

Advertising/Marketing	Division	Winner	Name	Newspaper	Name of Entry
Local Ad	Weekly	1st Place	Emily Patrick	Moosehead Lakeshore Journal	Harvey Real Estate Fly In Ad
Local Ad	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Mount Desert Islander	Bar Harbor Music Festival
Local Ad	Weekly	3rd Place	Brette Miller	The Weekly Packet	Blue Hill YMCA 5th Anniversary
Local Ad	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Josh Farris	Portland Press Herald	Cuzinz Hardscapes & Design
Local Ad	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	Palomas Gifts
Local Ad	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Amy Allen	Bangor Daily News	Bixby Chocolate
Campaign or Series	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Mount Desert Islander	Bark Harbor August Series
Campaign or Series	Weekly	2nd Place	Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	Jerolds
Campaign or Series	Weekly	3rd Place	Sales and Design Staff	Midcoast Villager	Festival Candidates
Campaign or Series	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	Don Dickel Flooring
Campaign or Series	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Natalie Haberman Ladd and Ted Duguay	Portland Press Herald	State Manufactured Homes - Featured Property
Campaign or Series	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Staff	Kennebec Journal	Central Maine Athletes of the Week
Supplement/Special Section	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Island Ad-Vantages	Summer Guide
Supplement/Special Section	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	Celebrating Our 175th Year
Supplement/Special Section	Weekly	3rd Place	Steve Fuller and Ashley Carter	Mount Desert Islander	Holiday Out & About
Supplement/Special Section	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Amy Allen	Bangor Daily News	Discover Portland
Supplement/Special Section	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Nancy Fickett, Hannah Clark	Sun Journal	Veterans Day
Supplement/Special Section	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Amy Allen, Callie Picard	Bangor Daily News	Basketball Preview
Best Supplement Cover	Weekly	1st Place	Olga Donovan	Ellsworth American	Get Ready for Winter
Best Supplement Cover	Weekly	2nd Place	Steve Edwards	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	2025 Summertime guide cover
Best Supplement Cover	Weekly	3rd Place	Amber Clark	Lincoln County News	Back to Lincoln County
Best Supplement Cover	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Callie Picard	Bangor Daily News	In the Lab
Best Supplement Cover	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Amy Allen	Bangor Daily News	Bangor Metro (Spring Issue)
Best Supplement Cover	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Lindsey Frappier	Kennebec Journal	Wedding Guide
Community Engagement Initiative	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Mount Desert Islander	Daytrip Series
Community Engagement Initiative	Weekly	2nd Place	Morgan Reynolds, Brette Miller	The Weekly Packet	Blue Hill Fair Photo Contest
Community Engagement Initiative	Weekly	3rd Place	Brette Miller	Castine Patriot	Calling all athletes!
Community Engagement Initiative	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Micaela Schweitzer-Bluhm, Amelia Metcalfe, Kurt Hersey	The Maine Monitor	The Maine Monitor's Listening Tour
Community Engagement Initiative	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Katherine Lee, Press Herald staff	Portland Press Herald	The 32 best restaurants in Greater Portland: Print the list and BINGO card
Community Engagement Initiative	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Staff	Kennebec Journal	KJ Readers' Choice
Self-Promotion Initiative	Weekly	1st Place	Janice Thompson and Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	2025 Harpswell Anchor Impact Report
Self-Promotion Initiative	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	The Ellsworth American at 175
Self-Promotion Initiative	Weekly	3rd Place	Cheryl Stabinski	Calais Advertiser	Free Subscriptions
Self-Promotion Initiative	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Amelia Metcalfe, Micaela Schweitzer-Bluhm	The Maine Monitor	Maine Monitor appeal and impact
Self-Promotion Initiative	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	BDN Philanthropy Team	Bangor Daily News	Giving Tuesday heating assistance campaign
Self-Promotion Initiative	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	BDN House Survey
Best Sponsored Content	Weekly	1st Place	Staff, Designer: Chausa Tra	Ellsworth American	Ellsworth Chainsaw, 75th Anniversary
Best Sponsored Content	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Machias Valley News Observer	DOWNEAST BASKETBALL REVIEW 2026
Best Sponsored Content	Weekly	3rd Place	Emily Butler	Mount Desert Islander	Business Neighbors
Best Sponsored Content	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Staff	Portland Press Herald	Building Brighter Futures - John T. Gorman Foundation
Best Sponsored Content	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Molly Adams, Jennifer Fleck	Kennebec Journal	Gallant Funeral Homes
Best Sponsored Content	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Staff	Sun Journal	Hometown Senior Solutions
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	Downeast Scenic Railroad - Summer Series
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Weekly	2nd Place	Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	Harpswell Neck Fire and Rescue
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Molly Adams, Mackenzie Gregory, Julian Ober	Kennebec Journal	Hight Highlight
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Staff	Portland Press Herald	Alliance for Maine
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Molly Adams, Mackenzie Gregory, David Mutshail	Sun Journal	L/A Metro Chamber

