Best Classified Section

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Jason Plowman, Classifieds,
Judge’s comments: Beautifully laid out, with easy-to-read ads. Appears very well thought out. Nicely done!

Second Place

Preston Hollow People, Dallas, TX
Preston Hollow People, Evelyn Wolff, Best Classifieds Section - PH,
Judge’s comments: Lovely use of color throughout these pages. Well done!

Third Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Mary Chavez & Gabrielle Sanchez, Taos News Classified Section,
Judge’s comments: Nice looking section. Easy to follow.

Honorable Mention

Wright County Journal, Mountain Grove, MO
Ron Schott, Best Classified Section WCJ,
Judge’s comments: Very nice section with nice bold headlines.
Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

First Place
The St Louis American, Saint Louis, MO
Kevin Jones, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - A Business Priority,
Judge’s comments: 1st Place: Vibrant colors. Bold fonts. Close-ups and headshots. The ads in The St. Louis American’s 76-page special section “Diversity, Equity & Inclusion” focus less on selling products and services and more on affirming inclusive policies, equitable practices, and diverse populations of many kinds. As such, the ads match the pacing of the articles. The few more metaphorical ads—a healthcare company wishing for a vaccination preventing discrimination; a pair of stained-glass spectacles—create pauses for reflection. Kudos to The SLA ad team!

Second Place
Preston Hollow People, Dallas, TX
Preston Hollow People, Best Multiple Advertising Special Section,
Judge’s comments: 2nd Place: The Preston Hollow People’s 12-page “2021 High School Football Preview” balances articles about each high school team with ads whose color schemes and layout complement the teams’ colors and article layout. Strong images and graphics—the profile of a player in a neutral helmet and uniform against a misty background, an overhead of a football field with the business logo superimposed over the center, and others—make these ads memorable.

Third Place
The Examiner, Beaumont, TX
Brittany Chaney, Buy Local 409,
Judge’s comments: Third Place: The Examiner’s recurring feature, “Buy Local 409” ad campaign, includes in its double-page spread a spotlight article on a local business or non-profit organization on one page and a selection of full-color ads from businesses in the 409-area code on the facing page. The magenta text pad above the headline and the circular “Buy Local 409” logo, with magenta text, provide visual cues to the content, direction to the ads, and a clear reminder to buy local.
Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 5,000-9,999

First Place

Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
Staff, Casa Grande Union High School Cougar Champions,
Judge’s comments: cohesive, well-designed, great eye-catching pub that will be a commemorative piece kept for years

Second Place

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Advertising Dept., Creative Dept., Gift Guide,
Judge’s comments: Beautifully designed ads - this was a joy to look at!

Third Place

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Advertising Dept., Creative Dept., Valentine,
Judge’s comments: LOVE this idea - how have I not done this myself?!

Honorable Mention

Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
Staff, Greatest of the Grande 2021,
Judge’s comments: Love the stories, vs just a listing, great pub!
Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5000

First Place

The Highlands Current, Cold Spring, NY
Pierce Strudler, Love is in the Air,
Judge’s comments: I love this concept! Kudos!

Second Place

The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO
Darci Rodriguez, Brenda Brandt, Holiday Hide and Seek,
Judge’s comments: I love this concept. It really engages the community.

Third Place

The Ark, Tiburon, CA
Ark staff, Home - Fall 2021,
Judge’s comments: That staircase was impressive. Very sleek modern layout.

Honorable Mention

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY
Siri Karr, Business Bulletin,
Judge’s comments: Cute way to display a service directory.
Best Public Notice Section

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place
The Ark, Tiburon, CA
Leigh Pagan, Legal Notices,
Judge’s comments: Nice layout. Very eye-catching. You definitely can’t miss the legals section.

Second Place
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Mary Chavez, Taos News Legal Section,
Judge’s comments: Nice layout. Text could be a bit bigger, but definitely highlights legal notices!
Best Sales Promotion Section or Edition

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Editorial Dept., Advertising Dept., Creative Dept., Leelanau Visitors Guide,
Judge’s comments: An excellent package that is a beautiful visitors and residents guide.

