



2022 OKSPJ Awards banquet

October 15, 2022

Lawton, Okla.

A word from the president...

Hello and welcome to the Society of Professional Journalists Oklahoma Pro Chapter's annual awards banquet. We are happy that you have joined us to honor some of the state's best journalists and to celebrate the dedication and skill it takes to be in this business in today's world.

It's been more than two years since we have been able to come together in person and we are thrilled to be able to do so tonight. We would not be able to host such an occasion without the support of our wonderful partners and sponsors - The Apache Casino and Hotel, Hillary Communications and the Lawton Chamber of Commerce.

You may have noticed we are shaking things up a little bit this year by offering some breakout sessions designed to encourage conversation and help boost your career and skills. We hope you were able to take part in these breakout workshops and panel discussions.

Again, we welcome you to the SPJ annual banquet! Congratulations to all the winners and journalists who entered.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heide Brandes". The script is fluid and cursive, with a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters.

Heide Brandes

2022 Oklahoma SPJ President

2022 Carter Bradley First Amendment Award

The independent student news outlet of the University of Oklahoma since 1916, the staff of **OU Daily** are the 2022 Carter Bradley First Amendment Award recipients.

Along with the more publicized efforts to monitor the football team's brewing quarterback controversy via the journalism school windows near the practice field, the staff spent 2021 finding ways to hold community and campus officials accountable.

In February, the staff broke down data from the Norman Police Department that showed on a per capita basis, the city's Black residents were three times more likely than their white neighbors to be contacted, arrested or have force used against them by the police.

In October, the staff published a magazine-length feature that was distributed to every mailbox on campus, examining how university handles records requests, including the response times in comparison to other universities and resources available to to the school's records office.

2022 Teacher of the Year

The head of the mass communication program at Rose State College in Midwest City, **Darcy Delaney-Nelson** built her department from scratch.

As mass communication program head, she teaches Introduction to Mass Media, Media Writing, News Reporting, Mass Communication Participation, Mass Communication Capstone, Mass Communication Internship and Desktop Publishing courses at Rose State.

She also advises the student publications “The 15th Street News and “6420 magazine.” Under her leadership, the 6420 released its first edition in Spring 2018. The magazine provides the community with a local, in-depth look at news events and entertainment that affect the campus. The campus newspaper is strongly student-centered from consideration to production and reporting of campus news as a diverse news voice of Rose State College.

Delaney-Nelson earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in journalism and mass communication and a minor in sociology from the University of Oklahoma. While attending the University of Oklahoma, she was a working news writer at The Sun newspaper in Midwest City for three years producing News editorial content, which included news and feature articles, obituaries, photos and Web content.

Delaney-Nelson completed the master’s program at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication in 2010. While at OU, she served as graduate assistant for Visiting Professor Warren Vieth, as well as Dr. Julie Jones and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist John Schmeltzer for various mass communication courses.

2022 Frank Greer Lifetime Achievement Award

An enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and of Cherokee heritage, Gary D. Fife with almost 50 years of experience in print, radio and television.

Currently with the Okmulgee-based Mvskoke Media, he has specialized in national Indigenous and governmental affairs, including spending more than a decade reporting from Washington D.C.

After attending Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and an affiliate campus of Missouri's Westminster College, Fife moved to Alaska in the 1970s for the prospect of founding an Indigenous-focused radio program. That program became the first Native weekday radio news service, "National Native News." At its peak, the program was carried on 181 public radio stations, across the country. During Fife's tenure, the service won eight national awards in its first seven years.

"National Native News" began national carriage with National Public Radio and was later switched to American Public Radio.

Through the course of his career, Fife has numerous awards in national and state press competitions, three legislative citations from the State of Alaska and the Governor's Community Service Medal. In 1978, he was the first Native American recipient of a Ford Fellowship in educational journalism. He has held an internship as a guest editor on the national desk of NPR.

Along with a regular column in Mvskoke Media's newspaper, Fife hosts a weekly radio show.

Public Relations

Newsletter

First Place

Lindsay Thomas, Adam Cohen, Jenny Lee, Kate Miller, Tony Thornton.

OMRF

"Bunsen Burner."

