanding photography and graphics.

2nd: Joe Mozingo and Robert Gauthier; *Los Angeles Times*; "The River of Lost Souls"

3rd: Michael Idato, *The Sydney Morning Herald*; "What to expect from a CBS-owned local network?"

E1b. NEWS FEATURE, Society and Culture

Suzanne Hurt, *Riverside Press-Enterprise*; "San Bernadino Shooting Survivors"

<https://bit.ly/2leC0E2>

Judges' comment: Hurt's comprehensive series of articles about the San Bernardino shooting survivors are moving portraits of those coping with physical and psychological damage of the tragedy.

2nd: Christopher Gofford, *Los Angeles Times*; "Dirty John"

3rd: Jennifer Swann, *LA Weekly*; "The Rise and Fall of Cinefamily"

E2. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Ruben Nepales, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*; "Angelina Jolie talks about her 'very difficult year'"

<http://bit.ly/2eGluQ8>

Judges' comment: A revealing and perceptive profile of a complicated Jolie, well-written and way deeper than the usual celebrity PR fare. Well done!

2nd: Mark Swed, *Los Angeles Times*; "In Striking Shift, Dudamel Issues Plea to Homeland"

3rd: Anousha Sakoui, *Bloomberg Businessweek*; "Hollywood Is Scrambling to Replace Chinese Funding"

E3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Rob Eshman, *Jewish Journal*; "The Hidden Hero of the Six Day War"

<https://bit.ly/2GUekW2>

Judges' comment: This is an extremely well-written and engrossing story. It immediately captures the reader's attention by establishing the magnitude of the Six Day War, both in terms of the astonishing military feat that it represents and its impact to this day. It then draws the reader in further in by introducing the "most crucial and least known" hero of the war, Rafi Sivron. The fact that the reporter found this individual and brought his story to light for possibly the first time is an impressive journalistic achievement, and what makes it even more impressive is how well the story is structured and the language that is used. It is excellent journalism, riveting storytelling, and great writing.

2nd: Cindy Chang, *Los Angeles Times*; "Leader to Some, Mob Boss to FBI"

3rd: Michael Idato, *The Sydney Morning Herald*; "The softer side of Kathy Griffin"

E4. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

Paul Pringle, Harriet Ryan, Sarah Parvini, Matt Hamilton and Adam Elmahrek, *Los Angeles Times*; "The Secret Life of a USC Dean"

<https://lat.ms/2uv907f>; <https://lat.ms/2UbXtZQ>

Judges' comment: The L.A. Times stunning expose of the USC dean's misdeeds resulting in his dismissal is an outstanding example of how journalism has a positive impact on society through real news.

2nd: Staff, *Southern California News Group*; "Rehab Riviera"

3rd: Jeffrey Collins, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*; "Eviction decline is no solace for thousands of renters losing their homes"

E5. BUSINESS

Natalie Kitroeff, Victoria Kim and Geoffrey Mohan, *Los Angeles Times*;
"Immigrant Workers in a State of Stress"

<https://lat.ms/2glU9TM>

Judges' comment: Thorough reporting, masterful prose, great use of supporting photo and video.

2nd: Jennifer Kaplan, *Bloomberg News*; "California Pot Smokers"

3rd: Jeff Collins, *Orange County Register/Southern California News Group*;
"Eviction decline is no solace for thousands of renters losing their homes"

E6. COMMENTARY

Los Angeles Times Editorial Board, *Los Angeles Times*; "Our Dishonest President"
<https://lat.ms/2nNWXU>

Judges' comment: A well-researched thought-provoking commentary. This seven-part series highlights several aspects of Trump that are unbecoming of a U.S. president.

2nd: Rob Eshman, *Jewish Journal*, "Stephen Miller and Julia Hahn Have a Past"

3rd: Thomas D. Elias, *California Focus syndicated column*, "No limit to parties campaign money laundering"

E7. COLUMNIST

Fred Dickey, *San Diego Union Tribune*
<https://bit.ly/2q6m4Nv>

Judges' comment: He's everything a metro columnist should be: A great storyteller capable of unearthing interesting tales hiding in plain sight.

2nd: Marty Kaplan, *Jewish Journal*

3rd: Robin Abcarian, *Los Angeles Times*

F. DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

Under 50,000 circulation – including news bureaus and correspondents. Enter individually or as a team.

F1. NEWS FEATURE

Theresa Marie Moreau, *The Remnant Newspaper*; “Persecution and Anti-Catholic Propaganda”

<http://bit.ly/2FnVPLY>

Judges' comment: An article that takes events in chilling detail from a forgotten time, and makes them relevant in today's world. Great historical insight. Well done!

2nd: R. Scott Moxley, *OC Weekly*; “Forensic Science Deception in SoCal Murder Trials”

3rd: Susan Abram, *Los Angeles Daily News / SCNG*; “LA County Mental Health Team”

F2. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Jon REGARDIE, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; “The Close-Up Artist”

<https://bit.ly/2vPL2Bt>

Judges' comment: The attention to detail in this piece really stood out. The reader can vividly see what Tieber's show is like from the writing alone.

2nd: Patricia Bunin, *Southern California News Group*; “Letter to the King on the 40th anniversary of his death”

3rd: Nicholas Slayton, *Los Angeles Downtown News*, “NEA Cuts Threaten Downtown Arts Institutions”

F3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Eddie Kim, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; “Meet the Skid Row Fixer”

<https://bit.ly/2H5YRSS>

Judges' comment: The writing in this story is so vivid and descriptive, you feel like you are right there in San Julian Park, seeing and hearing for yourself everything the writer is describing. The details he chooses to include when introducing his subject give the reader insight into the nature of the character of Wendell Blassingame, including the “yellow umbrella, faded by sun and wind and propped up inside a large traffic cone...”. You get a great sense of Blassingame both from the descriptions (“built like a boulder” “a cross between a social work

and town ambassador") and the excellent use of quotes and dialogue throughout as Blassingame interacts with the people he is trying to help. You feel like you're sitting there next to him and can hear his voice and feel his compassion. This is an all-around great story.

2nd: R. Scott Moxley, *OC Weekly*; "Jailhouse Snitch Scandal Solved"

3rd: Diane Haithman, *Los Angeles Business Journal*; "King's Counsel"

F4. INVESTIGATIVE/SERIES

L.J. Williamson, *Daily Journal*, "Controversy has arisen over Antelope Valley head deputy DA's handling of pleas"

<https://bit.ly/2Ld9X9l>

Judges' comment: This piece required a lot of sources to trust the reporter to tell the story completely and accurately. It seems as if other lawyers and judges felt they couldn't do anything about the prosecutor's actions without taking the story to the court of public opinion. As the public defender noted later, the reporter's work will result in a better courthouse, which is watchdog journalism at its best.

2nd: Brian Hews, *Los Cerritos Community News*; "Dark Money Influencing La Mirada City Council Race"

3rd: Eddie Kim, Jon REGARDIE and Nicholas Slayton, *Los Angeles Downtown News*; "Addressing the Homelessness Crisis in Downtown LA"

F5. BUSINESS

Staff, *Long Beach Press-Telegram/SCNG*; "The Digital Divide"

<https://bit.ly/2laZ8g0>

Judges' comment: Excellent combination of data-driven reporting and human interest story-telling.