Best Multi-Media Campaign	Weekly	1st Place	Jayna Smith	Calais Advertiser	Memorial Day
Best Multi-Media Campaign	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Alicia Tuttle	Sun Journal	Bach Virtuosi Festival
Best Multi-Media Campaign	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	White Rabbit Emporium
Best Multi-Media Campaign	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Alicia Tuttle	Kennebec Journal	Bakes and Blooms Print and Digital
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	Downeast Scenic Railroad - Summer Series
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Weekly	2nd Place	Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	Harpswell Neck Fire and Rescue
Best Customized Advertising Solution	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Molly Adams, Mackenzie Gregory, Julian Ober	Kennebec Journal	Hight Highlight
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Best Multi-Media Campaign	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	White Rabbit Emporium
Best Multi-Media Campaign	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Alicia Tuttle	Kennebec Journal	Bakes and Blooms Print and Digital
ONLINE	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
News Video	Weekly	1st Place	Zach Lanning and Kip Wing	Mount Desert Islander	Sights & Sounds: 2025 Bass Harbor Lobster Boat Races
News Video	Weekly	2nd Place	Jim Gerberich	Harpswell Anchor	What happens to Harpswell's recyclables?
News Video	Weekly	3rd Place	Susan Johns	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	Rallying in Wiscasset for libraries
News Video	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Garrick Hoffman	The Maine Monitor	A trooper repeatedly punched a handcuffed man in the face
News Video	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Daniel Kool, Erica Nitschke	Portland Press Herald	Utility reporter Daniel Kool explains what makes up your electricity bill.
News Video	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Russ Dillingham	Sun Journal	Ice Them Out Protest in Lewiston
Feature Video	Weekly	1st Place	Kip Wing	Ellsworth American	The Last Press Run, Printing in Ellsworth Comes to an End
Feature Video	Weekly	2nd Place	Sara Coughlin	Harpswell Anchor	Chainsaw sculptor crafts unique creation at HNPEA courts
Feature Video	Weekly	3rd Place	Troy R. Bennett	Harpswell Anchor	Local man runs a lot and very far
Feature Video	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Joe Phelan	Kennebec Journal	Behind the scenes at Brownville's Food Pantry For Deer
Feature Video	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Salomé Cloteaux	Portland Press Herald	4 best hiking trails in Scarborough, according to readers
Feature Video	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Jimmy James	Portland Press Herald	Rapid fire questions with Bates Women's Basketball
Best Digital Ad Campaign	Weekly	1st Place	Heather Eriele & Staff	Ellsworth American	Ellsworth Jewelers Winter Series
Best Digital Ad Campaign	Weekly	2nd Place	Heather Eriele	Mount Desert Islander	Newman Marine Brokerage
Best Digital Ad Campaign	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Maggie Osumi, Dave Tripp	Portland Press Herald	Get the Scoop Spring Circ Digital Suite
Best Digital Ad Campaign	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Alicia Tuttle	Kennebec Journal	Eat Downeast
Best Digital Ad Campaign	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Marcie Coombs	Bangor Daily News	Monica's Scandinavian Imports
PHOTOGRAPHY/DESIGN	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
News Photo	Weekly	1st Place	John Blodgett	Midcoast Villager	Seal Released Into the Atlantic
News Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Jumping for holiday joy
News Photo	Weekly	3rd Place	Sara Coughlin	Harpswell Anchor	Tuna Tournament
News Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Brianna Soukup	Portland Press Herald	Cold night
News Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Shawn Patrick Ouellette	Portland Press Herald	Aiden Keefe
News Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Jim Neuger	Maine Morning Star	In remembrance of Renee Nicole Good
Spot News Photo	Weekly	1st Place	Stephen Betts	Midcoast Villager	Owls Head Fire
Spot News Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Jayna Smith	Calais Advertiser	Game Warden Secures Young Bald Eagle
Spot News Photo	Weekly	3rd Place	Sarah Thompson	Penobscot Bay Pilot	Crews battle night house fire in Friendship
Spot News Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Anna Chadwick	Kennebec Journal	VHS tape at home explosion site
Spot News Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Linda Coan O'Kresik	Bangor Daily News	Kenduskeag Stream rescue
Spot News Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Libby Kamrowski Kenny	Sun Journal	Auburn power pole crash
Scenic Photo	Weekly	1st Place	Steve Edwards	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	Tuna fishing off Boothbay Harbor
Scenic Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Steve Edwards	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	Sea smoke near Cuckolds Lighthouse

Scenic Photo	Weekly	3rd Place	Troy R. Bennett	Harpswell Anchor	Mackerel Cove Fisherman
Scenic Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Shawn Patrick Ouellette	Portland Press Herald	Sea smoke
Scenic Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Gregory Rec	Portland Press Herald	Crow moon
Scenic Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Linda Coan O'Kresik	Bangor Daily News	Piebald deer
People Photo	Weekly	1st Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Harpswell Anchor	Young Sailor
People Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Creative sparks