Second Place

The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI
Diane Everson, Jeff Brown, Sam Martino, Dave Wedeward, Steve Stricker Ryder Cup,
Judge’s comments: This unique tribute to a Hometown Hero, who is competing for the Ryder Cup on local course. Great local advertising support and original stories filled with local folks and their memories of him.

Third Place

Antelope County News, Neligh, NE
Staff, Beef Section,
Judge’s comments: A strong editorial and advertising section that focused on local producers and their families plus the local businesses they rely on.

Honorable Mention

Sparta Independent, Chester, NY
Sheila Voelker, Molly Colgan, Straus Staff, Sussex County Fair,
Judge’s comments: Nicely done. A real slice of the community.
Best Newspaper Promotion

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. over 5,000

First Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Karin Eberhardt, Discover Taos,
Judge’s comments: Loved the creativity and simplicity of the message. Very much got the point across. Nicely done.

Second Place

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Krystal Poppema, The Score - nwestiowa.com,
Judge’s comments: WOW - in your face, find the sports info. Impactful and creates need to keep in touch.

Third Place

The Journal-News, Hillsboro, IL
Mike Plunkett, Selma Junkoff,
Judge’s comments: Way to keep classifieds relevant. And the name "Selma Junkoff" - so creative. Well done.

Honorable Mention

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Mike Anderson, Introducing,
Judge’s comments: There were so many great options. but I love the space your paper dedicated to showcasing your products.
Best Newspaper Promotion

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place
The Highlands Current, Cold Spring, NY
Pierce Strudler, Christine Bockelmann, Kyle Good, Informed Inspired Involved,
Judge’s comments: Yes, an "inspired" call for membership with details and commentary from the staff that provides real news to and for the communities it serves. Graphically appealing, too. Hope a "reader" has the patience to wade through the text to capture the intent. The accompanying narrative on the challenges to Journalism's network to news media was especially appealing . . . to this Journalist.

Second Place
Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA
Anne Ray, Connie O’Neill, Got News? – Cow • More Than Just News – Superman,
Judge’s comments: Stunning, in-your-face graphic appeal! Single, simple message, and an accommodating subscription discount that should work. Hope it did!

Third Place
Stanton Register, Stanton, NE
Staff, Spreading The News,
Judge’s comments: Good series of appeals for subscribers to support not only the newspaper, but community resources as well. The "Community" full-page ad was dynamic!

Honorable Mention
Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI
Betsy Boulden, A Special Salute to the Military,
Judge’s comments: Focused purpose, invitation. Would have liked to see the results.
Best Series Ad Idea, Black & White

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place
- Archbold Buckeye, Archbold, OH
- Mary Huber, RTEC Communications Girl Named Tom series,
Judge’s comments: Love these ads!! (It helps that I LOVED this band on The Voice!) I like how they keep the reader informed each week of the band’s progress. Nice work!

Second Place
- News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY
- Amy Menerey, Short Stop,
Judge’s comments: Nice ads, covering different aspects of the Short Stop's business.

Third Place
- Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
- Zoe Cooper, Byron McConnell, Olivia Lewis, Al & Riley's Air Conditioning & Sheet Metal Inc.,
Judge’s comments: Nice ads, with a clear message.
Best Series Ad Idea, Color

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place
Stanton Register, Stanton, NE
Carrie Pitzer, Stanton State Bank - Don't Worry,
Judge’s comments: Love the photos used in these ads. The ads are simple -- not a lot of clutter -- but they tell a powerful message. The similar look to the ads helps keep this bank in people’s minds.

Second Place
Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY
Lisa Adelman, Matt Adelman, Alisha Carver, CC Health Department vaccination,
Judge’s comments: The local aspect of these ads really sets them apart. Very well done.

Third Place
Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA
Heather Solomon, Sarah, Mayumi Elegado, and Gen John, Pass It On,
Judge’s comments: Love the whimsy and fun of these ads!