Second Place

Kelli Broderson & Chase Harvick

TSET

"TSET Health Communication Update"

Third Place

PriceLang

"RainbowFleet Newsletter"

Promotional Material

First Place

Sjonna Paulson, Kelli Brodersen, Chase Harvick, Sarah Powers, Lindsey Funk

TSET

"Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline: Chase's Testimonial"

Second Place

PriceLang

"Girl Scout Cookie Manual"

Third Place

PriceLang

"SFFLC I Can Video"

Public Relations

Annual Report

First Place

Lindsay Thomas, Adam Cohen, Jenny Lee

OMRF

“2020 OMRF Annual Report”

Second Place

PriceLang

“OSPR Annual Report FY20”

Press Release Writing

First Place

Tony Thornton & Lindsay Thomas

OMRF

“Supply shortages strike OMRF researchers”

Second Place

April Wilkerson

OU College of Medicine

“OU Wastewater Surveillance Team to Monitor Long-Term for Foodborne Pathogens”

Third Place

PriceLang

“GSWESTOK Cookie Contraption”

Public Relations

General Writing

First Place

David W. Levy

Oklahoma Humanities Magazine

“Breaking Down Barriers”

Second Place

April Wilkerson

OU College of Medicine

“Educator Becomes the Patient”

Third Place

Lindsay Thomas & Shari Hawkins

OMRF

“In Her Blood”

PR Publication Cover

First Place

Lindsay Thomas, Michael Byers, Jenny Lee

OMRF

“2020 OMRF Annual Report”

Second Place

Anne Richardson

Oklahoma Humanities Magazine

“Spring/Summer 2021 HOPE”

Public Relations

Best PR Publication

First Place

Lindsay Thomas, Adam Cohen, Jenny Lee, Shari Hawkins, Ryan Stewart

OMRF

“Findings Magazine Winter/Spring 2021”

Second Place

PriceLang

“Girl Scout Cookie Manual”

Third Place

Adam Cohen, Jenny Lee, Lindsay Thomas

OMRF

“Findings Magazine Summer/Fall 2021”

Radio

General News

First Place

Quinton Chandler

StateImpact Oklahoma

“Federal prisoners complain a private prison in Oklahoma isn’t following COVID-19 safety guidelines”

Second Place

Robby Korth & Nuria Martinez Keel

StateImpact Oklahoma

“Politics dial up intensity at Oklahoma school board meetings”

Third Place

Katelyn Howard

KGOU

“Enthusiasm For Oklahoma’s Medical Marijuana Boom Tempered By Concerns Of A Bust”

Feature

First Place

Robby Korth

StateImpact Oklahoma

“Oklahoma's cafeterias have been hit hard by the coronavirus”

Second Place

Seth Bodine

KOSU

“Mail-Order Chickens Usually Arrive In 3 Days, But Extreme Weather Derails Deliveries”

Third Place

Katelyn Howard

KGOU

“Oklahoma’s Little Israel: ‘Holy City’ Holds 96th Annual Easter Pageant”

Radio

Investigative & Enterprise Reporting

First Place

Allison Herrera

KOSU

“When Police Shoot Tribal Citizens On Muscogee Nation Land, Families Ask 'Who's Held Accountable?’”

Second Place

Seth Bodine

KOSU

“As marijuana industry in Oklahoma booms, rural utilities feel growing pains”

Third Place

Catherine Sweeney

StateImpact Oklahoma

“Oklahoma City’s arts scene is growing, but rising rents and COVID fallout are squeezing its artists”

Government & Criminal Justice Reporting

First Place

Allison Herrera

KOSU

“Lighthorse Police Accept New Challenges, New Responsibilities With Expanded Jurisdiction”

Second Place

Allison Herrera

KOSU

“Quapaw Citizens Demand Transparency, Honesty With New and Past Administration”

Third Place

Ryan Gaylor

KGOU

“Exclusive: Oklahoma Senator James Lankford On Infrastructure”

Radio

Election Reporting

First Place

Dick Pryor & Shawn Ashley

KGOU

“Capitol Insider: Previewing The 2022 Oklahoma Election Climate”

Diversity Reporting

First Place

Allison Herrera

KOSU

“‘We're not going anywhere’: Choctaw Freedmen cite history, ties to Tribal Nation in fight for citizenship”

Second Place

Seth Bodine

KOSU

“After Decades Of Discrimination, Lawmakers Propose Justice For Black Farmers”

Third Place

Katelyn Howard

KGOU

“‘Fire in Little Africa’ Album Commemorates 100th Anniversary of Tulsa Race Massacre”

Radio

Special program/Interview/Talk Show

First Place

Black Oklahoma staff

KOSU

“The Battle for Greenwood”