People Photo	Weekly	3rd Place	Jayna Smith	Calais Advertiser	Young Grayson Pays Tribute with Firefighters
People Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Anna Chadwick	Kennebec Journal	Nutcracker dress rehearsal
People Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Linda Coan O'Kresik	Bangor Daily News	Homeless Encampment Clearing
People Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Gregory Rec	Portland Press Herald	Penobscot dance
Picture Story	Weekly	1st Place	John Blodgett	Midcoast Villager	Union Fair and Maine Blueberry Festival 2025
Picture Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Jim Gerberich	Harpswell Anchor	Kids learn how to sail — and a lot more — at Orr's Island school
Picture Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Jessica Rivers	Lincoln County News	Ice Harvest
Picture Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Gregory Rec, Derek Davis, Brianna Soukup	Portland Press Herald	Protests in Maine
Picture Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Daryn Slover	Portland Press Herald	Celebration of Life
Picture Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Brianna Soukup	Portland Press Herald	Mt. Blue High School prom
Feature Photo	Weekly	1st Place	Cameron Levasseur	The County	Hemisphere Dancer
Feature Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Lincoln County News	Easter Wish
Feature Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Brianna Soukup	Portland Press Herald	Furries feature
Feature Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Jim Neuger	Maine Morning Star	No Kings
Feature Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Gregory Rec	Portland Press Herald	Stone labyrinth
Sports Photo	Weekly	1st Place	Holly Vanorse Spicer	Midcoast Villager	Queens of Class B: Medomak Valley Captures Elusive State Championship
Sports Photo	Weekly	2nd Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Hobbs Pond Swim
Sports Photo	Weekly	3rd Place	Erik Atwell	The Weekly Packet	Eagles senior Fred Coit
Sports Photo	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Gregory Rec	Portland Press Herald	Wrestling takedown
Sports Photo	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Rich Abrahamson	Kennebec Journal	Swimmer lunge
Sports Photo	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Daryn Slover	Portland Press Herald	Soccer final shot
Illustration/Graphic	Weekly	1st Place	Eric Zelz	Harpswell Anchor	Aquaculture in Harpswell waters
Illustration/Graphic	Weekly	2nd Place	Avery Reed	Midcoast Villager	Anatomy of a Harbor
Illustration/Graphic	Weekly	3rd Place	Chausa Tra	Mount Desert Islander	The warmth of Christmas
Illustration/Graphic	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Jake Laws	Portland Press Herald	Public wastewater graphic
Illustration/Graphic	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Jake Laws	Sun Journal	Vernal pool graphic
Illustration/Graphic	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Leela Stockley	Bangor Daily News	Excessive Force
Specialty Page Design	Weekly	1st Place	Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	Cultivating the Coast
Specialty Page Design	Weekly	2nd Place	Chausa Tra	Mount Desert Islander	An Islander Adventure
Specialty Page Design	Weekly	3rd Place	Christine Dunkle	Midcoast Villager	Searsport's Antique Historian
Specialty Page Design	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Zack Aldrich	Portland Press Herald	Opinion Page cover design for Feb. 1, 2026
Specialty Page Design	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Sally Tyrrell	Portland Press Herald	Food & Dining page for Feb. 8, 2026
Front Page Design	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	January 15, 2026
Front Page Design	Weekly	2nd Place	Sam Allen	Harpswell Anchor	August 2025
Front Page Design	Weekly	3rd Place	Chausa Tra	Mount Desert Islander	Mount Desert Islander front page
Front Page Design	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Brian Robitaille	Portland Press Herald	Maine Sunday Telegram front page for Feb. 1, 2026
Front Page Design	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Becky Bowden	Bangor Daily News	June 27, 2025
Front Page Design	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Will Tooher	Sun Journal	Sun Journal front page for May 11, 2025
SECTIONS	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
Editorial Page	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Ellsworth American	EA Opinion
Editorial Page	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Mount Desert Islander	Editorial sections

Editorial Page	Weekly	3rd Place	Staff	Peaks Island News	Peaks Island News' editorial pages
Editorial Page	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Siobhán Brett	Portland Press Herald	Press Herald Opinion sections
Editorial Page	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	BDN Editorial Board	Bangor Daily News	BDN Editorial Section
Sports Page	Weekly	1st Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Sports Pages
Sports Page	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Lincoln County News	The Lincoln County News
Sports Page	Weekly	3rd Place	Jayna Smith, Cheryl Stabinski	Calais Advertiser	Sports Sections
Sports Page	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Sports Staff	Sun Journal	Sun Journal sports sections
Sports Page	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Sports staff	Kennebec Journal	KJ sports sections
Sports Page	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Linda Kamp-Davis	Bangor Daily News	BDN Sports Section
SPORTS	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
Game Story	Weekly	1st Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Belfast Celebrates Supreme Stick Work With State Class B Crown
Game Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Camden Hills Wins First-Ever State Football Championship