Honorable Mention
The Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND
Cecile Wehrman, Tioga Medical Center,
Judge’s comments: These ads are nicely done, each telling a brief story about the hospital. Together, their message becomes powerful.
Metro Creative Graphic's Best Advertising Idea

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

First Place

Warwick Advertiser, Chester, NY
Terry Reilly and Straus News Staff, Wrapping Paper,
Judge’s comments: Fantastic, winning method for engaging readers....(especially YOUNG readers) to participate in this creative contest! Local sponsors on board...great result & a lively holiday multi-sponsor ad!

Second Place

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Mike Anderson, Local Newspapers,
Judge’s comments: This self-promo / subscription ad

POPS off the page of the LeeLanau Enterprise! Great typography and use of color make this ad a success!

Third Place

Lake Oswego Review, Lake Oswego, OR
Staff, Veteran Wall of Honor,
Judge’s comments: Pamplin Media Group's 'Veteran Wall of Honor' is a somber, well-designed keepsake section. Photo design background is very effective.
Metro Creative Graphic's Best Advertising Idea

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place

The Highlands Current, Cold Spring, NY
Teresa Lagerman, Ice Cream Parade,
Judge’s comments: An exciting, well-designed and apparently well-received concept! The Highland Current's Ice Cream Parade and Passport is a fantastic example of a fun, engaging contest/campaign - perfectly timed! Winner!

Second Place

Gazebo Gazette, Pass Christian, MS
Hunter Dawkins, High School Football Preview,
Judge’s comments: Dynamic, eye-catching cover and interior design makes this HS Football Preview from The Gazebo Gazette special. It's got staying power, as its schedules and profiles are meant to stick around! Great display ads throughout!

Third Place

Wright County Journal, Mountain Grove, MO
Ron Schott, Krystle Robertson, Hunting Marketplace,
Judge’s comments: This multi-advertiser Hunting Guide from the Wright County Journal highlights local deer hunting rules and displays a calendar on this nicely-designed page, complete with great display ads!
Best Single Ad Idea, Black & White

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

First Place
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Creative Dept., Advertising Dept., SinTrapper Ron,
Judge’s comments: Love, love, love this ad!! It can't be missed on the page, and although it's simple, it packs a punch! (Now, bring me that cute little rodent and I'll give it a good home!)

Second Place
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Karin Eberhardt, Paul Gutches, Randall Lumber,
Judge’s comments: Great use of the advertorial format to get a message out there in a way that feels more like a story and less like a hard sell ad.

Third Place
Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
Zoe Cooper, Dustin Neidig, Casa Grande Elementary School District,
Judge’s comments: Beautiful ad. The picture really draws attention.

Honorable Mention
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Karin Eberhardt, Paul Gutches, It Takes a Village,
Judge’s comments: Another effective advertorial piece. Well done, nicely written.
Best Single Ad Idea, Black & White

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place
  The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO
  Darci Rodriguez, MMH Cancer Walk,
  Judge’s comments: Information is broken up so nice and ad is easy to read.

Second Place
  Antelope County News, Neligh, NE
  Angelique Boyer, Out On A Limb,
  Judge’s comments: Using a pun as a headline and artwork makes this ad stand out from the others.

Third Place
  Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY
  Stacy Bronson, Crazy Days starts July 5,
  Judge’s comments: Art and text are neatly displayed.

Honorable Mention
  Archbold Buckeye, Archbold, OH
  Mary Huber, RTEC Communications Archbold Mural Word Search,
  Judge’s comments: Adding crossword to add makes it more interactive for the reader.
Best Single Ad Idea, Color

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

First Place
The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Krystal Poppema, Happily Ever After - Crossroads Pavilion,
Judge's comments: Very professional.

Second Place
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Mike Anderson, Great Lakes Homes,
Judge's comments: Makes me want to buy.

Third Place
Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
Wiley Acheson, Olivia Lewis, Giddens Tire Pros,
Judge's comments: Nice and clean look.

Honorable Mention
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Mike Anderson, Leland Lodge,
Judge's comments: I want to visit.
Best Single Ad Idea, Color

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place

Antelope County News, Neligh, NE
Angelique Boyer, Size Matters,
Judge’s comments: This is so creative! Love the entire thing. The boldness of the two colors. It's simple and straight to the point. The size difference between the people and the cord really goes hand in hand with the Size Matters message. Great job!