Second Place

Matthew Viriyapah

KOSU

“Fire in Little Africa:’ A Radio Special”

Third Place

Michael Cross, Neva Hill & Ryan Kiesel

KOSU

“This Week in Politics”

Television

General News Reporting

First Place

Daniela Ibarra & Andrejs Dabars

KTUL

“A Moment of Relief”

Second Place

Marisa Wojtalewicz & Sharon Phillips

KJRH

“The Impact of Oklahoma’s 1st COVID Death”

Third Place

Burt Mummolo & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Porch Pirates Confronted”

Spot News Reporting

First Place

Burt Mummalo & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Good Samaritan Saves the Day”

Special Program/Documentary/Live Broadcast

First Place

Marc Dillard and the 4Warn Storm Team

KFOR

“Oklahoma’s Wicked Weather: A 4 Warn Team Special Presentation”

Television

Feature Reporting

First Place

Karen Larsen & Drew Barker

KJRH

“Reed Foundation Reopens Ben Hill Center”

Second Place

Burt Mummolo & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Math Teacher Goes Viral”

Third Place

Marisa Wojtalewicz & Sharon Phillips

KJRH

“Tulsa Super Mom”

Investigative & In-Depth Enterprise Reporting

First Place

Daniela Ibarra

KTUL

“A Lethal Legal Loophole”

Sports Reporting

First Place

Chris DiMaria & Marisa Wojtalewicz

KJRH

“Angel in the Ambulance”

Television

Consumer Reporting

First Place

Burt Mummolo, Andrew Braiser & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Online Car Buying Nightmare”

Health Reporting

First Place

Burt Mummalo, Maureen McClendon & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Mom Gets Her First Covid Shot”

Diversity Coverage

First Place

Drew Barker, Vincent Hill, Mike Brooks, Amanda Engel and staff

KJRH

“Tulsa Race Massacre 100 Years Later”

Second Place

Burt Mummolo & Gage Kinzer

KTUL

“Afghan Refugees Welcomed to Tulsa”

Television

Video Editing

First Place

Marisa Wojtalewicz & Sharon Phillips

KJRH

“Ransomware Investigation City”

Best Newscast

First Place

Staff

KJRH

“Tragedy in Muskogee”

Second Place

Staff

KJRH

“Clemency for Julius Jones”

Online

Writing

First Place

Kayla Branch

The Frontier

“Budget cuts have reduced access to social services in some of Oklahoma’s poorest communities”

Second Place

Kayla Branch

The Frontier

“Five years after voters approved landmark criminal justice reforms, counties are still waiting for mental health funding”

Third Place

Megan Prather

NonDoc Media

“‘Incestuous culture’: Mannix Barnes, Robert Everman connected far beyond Western Heights”

Online

Breaking News Reporting

First Place

Francesca Iacovacci, Paul Dower, Annie Bragg, Josh Eliot, Jessica Vanek

The Campus

"Methodist Hall flooded from pipe burst / Cold storm coverage"

Second Place

Caitlin Huggins, Emily Farris, Ryan Love

KJRH

"Julius Jones' death sentence commuted"

Third Place

Blake Douglas

OU Daily

"It came out because our prayers were real": How Julius Jones' life was spared, 7,154 days after conviction, hours before execution, minutes after deer emerged"

Election Reporting

First Place

Joe Tomlinson & Matt Patterson

NonDoc Media

"Coverage of the 2021 tribal electoral cycle in Oklahoma"

Second Place

Caitlin Huggins, Emily Farris, Ryan Love

NonDoc Media

"2021 Edmond mayoral election"

Online

Special Report/Enterprise Reporting

First Place

Beth Wallis, Blake Douglas, Jillian Taylor, Ari Fife, Donna Edwards

OU Daily

“Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial”

Second Place

Matt Patterson

NonDoc Media

“The Troubled Oklahoma County Jail”

Third Place

Dylan Goforth

The Frontier

Execution Coverage

Column Writing

First Place

Tres Savage

NonDoc Media

“Faces and heels: WWE metaphors, doppelgängers for the 2021 Oklahoma legislature”

Second Place

Tatyana Nyborg

TCC Connection

“Poor services of Expedia and airlines make travelers suffer”

Third Place

Ruby Hansen Murray

Osage News

“Generational Memory”

Online

Multimedia/Podcast

First Place

Beth Wallis & Donna Edwards

OU Daily

“Destination: Greenwood”

Second Place

Tres Savage, Andrea DenHoed, Angela Jones NonDoc Media

“Live from the News Dungeon”