Game Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Staff	Piscataquis Observer	Stuart Hedstrom
Game Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Drew Bonifant	Portland Press Herald	Cheverus girls basketball storms back from 19 down in Class A final
Game Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Larry Mahoney	Bangor Daily News	Player scores unexpected basket
Game Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Steve Craig	Portland Press Herald	Hearts of Pine roll to win for record-setting crowd
Sports News Story	Weekly	1st Place	Connie Sage Conner	Harpswell Anchor	Harpswell Neck boxer knocked out opponents — and discrimination
Sports News Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Cooper Flagg’s Midcoast Man
Sports News Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Mic LeBel	Lincoln County News	Medomak Valley’s Grady Pease Wins 200th Match, A School First
Sports News Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Drew Bonifant	Portland Press Herald	Why are concussion numbers high in girls soccer?
Sports News Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Mike Mandell	Kennebec Journal	Maine’s smallest high schools worry about future of sports
Sports News Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Dave Dyer	Sun Journal	Drugs and alcohol nearly killed this Maine wrestling champ
Sports Columnist	Weekly	1st Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Mark Haskell Columns
Sports Columnist	Weekly	2nd Place	Ryan McLaughlin	Ellsworth American	The Red Zone
Sports Columnist	Weekly	3rd Place	Jayna Smith	Calais Advertiser	sports columnist
Sports Columnist	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Travis Lazarczyk	Portland Press Herald	Sports columns by Travis Lazarczyk
Sports Headline	Weekly	1st Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Just Nguyen
Sports Headline	Weekly	2nd Place	Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Berry Good Times
Sports Headline	Weekly	3rd Place	Connie Sage Conner	Harpswell Anchor	Harpswell Neck boxer knocked out opponents — and discrimination
Sports Headline	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Larry Mahoney	Bangor Daily News	High school players love hockey
Sports Headline	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Sports Staff	Sun Journal	"It's a Blank Slate"
Sports Headline	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Larry Mahoney	Bangor Daily News	He took too many penalties so he became a goalie
Sports Page Design	Weekly	1st Place	Christine Dunkle, Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Crate Race
Sports Page Design	Weekly	2nd Place	Ryan McLaughlin and David Fickett	Ellsworth American	Tourney Time
Sports Page Design	Weekly	3rd Place	Christine Dunkle, Mark Haskell	Midcoast Villager	Cheering
Sports Page Design	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Joe Grant	Portland Press Herald	Press Herald Sports page for Nov. 23, 2025
Sports Page Design	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	David Bailey	Kennebec Journal	Sports page design for Feb. 9, 2026
WRITING	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
News Story	Weekly	1st Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Club unveils multimillion-dollar climate-resiliency plan
News Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Michael R. DiLorenzo, Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Peaks Island Lions Club loses property-tax exemption
News Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Emily Niedermeyer	Ellsworth American	North Street resident says rats are forcing her from her home
News Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Kelley Bouchard	Portland Press Herald	How a Maine couple gave their \$1.3 million retirement savings to bitcoin scammers
News Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Callie Ferguson	Bangor Daily News	Teen immigrant's journey home after arrest
News Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Elizabeth Walztoni	Bangor Daily News	Suicide barriers on Maine's tallest bridge
Spot News Story	Weekly	1st Place	Paula Brewer	The County	Van Buren's historic 'yacht club' is demolished
Spot News Story	Weekly	2nd Place	William Tracy	Ellsworth American	Historic inn's destruction 'a huge loss'
Spot News Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Will Robinson	Castine Patriot	All hands on deck for massive Castine wildfire

Spot News Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Matthew Jaroncyk	Sun Journal	Lewiston residents clean up after water main break
Spot News Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Drew Johnson	Portland Press Herald	6 arrested during protests near Portland hotels suspected of hosting ICE agents
Spot News Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Jake Freudberg	Kennebec Journal	Federal agents detain 17 workers in Skowhegan, witness says
Courts Story	Weekly	1st Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Lincoln County News	Guilty Verdict in Edgcomb Child Murder Trial
Courts Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Jennifer Osborn	Ellsworth American	Man gets 30 months in prison for stealing \$24 worth of fish
Courts Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Ben Meiklejohn	Lincoln News	Ex-funeral home director gets prison time, must pay victims
Courts Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Callie Ferguson	Bangor Daily News	Police turned off cameras
Courts Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Emma Davis	Maine Morning Star	How police discretion has contributed to immigration arrests, and how that'll change
Courts Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Emily Allen	Portland Press Herald	They called 911 after a man drowned in Papoose Pond. The sheriff's office called Border Patrol.