2nd: Garrett Reim, *Los Angeles Business Journal*; "Scoring Talent"

3rd: Carol Lawrence, *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*; "Apartment Killer"

F6. COMMENTARY

Thomas Elias, *California Focus* syndicated column

<http://bit.ly/2Gg7bRY>

Judges' comment: These commentaries are written with an authoritative but approachable and punchy style that not only informs but can rouse readers to action. Great community service here.

2nd: Eric Pierce, Downey Patriot; "Opening a temporary homeless shelter in Norwalk is the right thing to do"

3rd: Calvin Naito, Los Angeles Daily News; "Our Current Approach to Food is Not Sustainable"

F7. COLUMNIST

R. Scott Moxley, OC Weekly; "Moxley Column"
<https://bit.ly/2EvEfAj>

Judges' comment: A classic example of good old-fashioned muckraking and watchdog journalism.

2nd: Henry Dubroff, Pacific Coast Business Times; "Henry Dubroff PCBT Columns"

3rd: Jon Regardie, Los Angeles Downtown News; "The Regardie Report"

G. MAGAZINES

Including magazines with L.A. bureaus

G1. INVESTIGATIVE Reporting by an individual or team.

Scott Johnson, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Murder, Mayhem and Torture Off the Sunset Strip"
<https://bit.ly/2sCdFS8>

Judges' comment: The subject matter may be sensational, but the success of this story goes far beyond the grisly facts through a riveting and detailed narrative. The author's painstaking research and well-developed background pays off for the reader.

2nd: Elizabeth Nolan Brown, *Reason*; "American Sex Police"

3rd: Esme Deprez and Paul Barrett, *Bloomberg Businessweek*; "The Lawyer Who Beat Big Tobacco Takes On the Opioid Industry"

G2. COMMENTARY

Malina Saval, *Variety*; "What TV Gets Right — and Wrong — About Autism"
<http://bit.ly/2xwDRTa>

Judges' comment: Saval offers an insightful and candid critique of autism as it is represented by television, a medium that influences our worldview of almost everything. Saval notes that the condition is often misrepresented, misunderstood and/or misinterpreted but often times the emotional response by family members are on point as they struggle with acceptance and daily life. Great job of clearing up some misguided perceptions!

2nd: Jeanie Pyun, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Voices"

3rd: Kim Masters, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Amazon's Exec Purge: How Hollywood Took Jeff Bezos for a Ride"

G3. COLUMNIST

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Kareem Abdul-Jabbar"
<https://bit.ly/2IH15IH>

Judges' comment: Clear voice, compelling writing with a variety of examples to support point of view. Pacing made pieces entertaining. Favorite entry: How Movies Helped Me Fight Loneliness.

2nd: Deirdre Nansen McCloskey, *Reason*; "One Woman's Adventures in Gender Crossing and Civil Disobedience / The Myth of Technological Unemployment / An Economist Goes to Shanghai"

3rd: J.D. Tuccille, *Reason*; "Your Handy Guide to Camping in Forbidden Places / RIP Jerome Tuccille, Author of It Usually Begins With Ayn Rand / Where Radar Cameras Fear To Tread"

G4a. FEATURE, Business/Government over 1,000 words

Neil Strauss, *Rolling Stone*; "Elon Musk: The Architect of Tomorrow"
<http://rol.st/2pFariF>

Judges' comment: Strauss does an extraordinary job of weaving the biographical aspects of Musk's life with the genius of his work. Just when you are hooked by the description of Musk's thought processes Strauss throws in a personal attribute or childhood experience that humanizes Musk and makes him relatable to the average person.

2nd: Alan Ohnsman, *Forbes*; "Eyes on the Road: How Velodyne's Vision Sensors Are Ushering in the Self-Driving Car"

3rd: Mike Riggs, *Reason*; "How Washington Lost the War on Muscle"

G4b. FEATURE, Culture/Entertainment over 1,000 words

Gary Baum, *The Hollywood Reporter*, "The Mystery of Angelyne is Solved"
<https://bit.ly/2kHUVNB>

Judges' comment: This is a well-sequenced revelation. Although Baum offers a glimpse of Angelyne's identity early on, it's his curiosity and pursuit in verifying that the mysterious icon is actually the daughter of a holocaust survivor who reinvented herself and is content to live in a Hollywood fantasy. In his interview with Angelyne's ex-husband Baum introduces you to the sensitive wounded person beneath her flamboyant façade.

2nd: Ashley Powers, *The California Sunday Magazine*, "The College Try"

3rd: Michelle Boston, *USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Office of Communication*, "Hanging by a Thread"

G5. FEATURE, under 1,000 words

Lucas Shaw, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, "Your Favorite Radio Hits May Go Silent"
<https://bloom.bg/2jha4X1>

Judges' comment: Interesting, well-research and - written piece about radio royalties for songwriters looks at the music business from a different perspective as big-name players fight for better compensation for the little guys. The writer did a good job of making this topic approachable and engaging for an audience who might not care about this issue.

2nd: Kim Masters, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Guts, Stubbornness and a Quick Wit: What I Learned from Ben Bradlee"

3rd: Brian Steinberg, *Variety*; "Scott Pelley, Lester Holt, David Muir: The Unprecedented Joint Interview"

G6. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*; "Kirsten Dunst and Sofia Coppola on Hollywood Sexism, Their Feminist 'Beguiled' Remake"
<http://bit.ly/2qevjtB>

Judges' comment: The compelling dual portrait of Sofia Coppola and Kirsten Dunst, long-time friends who make films together, reveals fascinating details about how they are able to portray women in a male-dominated film industry.

2nd: Andrew Barker, *Variety*; "How Kendrick Lamar Became the Defining Hip-Hop Artist of His Generation"

3rd: Seth Abramovitch, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "How 'Sharknado' Casts Its C-Listers"

G7a. PERSONALITY PROFILE Film/TV personalities

Debra Birnbaum, *Variety*; "Carrie Coon on What She's Learned From 'The Leftovers' and Moving on to ' Fargo'"

<http://bit.ly/2ozLzHr>

Judges' comment: The article by Birnbaum about actress Carrie Coon of TV's Fargo and The Leftovers is well done and an excellent example of an absorbing profile.

2nd: Scott Feinberg, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Everybody Does It. This Guy Got Caught"

3rd: Michael Goldstein, *Forbes*; "Cecilia Peck '80: A Filmmaker With a Mission"

G7b. PERSONALITY PROFILE Politics/Business/Arts personalities

M.G. Lord, *FourTwoNine Magazine*; "Adam Schiff's Quiet Riot"

<https://bit.ly/2qLesjD>

Judges' comment: M.G. Lord paints a crystal clear portrait of Adam Schiff, Trump's most ardent, intellectually prepared critic-- as well as the state of affairs of the Russia Investigation. The kind of writing to brings the reader to a deeper understanding.

2nd: Neil Strauss, *Rolling Stone Magazine*; "Elon Musk: The Architect of Tomorrow"

3rd: John Gittelsohn, *Bloomberg Markets*; "The \$260 Billion Portfolio Shaped by Bodybuilding, Scripture, and Slow-Thinking"

G8. IN-HOUSE or CORPORATE PUBLICATION

Variety; "Game Over"

<https://bit.ly/2GULZP8>

Judges' comment: Variety did an excellent job of talking about this emerging story from the perspectives of its audience, with depth and insight and in a short reporting time. They also remembered that there were OTHER stories to be covered and did a good job of creating an issue that didn't focus on just one issue.