Second Place

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY
Amy Menerey, RPM Days,
Judge’s comments: This ad is great all around. I love the pop of color and it's very easy to read. Great job!

Third Place

Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY
Jana Cardew, Cassie Capellen, Skating on the Edge,
Judge’s comments: When you can incorporate a personal picture instead of a stock photo, that really brings such a great touch to an ad. Awesome job!

Honorable Mention

Gazebo Gazette, Pass Christian, MS
Hunter Dawkins, Grand Opening of Trinity Dog Park,
Judge’s comments: This would have been a great ad, but it looks a little stretched out height-wise.
Best Small-Page Ad

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

First Place
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Paul Gutches, Town of Taos,
Judge’s comments: This entry grabs your attention with good use of color and graphics.

Second Place
The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Mindy Schaefer, Get Hooked - Okoboji Gas Co,
Judge’s comments: Good use of art, good attention grabber.

Third Place
Lake Oswego Review, Lake Oswego, OR
J. Brian Monihan and Dwayne Stowell, Advertise in Pamplin PLAY,
Judge’s comments: I like this entry. It was fun and yet carried a powerful message.

Honorable Mention
The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Camille Visser, Hull Coop,
Judge’s comments: Nice design.
Best Small-Page Ad

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place
Antelope County News, Neligh, NE
Angelique Boyer, Get Basted,
Judge’s comments: This is by far my favorite! Love the play on words. And the layout of the turkey. SO funny!! Great job!

Second Place
The Highlands Current, Cold Spring, NY
Pierce Strudler, Pie Baking Contest,
Judge’s comments: I love a good cutout. And the font and boldness of the info were very nicely laid out. Awesome job!

Third Place
Archbold Buckeye, Archbold, OH
Mary Huber, Archbold Mural Merchandise,
Judge’s comments: The use of the actual pictures of the merchandise was a great touch. People will know exactly what they are buying. And the info right next to each one is very easy to understand. Great job!

Honorable Mention
News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY
Amy Menerey, Raffle,
Judge’s comments: Love the use of pictures and fonts!
Best Use of Ad Color

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place
Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY
Shannon Severude, Cassie Capellen, Let your imagination run wild,
Judge’s comments: This ad is fabulous! The colors are so saturated and vibrant, and the black and white background makes everything else really pop. Exceptional work!

Second Place
Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA
Sherrie Hamilton, Secret Garden Designs,
Judge’s comments: Soft, beautiful, serene. This ad is effective without being loud. Color can work even when subtle!

Third Place
Wright County Journal, Mountain Grove, MO
Ron Schott, Stockmens Bank The Sky’s the Limit,
Judge’s comments: Stunning ad that draws the eye. Love it!

Honorable Mention
Park Cities People, Dallas, TX
Park Cities People, Evelyn Wolff, Best Use of Ad Color - Jingle Bell Lighting - PCP,
Judge’s comments: Beautiful ad -- makes me ready for Christmas!
Best Use of Local Photography in Ads

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Paul Gutches, Get your Fun On,
Judge’s comments: Great shot, nice job keeping it simple.

Second Place

Lake Oswego Review, Lake Oswego, OR
J. Brian Monihan and Dwayne Stowell, Go Lakers - graduation ad,
Judge’s comments: Great layout and nice graduation shot, a lot of emotion.

Third Place

Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY
Stacy Bronson, Buffalo Wyoming,
Judge’s comments: Really nice ad, photo made everything come together nicely.

Honorable Mention

Stanton Register, Stanton, NE
Carrie Pitzer, Thank You For Your Service,
Judge’s comments: Very nice ad. Moving.
Best Advertorial or Sponsored Editorial

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Karin Eberhardt, Paul Gutches, Success Stories,
Judge’s comments: Wonderful storytelling.