Political Story	Weekly	1st Place	Ben Meiklejohn	Lincoln News	Federal funding yank guts food pantries, devastates farmers
Political Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Sarah Masters	Lincoln County News	Waldoboro Artist Turns Brush To Political Art
Political Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Sarah Masters	Lincoln County News	Dissidents and Dictators Spotlighted In Monhegan Artist's Latest Book
Political Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Randy Billings	Portland Press Herald	How Graham Platner's complicated past shapes his run for U.S. Senate
Political Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Rachel Ohm	Portland Press Herald	How COVID-19 prepared Nirav Shah for the Maine governor's race
Political Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Emma Davis	Maine Morning Star	'Washington need not apply:' How Mainers are evaluating controversy-laden Graham Platner
Investigative Report	Weekly	1st Place	Jesse Ellisin	Midcoast Villager	This Is Not the Story of a Mass Shooting
Investigative Report	Weekly	2nd Place	Ben Meiklejohn	Lincoln News	USPS changes routes in secrecy, mail delivery slow-going
Investigative Report	Weekly	3rd Place	Stephen Betts	Midcoast Villager	The Murder of Sunny Stewart
Investigative Report	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Josh Keefe, Callie Ferguson	The Maine Monitor & Bangor Daily News	Stop Punching Him
Investigative Report	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Sawyer Loftus	Bangor Daily News	Maine USDA foreclosures
Investigative Report	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Dylan Tusinski	Portland Press Herald	How a former lawmaker grew weed with alleged Chinese crime groups in rural Maine
Analysis	Weekly	1st Place	Paul Sylvain	Machias Valley News Observer	Fiscal Crisis Dominated County News Coverage
Analysis	Weekly	2nd Place	Will Robinson, Jack Beaudoin	Island Ad-Vantages	A deep dive into third party requests
Analysis	Weekly	3rd Place	Zach Lanning	Mount Desert Islander	Town data shines light on lodging
Analysis	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Eesha Pendharkar	Maine Morning Star	Federal cuts to SNAP, Medicaid might threaten Maine's free school meals
Analysis	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Ethan Horton	Kennebec Journal	To address its problem, Augusta arrests homeless people
Analysis	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Tux Turkel	The Maine Monitor	Electricity rates for Mainers are going up because more natural gas is being sold overseas
Continuing Story	Weekly	1st Place	Zach Lanning	Mount Desert Islander	MDI Hospital closes OB unit -- four stories
Continuing Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Paul Sylvain	Machias Valley News Observer	County Fiscal Crisis
Continuing Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Emily Patrick	Moosehead Lakeshore Journal	A Mountain of Mystery
Continuing Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Sawyer Loftus, Billy Kobin, Michael Shepherd	Bangor Daily News	Graham Platner Fallout
Continuing Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Randy Billings, Ray Routhier, Rachel Ohm	Portland Press Herald	Coverage of Maine's U.S. Senate Race
Continuing Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Daniel O'Connor	Bangor Daily News	Maine county's budget crisis
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Weekly	1st Place	Molly Rains	Lincoln County News	After 30 Years Behind the Wheel, RSU 40 Driver Sets Course for Retirement
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Weekly	2nd Place	Lynda Clancy	Penobscot Bay Pilot	Big Jim to stand tall over Searsport in celebration of the Maine sardine and fishing communities
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Weekly	3rd Place	Ben Meiklejohn	Lincoln News	Strumdingers bring ukulele love to communities across state
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Rose Lincoln	Sun Journal	Brad Wight's game cooler in Newry fills important role in disappearing niche
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Ethan Horton	Kennebec Journal	How Hallowell's clerk got Warren Zevon into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
Arts - Lifestyle Feature	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Kathleen O'Brien	Bangor Daily News	Day at the mall
Feature Story	Weekly	1st Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Conversations, ubiquitous 9s keep Blain Alves' memory alive
Feature Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Lincoln County News	'Time For Just One More:' The Addictive Joy of Contra Dance
Feature Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Daniel Dunkle	Midcoast Villager	Who Stole Camden Library's Paintings?