2nd: Variety; "Special Report: Sexual Harassment"

3rd: L.A. City College Journalism Department; "Collegian Times"

G9. DESIGN

The Hollywood Reporter Art Department, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Oscar Issue 2017"

<https://bit.ly/2LSKq6G>

Judges' comment: The design team at the Hollywood Reporter understands the value of a good illustration – and they're not shy about it. This magazine is a visual treat of all things Hollywood.

2nd: Ada Guerin and Eric Hernandez; *TheWrap*; " Emmy Comedy-Drama-Actors issue"

3rd: Michael Villalpando and Karen Villalpando, *Beverly Press/Park Labrea News*; "2017 Food, Dining & Entertainment"

H. TELEVISION/FILM (Also see B. All Media Platforms)

Broadcast, including online and cable TV, produced in Southern California.

H1. REGULARLY SCHEDULED NEWSCAST

Jennifer Pierce and Lizzy Tyler, CBS2; "CBS2 News at 11pm 5/1/2017"

https://youtu.be/Zl_5ZvPnC34

Judges' comment: Really nice variety of stories in the newscast. The show started off with breaking news then segued into local interest story on the potential writers' strike and also hit on national stories such as a high water rescue in Dallas. The strong story mix kept me interested throughout the newscast. Nicely done!

2nd: Sam Bergum, Garrett Schwartz, Taylor Edghill and Kim Rogers, *USC Annenberg Media*; "Annenberg TV News 10/02/17 - USC Active Shooter Scare"

3rd: Sam Bergum, Abby Flaxer, Sanika Bhargaw and Duanli Zhu, *USC Annenberg Media*; "Annenberg TV News 2/15/17"

H2. ANCHOR/HOST

Val Zavala, *KCET*; "SoCal Connected/The Way Home"
<http://bit.ly/2CSkthF>

Judges' comment: Zavala expertly juggles the questioning and flawlessly guides the panel's discussion of Homelessness in illuminating ways.

2nd: Marlise Boland and Elyse Ashton, *The Anglophile Channel*; "PoldarkDish"

3rd: Juliette Boland, *The Anglophile Channel*; "The Timey Wimey Fandom Show"

H3. VIDEOGRAPHER

Douglas E. Porter, *KCET*, "Lost LA: Descanso Gardens"
<https://bit.ly/2uEEwjY>

Judges' comment: Amazing work. Beautiful images, one after the other, that tell a really unique story.

2nd: Arturo Quezada, *KMEX*, "Neon, Los Angeles"

3rd: Ernesto Torres, *KNBC 4 TV*, "Frank Cut the Turkey"

H4. BREAKING NEWS

Duncan McLeod, Ashlee Mullany, Amelia Brace, Luke Dorrington, Mike Amor, *Seven Network Australia*; "Inside Mandalay Bay: The Vegas Massacre"
<https://bit.ly/2DToAKP>

Judges' comment: Thorough, varied and sober in-depth coverage of the shooting in Las Vegas was compelling telejournalism with a human connection.

2nd: Christina Pascucci and Armando Mancayo, *KTLA 5 NEWS*; "Mexico Earthquake"

3rd: Oswald Borraez and Juan Chopin, *KMEX*; "Man beats mother"

H5. INVESTIGATIVE

Karen Foshay, Vince Beiser and Alberto Arce, KCET; "Bumps in the Road"
<http://bit.ly/2tbXOxs>

Judges' comment: It started out as your standard "bad roads" story that we have seen over and over again, but the outrage hit "11" when you realize the money that should be spent to fix the problem is being "refunded" to the government. Well-told story!

2nd: David Goldstein, Lorraine Roe, Catherine Gelera, Michael Brandon and Gustavo Sampaio, KCBS/KCAL TV; "Illegal Pet Rescue"

3rd: Dina Demetrius, Deepa Fernandes and Michael Bloecher, KCET;
"Substandard of Living"

H6a. NEWS FEATURE, over 5 minutes

Kathryn Keeney Jaeger, Stephanie O'Neill and Michael Bloecher, KCET; "Who Approved That?"
<http://bit.ly/2F5sPZI>

Judges' comment: Well shot, Well written, Well done. A great story about the problems of gentrification and growth facing nearly every city in America.

2nd: Lata Pandya, Stephanie O'Neill and Alberto Arce, KCET; "Where's Nancy"

3rd: Norma Roque, Andres Pruna and Hugo Olguin, KMEX; "Por Todas Ellas"

H6b. NEWS FEATURE, under 5 minutes

Kaj Goldberg, Brian Choo and Marcus Wilson-Smith; KTLA 5 News; "Heroes at Home: Selfless LAPD Officer"
<https://youtu.be/TTj0RY4Df5U>

Judges' comment: Compelling storytelling and solid editing made this a beautiful human-interest piece. Well done.

2nd: Frances Read, Feature Story News (FSN); "California Desert Tortoise in danger following five-year drought"

3rd: Danielle Nottingham, CBS News - Newspath; "LA Riots 25 Years Later"

H7a. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, under 5 minutes

Danielle Nottingham, CBS News - Newspath; "California Refugees Find Hope"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OylSPwJS_9E

Judges' comment: This was such an incredibly hard category to judge because all of the entries are fantastic. I love the stories of people working to make a better life for others, and this story really exemplifies that charity. The non-profits in this story, especially Miry Whithill, exemplify that generosity and care for others. The story is well reported and has great use of video.

2nd: Cole Sullivan, USC Annenberg Media; "Lil' Bill's Bike Repair Starts Petition to Avoid Move"

3rd: NBC4 Southern California; "NBC4 Southern California Clear the Shelters"

H7b. HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE, over 5 minutes

Jennifer Laski, Stephanie Fischette, Victoria McKillop, Vincent Venturella, Nina Ham, Matthew Whitehurst and Jason Geogiades, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Mark Mahoney"
<https://bit.ly/2pxcuC0>

Judges' comment: A fantastic profile of one of the most interesting characters in California (I'm sure.) I want to take an entire day with Mark Mahoney ... not only to hear about his celebrity clients but also his "regular" customers who are looking for a permanent reminder of the most important moments of their lives. Beautiful!

2nd: Phil Goyen, Liz Hayes, Scott Morelli and Ben Crane, *60 Minutes Australia - Nine Network*; "The Gentleman Thief"

3rd: Karen Foshay, Stephanie O'Neill, Dennis Nishi and Marie Targonski-O'Brien, *KCET*; "Mending Kids"

H8. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Kathryn Keeney Jaeger, Vince Beiser and Michael Bloecher, *KCET*; "Military Buds"
<http://bit.ly/2F5EQy4>

Judges' comment: First Place "Military Buds" Different angle than the average marijuana story. Great use of word-play and alliteration by the reporter to connect the visuals with the mental picture. Also the story emphasized people

over pot by letting the story subjects tell their own point of view about working at the company and reintegrating back into society.