Second Place

Lake Oswego Review, Lake Oswego, OR
J. Brian Monihan, Dwayne Stowell, Tab Howard, Luxe Christie’s - Vacation Where You Live,
Judge’s comments: Nice layout and photography

Third Place

Lake Oswego Review, Lake Oswego, OR
J. Brian Monihan and staff, Honoring Dee Denton,
Judge’s comments: A very lovely personal story.

Honorable Mention

The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI
Diane Everson, Sam Martino, Dave Wedeward, Ryder Cup Hometown Salute,
Judge’s comments: Impressive
Best Restaurant Ad

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. over 5,000

First Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Paul Gutches, Donabe,
Judge’s comments: These ads stood out as very appetizing.

Second Place

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Karin Eberhardt, Gorge Bar and Parcht Restaurants,
Judge’s comments: Very simple and appealing.

Third Place

Photo News, Chester, NY
Christina Scotti, Mohawk House Steak Time,
Judge’s comments: Nice bold layouts.

Honorable Mention

The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Camille Visser, Delicious - The Lunch House,
Judge’s comments: Very nice clean layout
Best Restaurant Ad

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ., less than 5,000

First Place

Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY
Stacy Bronson, Bozeman Trail Steakhouse,
Judge’s comments: I loved the feel of your ads. Simple but I knew right off the bat what the holiday was. Great job!

Second Place

The Highlands Current, Cold Spring, NY
Pierce Strudler, Riverview Restaurant Holiday Meals,
Judge’s comments: Very clean and well done.

Third Place

Antelope County News, Neligh, NE
Angelique Boyer, Christmas Coffee,
Judge’s comments: Love the graphic used for the coffee steam turning into a tree. I only saw one example though.
Best Real Estate Ad

Daily & Non-daily Division

First Place
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Paul Gutches, Top Dogs in Real Estate, 
Judge’s comments: Holy Batman! This is the top dog of real estate advertising. Clever, consistent and charming. The ads make me want to see what you have available. Well done!

Second Place
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Jason Plowman, Featured Realtor, 
Judge’s comments: Bright, colorful, and effective. I like the simplicity of "get to know the realtor." Adding that human interest element adds to the effectiveness of this. Great work.

Third Place
The Taos News, Taos, NM
Paul Gutches, True Northern New Mexico, 
Judge’s comments: Beautiful photo on the first page of this spread. On the second side, the small outdoor photo distracts from the rest of this ad. Excellent writing to describe the property. For me, the difference between this and the top two is I don’t feel a personal touch or connection. Otherwise, the concept of the ad is great.

Honorable Mention
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Jason Plowman, Rodney Brush, 
Judge’s comments: The photo of the lake grabbed my attention right away ... Like the white text. It doesn't overwhelm or distract from the photography. A simple list of "what I can do for you" works.
Best Holiday Ad

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. over 5,000

First Place
The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL
Jay Dickerson, Blaum Bros.,
Judge’s comments: This is absolutely brillant! Great twist on a classic ad campaign

Second Place
Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Jason Plowman, Letter to Santa,
Judge’s comments: We absolutely loved this twist on classic letter to the editor

Third Place
Casa Grande Dispatch, Casa Grande, AZ
Staff, Casa Grande Dispatch Holiday ads,
Judge’s comments: We liked the greeting card design of these ads, very well balanced nice clean design

Honorable Mention
The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA
Mindy Schaefer, Make the Howliday Memorable - The Dog House,
Judge’s comments: This was cute, the judges all smiled when they saw this ad...Very Cute
Best Holiday Ad

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

First Place

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY
Amy Menerey, Pinnacle, WCSD Thanksgiving,
Judge’s comments: Ads are eyecatching

Second Place

The Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND
Cecile Wehrman, Tribune Subscriptions,
Judge’s comments: Great way to promote subscriptions as gifts.

Third Place

Wright County Journal, Mountain Grove, MO
Ron Schott, Best Holiday Ad (Veterans Day),
Judge’s comments: Great way to honor our nation's heroes.

Honorable Mention

Gazebo Gazette, Pass Christian, MS
Hunter Dawkins, 12/24/2021,
Judge’s comments: Each ad is colorful & different.