Feature Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Dylan Tusinski	Portland Press Herald	1 year ago, a teen girl vanished into northern Maine's unpredictable wilderness
Feature Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Elizabeth Walztoni	Bangor Daily News	What comes after homesteading?
Feature Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Kasey Turman	Bangor Daily News	Maine's disbanding towns
Food Story/Feature	Weekly	1st Place	Jesse Ellison	Midcoast Villager	Lobster Bait: It's What's For Dinner
Food Story/Feature	Weekly	2nd Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Harpswell Anchor	From river to sound, Harpswell oysters draw flavor from 'the magic of the spot'
Food Story/Feature	Weekly	3rd Place	Christine Simmonds	Midcoast Villager	If You Can't Beat 'Em, Eat 'Em

Food Story/Feature	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Tux Turkel	The Maine Monitor	Maine oyster growers are starting to electrify their operations
Food Story/Feature	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Tim Cebula	Portland Press Herald	Without a split-top bun, do you really have a Maine lobster roll?
Food Story/Feature	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Joe Charpentier, Christopher Wheelock	Sun Journal	Despite challenges, Maine's apple crop looks 'excellent'
Religion/Spirituality Story	Weekly	1st Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	Green arrested at 'pray-in'
Religion/Spirituality Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Lincoln County News	Char Corbett Chases Rainbows
Religion/Spirituality Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Margaret Grace Myers	Peaks Island News	Five years after disaffiliation, New Brackett Church going strong
Religion/Spirituality Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Sean Scott	The Maine Monitor	As Paganism's popularity grows, leaders are coming together around an often solitary practice
Religion/Spirituality Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Sophie Burchell	Portland Press Herald	For these Maine churches, the story of Christmas and immigrants' reality tell a similar tale
Religion/Spirituality Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Reuben M. Schafir	Portland Press Herald	In Maine prisons, Native American sweat lodges are part of the program
Community Columnist	Weekly	1st Place	Joanne Steenberg	Castine Patriot	The Power of Love
Community Columnist	Weekly	2nd Place	Johnathan Riley	Lincoln County News	Characters of the County
Community Columnist	Weekly	3rd Place	Eva Murray	Midcoast Villager	Eva Murray entries
Community Columnist	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Leslie Bridgers	Portland Press Herald	Community columns by Leslie Bridgers
Community Columnist	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Mark LaFlamme	Sun Journal	Community columns by Mark LaFlamme
Community Columnist	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Bob Duchesne	Bangor Daily News	Bob Duchesne
Critic's Award	Weekly	1st Place	Lynda Clancy	Penobscot Bay Pilot	Sketching Waldo County: Belfast artist finds his muse in the local landscape
Critic's Award	Weekly	2nd Place	Nan Lincoln	Ellsworth American	Crazy train
Critic's Award	Weekly	3rd Place	Sarah Masters	Lincoln County News	Beautiful, Fun, and Weird: Celebrating Student Art Season
Critic's Award	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	John Calame	Portland Press Herald	Proposal for Maine's tallest building would change Portland
Critic's Award	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Judy Harrison	Bangor Daily News	'Mother Russia' review
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Weekly	1st Place	Lisa Kristoff	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	20 years of uplifting and empowering girls
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Weekly	2nd Place	Jim Leonard	Midcoast Villager	How Tribal Sovereignty Could Boost Maine's Economy
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Weekly	3rd Place	Kelli Park	Harpswell Anchor	Forgotten for decades, unearthed Inuit textiles tell 'compelling' story at Brunswick museum
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Reuben M. Schafir	Portland Press Herald	To fight loss, Passamaquoddy speakers are talking new life into their language
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Callie Ferguson	Bangor Daily News	Ecuadorian roofers in Maine
Coverage of Minority Community Issues	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Hannah Kaufman	Kennebec Journal	Aroostook County loses trans-friendly primary care
Feature Headline	Weekly	1st Place	Cyndi Wood	Ellsworth American	This little light of Maine
Feature Headline	Weekly	2nd Place	Christine Simmonds	Midcoast Villager	Pie Hard
Feature Headline	Weekly	3rd Place	Ali Juell	Lincoln County News	Edgecomb Eddy School Ho-Ho-Hosts Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Event
Feature Headline	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Central Maine Staff	Kennebec Journal	"Let The Gourd Times Roll"
Feature Headline	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	AnnMarie Hilton	Maine Morning Star	Lawmakers talk trash, forever chemicals while touring Maine's biggest waste facilities
Feature Headline	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Sally Tyrrell	Portland Press Herald	Use Your Insider Voice