2nd: Val Zavala, Lata Pandya, Michael Bloecher, KCET; " Super Soil"

3rd: Frances Read and Luke Mines, Feature Story News (FSN); "International Hollywood hopefuls' accent coaching"

H9. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Juan Devis, Nathan Masters, Matthew Crotty, Kelly Parker and Logan Kibens, KCET; "When Women Called The Shots: The Forgotten Story of Early Hollywood's Female Filmmakers"

<https://bit.ly/2GCxSKN>

Judges' comment: This was a particularly tight category and the top candidates were close. The winner is an excellent piece that shines a spotlight on Hollywood's forgotten pioneers. It is especially relevant in the current political climate.

2nd: Steve Appleford, LA Weekly; "In the Studio With Buzz and Mackie Osborne"

3rd: Annabel Sedano, Andres Pruna, Arturo Quezada, KMEX; " Neon, Los Angeles"

H10a. ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Mike Amor, Andrea Keir, Duncan McLeod and Leigh Hubner, 7 Network Australia, Sunday Night; "Priscilla Remembers"

<https://youtu.be/1hlBdrx5jnc>

Judges' comment: Elvis Presley was a very powerful figure in pop culture, and this piece by 7 Network Australia was captivating in that it revealed how stardom gained power over Elvis through the lens of his ex-wife Priscilla. The feature was not too short but not too long, either. Great job by Mike Amor to encapsulate her love for Elvis in this piece for all generations to gain perspective on a fallen mover and shaker in American history.

2nd: Raymond Bell and Elsa Ramon, KCBS2; "Misty Copeland"

3rd: George Michael Pennacchio & Li Ping Chang, KABC-TV; "The Amazing Rose Marie & the Story Behind that Famous Black Bow"

H10b. NON-ENTERTAINMENT PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW

Val Zavala and Michael Bloecher, KCET; "Virus Hunter"

<http://bit.ly/2oCCFre>

Judges' comment: The winning entry uses a good mixture of video, stills and interview to give a full portrait of an interesting person. The added bonus is the presentation of the science behind the story. Informative and compelling.

2nd: Justin Monticello, Alex Manning and Zach Weissmueller, Reason; "This Self-Taught Programmer Is Bringing Transparency to California Politics"

3rd: Courtney Friel and Brian Choo, KTLA 5 News; "Pulitzer-Winning L.A.-Based AP Photographer Nick Ut Retires"

H11. SPORTS

Derrin Horton, Brian Choo, Kimberly Cornell, Angel Kim, Phil Ige, Jason Roberts and Nick Simpson, KTLA 5 News; "Gift of Life"

<https://bit.ly/2Hx8gmg>

Judges' comment: Great storytelling. Glad reporting went beyond the connection between the two families and sought out what happened to the other kidney. Solid.

2nd: Raymond Bell and Jim Hill; CBS2; "From Devastation to Defensive Line"

3rd: Ernesto Torres, Jared Kiemenev and Fred Roggin; KNBC 4 TV; "All in the Family"

H12. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Karen Foshay, Linda Burns, Dina Demetrius, Kathryn Keeney Jaeger and Lata Pandya, KCET; "SoCal Connected"

<http://bit.ly/2AUxl2c>

Judges' comment: Great public affairs story telling. Tackles issues of importance to the region/ Presents voices and perspectives of disenfranchised on topics important to poorer communities. Excellent photography, strong interviews and great editing. Compelling watching rather than back-to-back talking heads. Made me want to watch (and learn) more.

2nd: John Marcus, Ryan Thompson, Chris Cheshire, Sofia Bosch, Aziza Kasumov, USC Annenberg Media; "The Current International: Germany Decides"

3rd: Sonali Kolhatkar, *Free Speech TV*; "Mosul Burning, DeVos's Backing of "Men's Rights," and Infiltrating A Trump Group"

H13. FEATURE DOCUMENTARY, over 25 minutes

Juan Devis, Justin Cram, Kelly Parker, Rita Baghdadi and Jeremiah Hammerling, KCET, "City Rising"
<https://bit.ly/2adoCZn>

Judges' comment: Excellent topic, Great video. Quickly grabs viewer's attention with strong visuals and holds it with information about historical and current trends that are relatable to most Americans. Interesting sources with impactful comments and effective use of archived footage.

2nd: Derrin Horton, Brian Choo, Kimberly Cornell, Angel Kim, Phil Ige, Jason Roberts and Nick Simpson, *KTLA 5 News*, "The Gift of Life"

3rd: Timothy Myers and Hilary Andersson, Mathew Hill, BBC, "Trump's Fortress America"

H14. DOCUMENTARY, short, under 25 minutes

Juan Devis, Antonio Diaz, Matthew Crotty, Ben Hunter, Kelly Parker and Stef Ferrari, KCET; "The Migrant Kitchen - Alta California"
<https://bit.ly/2EaxU9a>

Judges' comment: Through fascinating interviews and food preparation scenes, this short documentary about several L.A. chiefs making artisanal Mexican food is enlightening.

2nd: Juan Devis, Catherine Quinlan, Matthew Crotty, Nathan Masters and Kelly Parker, KCET; "Coded Geographies"

3rd: Mike Amor, Andrea Keir, Emma Dallimore and Duncan McLeod, *7 Network Australia*; "Donald Trump's Wall"

I. RADIO

Broadcast, podcast or stream produced in Southern California.

I1. ANCHOR/HOST

Mike Simpson and Chris Sedens, *KNX AM*, *KNX Afternoon News*
<https://bit.ly/2H4nfn6>

Judges' comment: Meaningful dialogue about a breaking news event - that's a very tough thing to do. They were ALL OVER this story, the shooting in Las Vegas, as it was happening.

2nd: Kim Masters, KCRW; "Krista Vernoff and Janis Hirsch on sexual Harassment in Hollywood"

3rd: Debra Birnbaum, Variety; "Remote Controlled"

I2. NEWS or FEATURE short form

Morris O'Kelly (Mo'Kelly), KFI AM640/iHeartRadio, "Mo' on the Movies - 'Thor: Ragnarok'"

<http://bit.ly/2sLRs7v>

Judges' comment: This is a fun, action-packed overview of what to expect in the latest Marvel Thor movie. It uses vivid language, great music and a nice snippet from the film to set the scene. The animated delivery is a good fit for the movie and the content of the report.

2nd: Jenny Hamel, KCRW, "Angelenos protest after the announcement to end DACA program"

3rd: Jenny Hamel, KCRW, "500,000 people fill the streets downtown for the Women's March"

I3a. NEWS

Jenny Hamel, KCRW; "There are 6000 homeless youth in LA, reaching them is crucial"

<https://kcrw.co/2EoM9vg>

Judges' comment: This ranked number one for me for a number of reasons, the top, though, being that it highlighted an important topic in the community and it gave perspective on a problem that many people see every day and perhaps walk by. The story telling in this piece also stuck with me the most.

2nd: Connor McGlynn, USC Annenberg Media; "Homelessness and Hunger in Los Angeles"

3rd: Carla Green, KCRW; "Some Uber drivers make so little, they have to live in their cars"

I3b. NEWS FEATURE

Michelle Faust, *Southern California Public Radio / KPCC*; "How teens are teaching each other the meaning of consent"

<https://bit.ly/2pT2q6z>

Judges' comment: A powerful examination of teenage sexual mores and where lines must be drawn to protect young women through education and talking it out.

2nd: Kathryn Barnes, KCRW, "Want to fight fires? Use goats"

3rd: Susan Valot, Freelance for KCRW, "Memories, activism and kicking up dust at Manzanar"

I4. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

R. H. Greene, *KPCC*; "Slaughter by the Sea"

<http://bit.ly/2HPMtGu>

Judges' comment: Interesting, informative, great use of natural sound.

2nd: Renee Gross, *USC Annenberg Media*; "Exceptional Architecture"

3rd: Ted Mills, *KCRW*; "Does Carpinteria really have the 'world's safest beach?'"

I5a. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW under 20 minutes

Laura Kangsluoma, *Ampersand, USC Annenberg*; "Prudish Americans"

<http://bit.ly/2yhcmho>

Judges' comment: Rich description and a no-nonsense interview with a porn star take listeners into her world (and garage).

2nd: Benjamin Gottlieb, *KCRW*; "A North Korean refugee's journey to Los Angeles"

3rd: Rico Gagliano, *The Dinner Party Download*; "Jordan Peele on 'Get Out': 'Society is the Most Fascinating Monster of All'"

I5b. PERSONALITY PROFILE/INTERVIEW over 20 minutes

Jonathan Bastian and Kathryn Barnes, *KCRW*; "The 805: Stories of generosity from the Thomas Fire"

<https://kcrw.co/2Hah9Ct>

Judges' comment: The voices of community members affected by the Thomas Fire help people outside the fire zone understand what navigating the disaster must have been like.

2nd: Kim Masters and Kaitlin Parker, KCRW; "Comedian Hasan Minhaj on telling the story of 'new brown America'"

3rd: Kim Masters and Kaitlin Parker, KCRW; "Guillermo del Toro on 'The Shape of Water,' an aquatic love story"

16. INVESTIGATIVE

Raymond Greene, KPCC; "Searching for Ruth"
<http://bit.ly/2oAddSF>

Judges' comment: #1 because it really took a deep dive into a subject that I don't think many people even knew was a problem. The nat sound of the animals and the ocean really brought me to the beach. Overall a fantastic piece.

2nd: Molly Peterson, KCRW; "What you need to know about LA's urban heat problem"

3rd: Raymond Greene, KPCC; "Slaughter by the Sea"

17. ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING/CRITICISM

Michelle Lanz and Monica Bushman, KPCC; "The man behind "Beauty & The Beast" lyrics didn't live to see the final film"
<https://bit.ly/2zIT9AV>

Judges' comment: Excellent blend of contemporary interviews, archive tape and sound from the movie. The different portions of the story flowed together effortlessly. This is a heartfelt report, told with a tone that has just the right mix of being sad, serious and entertaining. I appreciated the decision to tell us first what made Beauty and the Beast different from other musicals. That provided an engaging way to get into the story. When listening to this report, it felt like it went by in a blink of an eye. A true "driveway moment" story!

2nd: Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy; KCRW; "Oppressive designs: Fashion in 'The Handmaid's Tale'"

18. SPORTS

Sharon McNary, KPCC; "Ultra Mom takes on grueling Angeles Crest 100 trailrunning challenge"

<https://bit.ly/2Ide3N2>

Judges' comment: An excellent story about an interesting character. The reporter does a wonderful job setting the scenes throughout (including by doing interviews while jogging with the runner!). The reporter takes the listener along on adventure, with a story that has a beginning, middle and end -- and a sense of suspense, as we wonder how the run will end. The report has a good balance of answering listeners' likely questions about why in the world someone would want to do a 100-mile trail run. The subject is treated with a healthy blend of awe, skepticism, funny touches and emotion. I was fully drawn into the story -- every second.

2nd: Lance Orozco, KCLU AM/FM; "LA Has Rams And Chargers, But Dallas Cowboys Ride Into Ventura County For Training Camp"

3rd: Randy Kerdoon, Dick Helton, Vicky Moore, KNX; "KNX NFL Insider"

19. USE OF SOUND

Deepa Fernandes, PRI's *The World*, "Life of an Unaccompanied Minor, and what he left behind"

<https://bit.ly/2Hg0CvV>

Judges' comment: What makes the audio in this two-part story really stand out as an award-winner is its sheer volume. The reporter rigorously gathered ambient sound everywhere she conducted interviews. Good decisions were made about where to highlight the audio, to illustrate certain aspects of the reports or to move the stories forward. The sound is woven into the scripts seamlessly, throughout.

2nd: Susan Valot, KCRW, "A Very Merry Tuba Christmas"

3rd: Lance Orozco, KCLU AM/FM; "Music Helps Dementia Patients"

110. TALK/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Charles Feldman, Mike Simpson, Laraine Herman and Ken Charles, KNX; "KNX Indepth: Sex Harassment Crisis of 2017"

<https://bit.ly/2HDeUaV>

Judges' comment: Balanced ensemble of thought, comment and insight from a variety of perspectives discussing a nuanced subject with balance and intelligence.

2nd: Warren Olney, Andrea Brody and Devan Schwartz, KCRW; "Ep. 0016 Trump vs Democracy"

3rd: Morris O'Kelly (Mo'Kelly), KFI AM640/iHeartRadio; "Remembering 9/11 from INSIDE the White House"

I11. DOCUMENTARY

Anna Scott, Saul Gonzalez and Miguel Contreras, KCRW; "There Goes The Neighborhood"

<https://kcrw.co/2uWVgnN>

Judges' comment: Voices and scenes of real people and real life combine with data and deeply researched background to create a compelling story illustrating an intractable problem.

2nd: Rina Palta and Priska Neely, Southern California Public Radio / KPCC; "Broke: Why more California families are becoming homeless"

J. ONLINE (Also see B. All Media Platforms) Originally published on the Internet.

J1a. NEWS, Government/Politics

Colleen Shalby, Los Angeles Times; "Trump Fires Comey: A Screenplay in 5 Acts"
<https://lat.ms/2qe9FWI>

Judge's comment: You took a risk and it paid off. Your unorthodox format – from the first image that invoked the O.J. highway chase – demonstrated your understanding of your readership while highlighting the surreal nature of the Comey investigation. Judicious use of quotes and creative set directions (He is not in the bushes.) made this piece as fun as it was informative. Kudos to the LA Times.

2nd: Nick Gerda, Voice of OC; "OC Supervisors Issue Another Crackdown on Speakers During Public Meetings"

3rd: Eric Boehm, Reason; "After Challenging Red Light Cameras, Oregon Man Fined \$500 for Practicing Engineering Without a License"

J1b. NEWS, Entertainment Industry

Ramin Setoodeh, *Variety*; “Inside Matt Lauer’s Secret Relationship with ‘Today’ Production Assistant”

<http://bit.ly/2Aikt7W>

Judges’ comment: The Harvey Weinstein scandal resulted in a spate of stories alleging sexual harassment in the entertainment/news industries. Variety reporter Ramin Setoodeh manages to advance one of the biggest stories – that of former “Today” host Matt Lauer – by means of an exclusive interview with Addie Collins, one of his accusers. Her account is compelling, credible and highly detailed (supported with a chain of emails between she and Lauer). While their liaison could be construed as consensual, it nonetheless pinpoints the advantage of status. Although single-sourced, this is a solid interview that provides fresh perspective on how the powerful prey upon subordinates.