News Headline	Weekly	1st Place	Paul Sylvain	Machias Valley News Observer	Voters Tell County Commissioners 'Take This Bond and Shove It'
News Headline	Weekly	2nd Place	Will Robinson	The Weekly Packet	Cannabis opt-in goes up in smoke
News Headline	Weekly	3rd Place	Bill Pearson	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	McKay Road resident crying 'fowl' to Edgecomb planning board
News Headline	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Zack Aldrich	Sun Journal	"Float like a butterfly, Sculpt Ali"
News Headline	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Marie Weidmayer	Bangor Daily News	Dog poop and roommate disputes drive up Bangor's crime rate
News Headline	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Marie Weidmayer	Bangor Daily News	Maine man accused of lying to VA about being paralyzed walks into court
Editorial	Weekly	1st Place	Willy Blackmore	Midcoast Villager	Why We're Suing the Waldo County Sheriff's Office
Editorial	Weekly	2nd Place	Dylan Burmeister	Lincoln County News	COMMUNITY ISN'T A CLICHE
Editorial	Weekly	3rd Place	Faith DeAmbrose	Mount Desert Islander	Southwest Harbor deserves better
Editorial	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	BDN Editorial Board	Bangor Daily News	Threats and dysfunction
Editorial	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Lauren McCauley	Maine Morning Star	Mainers are still showing up for Platner and the party needs to reckon with why
Editorial	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	BDN Editorial Board	Bangor Daily News	Humanity trumps fear
Outdoors Story	Weekly	1st Place	Ben McCanna	Peaks Island News	These ladies are PIST: ... unite the Peaks Island Swim Team
Outdoors Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Troy R. Bennett	Harpswell Anchor	5 years after fatal shark attack, life on the water in Harpswell hasn't changed much
Outdoors Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Molly Rains	Lincoln County News	Local Fishermen Track Alewife Season With Data, Intuition

Outdoors Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Megan Gray	Portland Press Herald	Through the snowy hills of remote Maine, sled dog teams pull through
Outdoors Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Christopher Wheelock	Sun Journal	Snowmobiling as an economic driver in Maine faces a bumpy future
Outdoors Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Bill Trotter	Bangor Daily News	Remote piece of Acadia
Opinion Columnist	Weekly	1st Place	Jon Reisman	Machias Valley News Observer	FREEDOM STUDIES
Opinion Columnist	Weekly	2nd Place	Piper Pavelich	Lincoln County News	Mothers and Fathers
Opinion Columnist	Weekly	3rd Place	Stephen Bowen	Penobscot Bay Pilot	Midcoast needs creativity, collaboration and outside-the-box thinking from town leaders
Opinion Columnist	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Steve Collins	Portland Press Herald	Opinion columns by Steve Collins
Opinion Columnist	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Rob Glover	Bangor Daily News	Rob Glover
Opinion Columnist	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Douglas Rooks	Kennebec Journal	Opinion columns by Douglas Rooks
Editorial Cartoonist	Weekly	1st Place	Dan Kirchoff	Midcoast Villager	Editorial Cartoonist Entry 2
Editorial Cartoonist	Weekly	2nd Place	Glenn Chadbourne	Lincoln County News	The Lincoln County News
Editorial Cartoonist	Weekly	3rd Place	Bob Bryson	Calais Advertiser	cartoonist
Editorial Cartoonist	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	George Danby	Bangor Daily News	George Danby
Editorial Cartoonist	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Steve Meyers	Portland Press Herald	Opinion page cartoons by Steve Meyers
Environmental Story	Weekly	1st Place	Daniel Dunkle	Midcoast Villager	From Combat to Eco-Combat
Environmental Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Drew Himmelstein	Midcoast Villager	Constructing a Stone Coast
Environmental Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Fritz Freudenberger	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	Ghost (gear) hunting
Environmental Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Reuben M. Schafir	Portland Press Herald	In Sipayik, the Passamaquoddy are finding resilience in a half-acre of clams
Environmental Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Penelope Overton	Portland Press Herald	Heat danger: Maine’s most vulnerable at risk from rising summer temps
Environmental Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Emmett Gartner	The Maine Monitor	Maine loggers are used to hard times. Then came the tariffs.
Business/Economics Story	Weekly	1st Place	Chris Bouchard	The County	How the Can-Am boosts northern Maine’s economy
Business/Economics Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Drew Himmelstein	Midcoast Villager	The Remote Worker to Maine Worker Pipeline
Business/Economics Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Zach Lanning	Mount Desert Islander	Child care center closes at JAX
Business/Economics Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Daniel O’Connor	Bangor Daily News	Train grinds life to halt
Business/Economics Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Leslie Bridgers	Portland Press Herald	Does a \$9 kelp hot dog belong at Willard Beach?