2nd: Daniel Holloway, *Variety*; “‘One Tree Hill’ Cast, Crew Detail Assault, Harassment Claims Against Mark Schwahn”

3rd: Ryan Parker, *The Hollywood Reporter*; “George Takei Accused of Sexually Assaulting Former Model in 1981”

J1c. NEWS, Cultural

Gabriel Thompson, *Capital & Main*; “After the Inferno, Undocumented Workers Find Themselves Without Federal Help”

<https://bit.ly/2ExrSnB>

Judges’ comment: The winner in this competitive category put a face – many faces – on the too easily ignored problem of what happens to the undocumented when their workplaces go up in flames. The writer painted a vivid picture of jobs and freedom in jeopardy, worries about paying the rent and staying in the country, and how strangers opened their hearts and wallets and provided much-needed meals, money and a welcome measure of hope.

2nd: Jason Islas, *Santa Monica Next*; “Amid Regional Housing Crisis, Santa Monica’s Homelessness Count Highest Since 2009”

3rd: Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*; “Family of Man Crushed by Train During Altercation with Police over Fare Seeks Answers, Justice”

J2. INVESTIGATIVE

C.J. Ciaramella and Lauren Krisai, *Reason*; "How Florida Entraps Pain Patients, Forces Them to Snitch, Then Locks Them Up for Decades"
<https://bit.ly/2pdC0Pc>

Judges' comment: Through copious research, this piece shows yet another side to the opioid crisis, where outdated laws and procedures further victimize people affected.

2nd: Celeste Fremon; *WitnessLA*; "AERO BUREAU NOIR: The Strange & Troubling Case Of the LA Sheriff Department's Missing Helicopter Engines"

3rd: Robin Urevich, Dean Kuipers and Bill Raden; *Capital & Main*; "Investigating Labor Secretary Nominee Andrew Puzder's Fast Food Empire"

J3. HARD NEWS FEATURE

John Myers and Priya Krishnakumar, *Los Angeles Times*; "How Will California's New Laws Affect..."
<https://lat.ms/2CiuvfR>

Judges' comment: Everything a Californian would need to know to stay up to date on the latest laws, in a quick and easy-to-read manner. Well thought-out and organized for the reader to digest the information and learn the most important information about each law.

2nd: Robin Urevich, *Capital & Main*; "Deadly Detention: The Lonely Death of Moises Tino Lopez"

3rd: Jeremy Loudanback, *The Chronicle of Social Change*; "Rights Relinquished: How 25 Hours Became 21 Years for Jerome Dixon"

J4a. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, Politics

Chris Gardner and Peter Kiefer, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Transgender Students Test L.A.'s All-Girls Schools"
<https://bit.ly/2pLyQQq>

Judges' comment: This is a concisely written yet thorough report on transgender students in single-sex schools. While spotlighting the evolving policies adopted by these institutions, the reporter effectively covers the political debate that serves as backdrop to the issue. This multi-sourced article is informative, compelling and thought-provoking. It's a timely piece of reporting given the growing transgender population and the heated rhetoric characteristic of the era. Nicely done!

2nd: Aura Bogado, *Capital & Main*; "Fire and ICE: Hiding in Plain Sight"

3rd: Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog Los Angeles*; "Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza Offers Window into History of Redevelopment, Legacy of White Flight"

J4b. SOFT NEWS FEATURE, Culture

Jeff Maysh, *The Atlantic*; "A Catfishing With a Happy Ending"
<http://theatln.tc/2gurRuL>

Judges' comment: A well-written expose about the online dating hoax known as "catfishing." Detail rich and illuminating.

2nd: David Bacon, *Capital & Main*; "Coachella Rising: Aging Farmworkers, Unions, Organic Mangos & the Salton Sea"

3rd: Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Tragedy, Suicide and New York's 'King of the Red Carpet'"

J5. LIFESTYLE FEATURE

Mike Riggs, *Reason*; "Medical Researchers Are Steps From Legalizing Ecstasy. Here's How They Did It"
<https://bit.ly/2qEVpGO>

Judges' comment: *This comprehensive piece on how psychedelic drugs, in fits and starts, have plodded toward legalization is interesting, informative, well written, well sourced and does an excellent job of explaining a complex subject.*

2nd: Brian Addison, *KCET*; "Riots, Rivalries, and Rap: Long Beach's Iconic VIP Records Deserves a Museum"

3rd: Stacey Leasca, *Travel+Leisure*; "Searching for UFOs at the Mojave Desert's Most Exclusive Airbnb"

J6. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Terry Flores, *Variety*; "Longtime Voice Actress Russi Taylor on Playing Minnie Mouse and Falling for Mickey in Real Life"
<http://bit.ly/2mqcTps>

Judges' comment: This sweetly written little feature about a celebrity everyone has heard but never seen is a lighthearted and fun look at a lesser-known voice industry icon, and the use of audio clips, given the subject matter, was perfect!

2nd: Jenelle Riley, *Variety*; "Stephen King on 'Mr. Mercedes,' How to Adapt His Novels and What Scares Him"

3rd: Monica Lumar and Quyen Lovrich, *NBC News*; "For 45 Years, Southern California's 'Donut Man' Has Drawn Crowds on Route 66"

J7. COLUMNIST

Sahra Sulaiman, *Streetsblog LA*
<http://bit.ly/2GUeZp2>

Judges' comment: Sahra Sulaiman pulls no punches. She tackles serious subjects yet inserts a wry sense of humor. Reading her is like discussing the news of the day with your best friend over coffee.

2nd: Sonali Kolhatkar, *Truthdig*

3rd: Scott Shackford, *Reason*

J8a. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, National

Paul Street, *Truthdig*; "An Insubordinate President"
<http://tdig.it/2EdHxlo>

Judges' comment: Although I don't agree with all of Paul Street's points, he is a winner in this category – that's how solid his argument is about how there is plenty of blame to go around for Trump's ascent to the White House. His writing is strong, carefully crafted and well researched. And he's likely going to give me nightmares!

2nd: Chris Hedges, *Truthdig*; "The Permanent Lie, Our Deadliest Threat"

3rd: Morris O'Kelly (Mo'Kelly); *mrmokelly.com*; "The Case Against Donald Trump Jr. and America"

J8b. POLITICAL COMMENTARY, Local

Brian Addison, *KCET*; "What's At Stake With Measure S? Everything, Los Angeles"
<https://bit.ly/2HBzIBY>

Judges' comment: Addison skillfully takes this issue apart, piece by piece, anticipating all arguments. Nicely written!

2nd: Judith Lewis Mernit, *Capital & Main*; "How Far Can California Go It Alone After Trump Reneges on Climate Accord?"

3rd: Norberto Santana, Jr., *Voice of OC*; "Is Throwing Rocks the New Homeless Response in OC?"

J9. NON-POLITICAL COMMENTARY

Judith Lewis Mernit, *Capital & Main*; "All About EVs: Why There Isn't a Ford in Your Future"

<https://bit.ly/2GNwSX0>

The writer engaged me to explore an angle that I never considered before, and really caused me to think about all that I thought I knew about electric vehicles and the way we approach technology. The piece really struck me and made me realize that just because new technology benefits many, it does not benefit all, and could cause severe issues going forward. I appreciate the writer causing me to think in a new way and challenge my own perspective.

2nd: Maureen Ryan, *Variety*; "A TV Executive Sexually Assaulted Me: A Critic's Personal Story"

3rd: Sharon Waxman, *TheWrap*; "'Harvey Weinstein's Media Enablers'? The New York Times Is One of Them"

J10. ONLINE SPORTS NEWS or FEATURE

Mike DiGiovanna, *Los Angeles Times*; "Always Just a Heartbeat Away"

<http://lat.ms/2nNaEiB>

Judges' comment: Well woven piece of two families that never imagined they'd meet. Great work making this people focused.

2nd: Kristin Marguerite Doidge, *GOOD Magazine*; "The Most Powerful Posse In Compton"

3rd: Michael Duarte, *KNBC Los Angeles*; "USC Trojans Blind Long Snapper Silences the Doubters and Makes His Dreams Come True"

J11. SPORTS COMMENTARY

Dylan Hernandez, *Los Angeles Times*; "Some Look Askew at Yuli Gurriel's Dugout Squint"

<http://lat.ms/2gJMMjo>

Judges' comment: Unique insight that offers the 'other side' of the story. Giving viewpoint we don't often see, that could help to inform an educated opinion on the gesture.

2nd: Eric Ortiz, *Truthdig*; "Take a Knee for Humanity"

3rd: Eric Boehm, *Reason*; "Atlanta Braves' New Stadium Is a Disaster for Taxpayers and Fans"

J12. ENTERTAINMENT and CELEBRITY NEWS

Chris Gardner, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Marisa Coughlan Comes Forward With Harvey Weinstein Story: 'He Wanted to Barter Sex for Movie Roles'"

<https://bit.ly/2Gx9ikp>

Judges' comment: With all the reports of Harvey Weinstein's sexual transgressions, Gardner's intriguing news about how an actress successfully deflected Weinstein's advances and portrayed him as a Jekyll-and-Hyde character makes for engrossing reading.

2nd: Steve Pond, *TheWrap*; "Oscars Stage Manager Details PwC Accountants' Incompetence: 'They Froze' (Exclusive)"

3rd: Elizabeth Nolan Brown, *Reason*; "Hot Girls Wanted: Exploiting Sex Workers in the Name of Exposing Porn Exploitation?"

J13. CELEBRITY NEWS

See J12.

J14. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE

Patrick Shanley, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "In the Shadow of Superheroes, Westerns Are (Quietly) Popular"

<https://bit.ly/2GCzKZM>

Judges' comment: Original, insightful and eye-opening.

2nd: Rebecca Sun, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "'Ghost in the Shell': 4 Japanese Actresses Dissect the Movie and Its Whitewashing Twist"

3rd: Patt Morrison, *Los Angeles Times*; "Legendary songwriter Jimmy Webb: lying for John Lennon and about "that song" – 'MacArthur Park'"

J15. ENTERTAINMENT COMMENTARY

Owen Gleiberman, *Variety*; "Donald Trump's Pop-Culture Presidency Enters Its Thriller Phase"

<http://bit.ly/2upJ121>

Judges' comment: Audaciously clever and well-written, the author exposes our collective weakness for exploitation through entertainment.

2nd: Andrew Wallenstein, *Variety*; "How FANG Left the Media Business Snakebitten"

3rd: Andy Lewis, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Jerry Lewis's Final Awkward Opinion Explained"

J16. BLOG, INDIVIDUAL

Bennet Kelley, *Today Past*; "Jun-21: A Day of Bigotry and Justice"

<https://bit.ly/2IIXONX>

Judges' comment: Giving the reader more insight and depth on an event that people hear about but probably don't really "know".

2nd: Joanie Harmon, *Making Life Swing*; "Angela and Chris Levey/Peter Erskine"

3rd: Donna Balancia, *CaliforniaRocker.com*; "January 1, 2017"

J17. BLOG, GROUP

Staff, *Reason*; "Hit & Run"

<https://bit.ly/2H7b2lo>

Judges' comment: Unique viewpoints with a variety of topics keeping the reader interested in what might be happening outside their typical scope.

2nd: Los Angeles Times Staff; "Essential Politics"

3rd: Streetsblog LA; "May5, 2017"

J18. WEBSITE, NEWS ORGANIZATION EXCLUSIVE TO THE INTERNET

Sharon Waxman, Tim Molloy and Thom Geier; *TheWrap*

<http://thewrap.com>

Judges' comment: Fun, fluid design that puts UX first -- easy to navigate, strong content and great imagery.

2nd: Staff, *Capital & Main*

3rd: Sonya Quick, *Voice of OC*

J19. WEBSITE, TRADITIONAL NEWS ORGANIZATION

Variety, *Variety.com*

<https://variety.com/>

Judges' comment: Overall, a clean and user-friendly site. Design focuses on UX first – news is presented beautifully and it is easy to navigate through the site.

2nd: Matthew Belloni, Tom Seeley, *The Hollywood Reporter*; *THR.com*

3rd: Juan Devis, Justin Cram, Bijan Rezvani, Nikol Hasler, Jason Bazalar, *KCET*, *KCET.org*

K. SOCIAL MEDIA

Judged on content, creativity and engagement.

K1. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE and/or COVER A STORY (INDIVIDUAL)

Gigi Graciette, *Fox 11 News/KTTV*; "Finding Piqui"

<https://bit.ly/2LQ9Qlj>

Judges' comment: Gigi Graciette uses social media to its full advantage, breaking new developments in her months-long story and creating a community around her reporting. Truly impressive!

2nd: Donald Kaufman, *Truthdig*; "Love and Peace Over Profits at Standing Rock"

3rd: Los Angeles Times Staff; "Southern California Fires"

K2. BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENHANCE and/or COVER A STORY (ORGANIZATION)

Jennifer Liles, Christina Schoellkopf and Natalya Jaime, *The Hollywood Reporter*; "Actress Roundtable"

Twitter: <https://bit.ly/2angohV>

Instagram: <https://bit.ly/2JBKFlj>

Judges' comment: Hollywood speaking up about this issue could raise awareness. We thought the production of this was nicely muted, subtle, leaving the content to drive it. Not glitz. That's important for an important topic.

2nd: Sheri Candler, KCET; "Police Violence Against Inmates at LA Men's Central Jail"

3rd: City of Burbank; "La Tuna Fire"

L. INTERNATIONAL

Print, radio, TV or online. An English translation must be submitted along with the original work. All entries must be produced in Southern California.

L1. NEWS

Richard Marosi and Brian van der Brug, *Los Angeles Times*; "Mexico's Housing Debacle: A Failed Vision"

<https://lat.ms/2AbBxl4>

Judge's comment: It's fair to cover a big project when it's launched and talk about the positives. It's more responsible to follow up to make sure it lived up to its end of the bargain. Kudos for keeping an eye on the powerful.

2nd: Aviva Fried, Christèle Jaime, RTS (*Radio Television Suisse, Swiss TV*), "Six feet Under Water"

3rd: Tom Walters and Liam Hyland; CTV – *Canadian TV*; "Wind and Wildfire"

L2. FEATURE Profiles, lifestyle, and other topics

Robyn Dixon, *Los Angeles Times*; "Elephant Men"

<https://lat.ms/2BRym0G>

Judges' comment: Powerful writing and reporting that depict some gut-wrenching scenes in the fight to save African wildlife.