Business/Economics Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Tim Cebula	Portland Press Herald	A new era for Maine’s iconic red snapper hot dogs
Education Story	Weekly	1st Place	Rebecca Alley	Mount Desert Islander	School reorganization plan to be presented
Education Story	Weekly	2nd Place	J. Craig Anderson	Harpswell Anchor	Renovate or close? District seeks feedback on long-term options for Harpswell's only public school
Education Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Drew Himmelstein	Midcoast Villager	Can AI Make the Grade?
Education Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Riley Board, Dylan Tusinski	Portland Press Herald	Maine schools are in disrepair. There isn’t enough money to address the crisis.
Education Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Emily Duggan	Kennebec Journal	After 2 years some of Maine’s electric school buses remain parked
Education Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Reuben M. Schafir	Portland Press Herald	How Maine’s elite private colleges sold Wabanaki land to bankroll early construction
Health Story	Weekly	1st Place	Daniel Dunkle	Midcoast Villager	Pen Bay Nurse Celebrates 50-Plus-Year Career, Wants More
Health Story	Weekly	2nd Place	Bisi Cameron Yee	Lincoln County News	Community Rallies to Grant Family’s Easter Wish
Health Story	Weekly	3rd Place	Isabelle Curtis	Boothbay Register-Wiscasset Newspaper	'Food is the best gift'
Health Story	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Emily Hedegard	The Maine Monitor	Her labor turned dangerous. The closest hospital had just stopped delivering babies.
Health Story	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Emily Bader	The Maine Monitor	How Maine's rates of gun suicide compare to national trends
Health Story	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Hannah Kaufman, Joe Lawlor	Portland Press Herald	Work requirements would strip MaineCare from thousands. Who are they?
SPECIAL CATEGORIES	DIVISION	WINNER	NAME	NEWSPAPER	NAME OF ENTRY
General Excellence--Digital	Weekly	1st Place	Staff	Midcoast Villager	General Excellence, Digital
General Excellence--Digital	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Lincoln County News	The Lincoln County News
General Excellence--Digital	Weekly	3rd Place	Linda Speight	Mount Desert Islander	Mount Desert Islander
General Excellence--Digital	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Pressherald.com Staff	Portland Press Herald	Pressherald.com
General Excellence--Digital	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Staff	The Maine Monitor	The Maine Monitor
General Excellence--Digital	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Centralmaine.com Staff	Kennebec Journal	Centralmaine.com
General Excellence--Advertising	Weekly	1st Place		The Ellsworth American	
General Excellence--Advertising	Weekly	2nd Place		The Lincoln County News	
General Excellence--Advertising	Weekly	3rd Place		Harpswell Anchor	

General Excellence--Advertising	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Portland Press Herald		
General Excellence--Advertising	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place			
General Excellence--Advertising	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place			
Kennebec Journal-Central Maine Sunday					
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 1	1st Place	The Calais Advertiser		
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 1	2nd Place			
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 1	3rd Place			
The Piscataquis Observer					
Machias Valley News Observer					
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 2	1st Place	Mount Desert Islander		
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 2	2nd Place			
General Excellence--Print	Weekly 2	3rd Place			
Harpswell Anchor					
Midcoast Villager					
General Excellence--Print	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Sun Journal		
General Excellence--Print	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place			
General Excellence--Print	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place			
Kennebec Journal					
Bangor Daily News					
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Weekly	1st Place	Kathleen Phalen Tomaselli	The County	Houlton surveillance cameras
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Weekly	2nd Place	Staff	Lincoln News	Hodling to account failures
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Weekly	3rd Place	Stephen Betts	Midcoast Villager	Going to Court to Keep
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Callie Ferguson, Sawyer Loftus	Bangor Daily News	ICE detention challenges
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Daily/Weekend	2nd Place	Kathleen O'Brien, Annie Rupertus	Bangor Daily News	Fallout from a city councilor's accusation
Judith Meyer Freedom of Access and Information Award	Daily/Weekend	3rd Place	Josh Keefe	The Maine Monitor	Contractor organized timely child
Center for Integrity in News Reporting Award of Excellence			Josh Keefe, Callie Ferguson	The Maine Monitor & Bangor Daily News	Stop Punching Him
Journalist of the Year			Callie Ferguson	Bangor Daily News	
Business Person of the Year			Allison McCann	Maine Trust for Local News	
Bob Drake Young Writer			Emily Niedermeyer	The Ellsworth American	
Mentor of the Year			Melissa Pritchard	Maine Trust for Local News/Portland Press Herald	
Unsung Hero			Christine Dunkle	Midcoast Villager	
Best in Show	Weekly	1st Place	John Blodgett	Midcoast Villager	Seal Released Into the Atlantic
Best in Show	Daily/Weekend	1st Place	Gregory Rec	Portland Press Herald	Wrestling takedown