2nd: Kerstin Zilm, *Deutschlandfunk*; "Tears Speak For Themselves"

3rd: Tom Walters and Liam Hyland, *CTV- Canadian TV*; "Suffering in Silence"

L3. PERSONALITY PROFILE

Mike Amor, Andrea Keir, Luke Thomas and Duncan McLeod; *7 Network Australia, Sunday Night*; "Goldie's Comeback"
<https://youtu.be/XFvSNpsVe48>

Judges' comment: Amor's rapport with actress Goldie Hawn brought out her down-to-earth attitudes, giving a well-rounded, fascinating portrait of Goldie and her career in TV and movies, as well as her family life.

2nd: Chrissy Iley, *Sunday Times Magazine*; "Oscar hopeful Michelle Williams on the death of her beloved ex, Heath Ledger, and raising their daughter alone"

3rd: Janet Nepales, *Manila Bulletin*; "Eleanor Coppola reminisces about the Philippines"

L4. ENTERTAINMENT NEWS or FEATURE

Chrissy Iley, *Sunday Times Magazine*, "Britain's hottest actor on his Journey from Hackney to Hollywood"
<https://bit.ly/2J64TXD>

Judges' comment: An entertaining read containing lots of personal anecdotes and details about Idris Elba.

2nd: Adam Tanswell, *SciFiNow*; "Asgard will Rock"

3rd: Tom Walters and Brian Miller, *CTV – Canadian TV*; "The Pepsi Jenner Abomination"

L5. COLUMNIST or CRITIC

Mary O'Hara, *The Guardian*; "Why opioid deaths are this generation's Aids crisis"
<https://bit.ly/2rXsGg5>

Judges' comment: In her short, eyeopening piece, Mary O'Hara not only reiterated the affects on African American youth population as highlighted in an earlier investigation, but also pinpointed "another, much less well-documented feature of police brutality and violence: the prevalence of disabled people and, in particular, those with mental difficulties, who are victims."

Highlighting “the indisputable onus on those with the power to protect vulnerable people from abuse and violence, wherever it is perpetrated, to take action,” O’Hara lamented failure of the system on many occasions and called for the media to shine a light on the problem.

The reader goes away with an awareness from the strong underlying message to expose the system’s failures, identify if there is a pattern, and push for necessary reforms.

2nd: Tom Walters, *CTV – Canadian Television*; “The Map of History”

3rd: Janet Nepales, *Manila Bulletin*, “Del Toro’s ‘first grown-up movie’”

M. STUDENT MEDIA

Student media includes groups with students in charge, including school newspapers and/or online publishing. Student media: high school, local college, university undergraduate or graduate publications or news websites.

M1. BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

California State University Northridge, *The Sundial*
<https://bit.ly/2GCk31y>

Judges’ comment: The Sundial combines a clean layout with lots of informative and fun sections that keep students updated on what’s happening on campus.

2nd: Los Angeles City College, *Los Angeles Collegian*

3rd: California State University Fullerton, *Daily Titan*

M2. BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Daniel Pearl Magnet High School, *The Pearl Post*
<http://bit.ly/2E1Bu9R>

Judges’ comment: A college-level effort. Well written, pleasing layout and photography and even their own news poll!

2nd: Sunny Hills High School, *The Accolade*

M3. BEST NEWS WEBSITE

California State University Northridge, *The Sundial*; sundial.csun.edu
<https://sundial.csun.edu>

Judges' comment: Best web design, organization and content for a news website.

2nd: California State University Long Beach, *Daily 49er*; daily49er.com

3rd: California State University Fullerton, *Daily Titan*; dailytitan.com

M4. BEST NEWS PHOTO

Ben Hammerton, *Daily 49er*; "Women's March 2017"
<https://bit.ly/2Hlqo2M>

Judges' comment: From an ideal angle high above The Woman's March in downtown L.A., Hammerton captures the huge turnout.

2nd: Madalyn Amato, *The Hornet*; "ANTIFA Protestor arrested on Campus Protest"

3rd: Liam Brooks, *The Student Life*; "A demonstration led by Black Lives and Allies at Mudd takes place outside Shanahan Center March 30, 2017"

M5. BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Katie Albertson, *Daily Titan*; "Queens slay CSUF annual Drag Show"
<http://bit.ly/2xTHy0U>

Judges' comment: Katie Albertson's photo of miss Flora Fauntay demonstrates technical prowess, good framing and excellent timing.

2nd: Meghan Joyce, *The Student Life*; "Life is a Cabaret, Old Chum"

3rd: Max Sullivan, *The Sundial*; "Caltrans and law enforcement sweep the homeless out of trails along the 405"

M6a. BEST NEWS WRITING, Human Interest

Roberto Herrera, *Daily 49er*; "CSULB Student Returns to Mexico City After Devastating Earthquake"
<https://bit.ly/2xMW5Q1>

Judges' comment: The story emotionally and courageously personalizes the human toll of the Mexico City Earthquake.

2nd: Brandon Pho, *Daily Titan*; "Families lose loved ones to Orange County's opioid crisis"

3rd: Ande Richards, *Los Angeles Collegian*; "Indigenous Peoples Day Gets Stamp of Approval"

M6b. BEST NEWS WRITING, Breaking News

Brandon Pho, Amy Wells and Breanna Belken, *Daily Titan*; "Protests Break Out at Milo Yiannopoulos' Halloween event at CSUF"

<http://bit.ly/2CQGCh7>

Judges' comment: Solid reporting infused with insightful pictures and graphics.

2nd: TJ Lowell, *Los Angeles Collegian*; "AECOM to District: Rescind, Negotiate, or Re-Bid"

3rd: Kat Schuster, *Daily 49er*; "Campus drinking fountains shut off after positive test for lead"

M7. BEST FEATURE WRITING – PRINT or ONLINE

Sorina Szakacs, *Collegian Times*; "Faust's Hiding Place: Old World Books Carried by the Oppressed"

m7_best_feature_writing_sorina_szakacs.pdf

Judges' comment: An expressive and nuanced piece about remembrance and heritage – all the more remarkable considering the writer's youth.

2nd: Clinton Cameron, *Collegian Times*; "Return to Sender: Breaking Bad for Melting Pot Promise"

3rd: Paolena Comouche and Sarah Wolstoncroft, *Daily Titan*; "Santa Ana homeless find comfort and protection in their pets and fear losing them"

M8. BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE – ANY PLATFORM

Liz Warner, *Ampersand USC Annenberg*; "A Look Back at Roxy Music's Inventive Start"

<http://bit.ly/2jai1zk>

Judges' comment: This piece is the considered, thoughtful work of a practiced professional--not a student! A very bright future awaits Ms. Wagner.

2nd: Ande Richards, *Collegian Times*; "Showgirls Flock to Mother Plucker"

3rd: Torrey Hart, *The Student Life*; "From West Point to CMS: Running Back
Spencer Sheff Adjusting to Claremont Life"

M9. BEST REPORTING – BROADCAST, PODCAST or STREAM

Brad Streicher, Sam Bergum, *USC Annenberg Media*; "Just Six Feet Away: Oil Drill
Site May Threaten Community Safety"

<http://bit.ly/2EV1HrC>

Judges' comment: Solid reporting exposing the health dangers of oil drilling in
the midst of residential neighborhoods.

2nd: Cole Sullivan, Marc Sallinger, Sam Bergum, Abby Flaxer and Sanika
Bhargaw, *USC Annenberg Media*; "Oroville Dam Evacuees Head Home"

3rd: Sarah Vehrs, *Daily 49er*; "Remember the Camps"