Third Place

Tim Landes & Morgan Phillips

Tulsa People

“Tulsa Talks: A Tulsa People Podcast”

Video Journalism

First Place

Addison Kliever

The Oklahoman

“Julius Jones’ Path to Clemency”

Second Place

Mark Dreadfulwater

Cherokee Phoenix

“First Americans Museum in Oklahoma City Opens”

Third Place

Stacie Boston

Cherokee Phoenix

“Washee-Gutierrez continues generational beading passion”

Online

Slideshow

First Place

Mackenzie Shaw

The Campus

“Gallery: How to tie-dye”

Second Place

Stephen Jackson

The Campus

“Gallery: Closer than Ever”

Interactive Graphic or Resource

First Place

Clifton Adcock

The Frontier

“McGirt v. Oklahoma”

Second Place

Robby Korth, Logan Layden, Catherine Sweeney

StateImpact Oklahoma

“As a new school year starts, StateImpact is tracking COVID-19’s impact”

Online

Web Design

First Place

Caitlin Huggins, Emily Farris, Ryan Love

KJRH

“Race Massacre Centennial”

Second Place

Paul Dower, Des Barrett, Blake Uhlig, Anna Schmidt, Stephen Jackson

The Campus

Community Engagement

First Place

Kateleigh Mills

KOSU

“Your guide to COVID-19 vaccine information”

Second Place

Ryan LaCroix & Kateleigh Mills

KOSU

“Here’s where you can get tested for COVID-19”

Third Place

Blake Douglas, Jordan Hayden, Jillian Taylor

OU Daily

“OUDaily Curious Tip Form”

Online

Sports Photography

First Place

Trey Young
OU Daily
“Game Day”

Second Place

Ray Bahner
OU Daily
“Sooners Celebrate”

Third Place

Rick Endicott
The Chronicle
“The boys and girls of summer”

General Photography

First Place

Kyletta Ray
The Chronicle
“Drone over Dolese quarry”

Second Place

Garret Fisbeck
Hownikan
“Balloonfest”

Third Place

Curtis Awbrey
Southwest Ledger
“Ribbing PETA with a ribeye”

Online

Breaking/Spot News Photography

First Place

Trey Young
OU Daily
“Venables Arrives”

Second Place

Carl Lewis
The Chronicle
“Fletcher ACO Charged, Fired”

Third Place

Carl Lewis
The Chronicle
“Carport Found in Tree”

Best Website

First Place

The Frontier

Second Place

Caitlin Huggins, Emily Farris, Ryan Love
KJRH

Third Place

Jordan Miller, Jillian Taylor, Blake Douglas
OUDaily.com

Magazine

Feature Writing

First Place

Greg Elwell

Oklahoma Today

“The Bartian Chronicles”

Second Place

Jezy Gray

Curbside Chronicle

“Reservation Dogs”

Third Place

Adam Kemp

Curbside Chronicle

“Quiet Place”

News Writing

First Place

Jezy Gray

Curbside Chronicle

“Snap Judgment”

Second Place

Blayklee Freed

Tulsa People

“Delivering Solutions”

Third Place

George Lang

Curbside Chronicle

“Code Talk”

Magazine

Column Writing

First Place

Connie Cronley
Tulsa People
“September 2021”

Second Place

Connie Cronley
Tulsa People
“November 2021”

Third Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle
“Tastes Like Home”

Profile

First Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle
“Farewell Flower Man”

Second Place

Karlie Ybarra
Oklahoma Today
“Fiery Fighter”

Third Place

Gail Banzet-Ellis
Tulsa People
“Born in the storm”

Magazine

Reader Service

First Place

Nathan Poppe, Sydni Nasada, Scott Hill
Curbside Chronicle
“Curbside Voter Guide”

Second Place

Staff
Oklahoma Today
“Brain Waves”

Third Place

Natalie Mikles
Tulsa People
“Burger Town”

Photo Story/Essay

First Place

Blayklee Freed, Tim Landes, Jim Langdon, Morgan Phillips, Michelle Pollard
Tulsa People
“Commemorating community”

Second Place

Staff
Oklahoma Today
“The Great Escape”

Third Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle
“Not Your Average Joe”

Magazine

General Photography

First Place

Stephen Visneau
ArtDesk Magazine
“Lone Star”

Second Place

Shevaun Williams
ArtDesk Magazine
“Jamee and Robin Suarez”

Third Place

Michelle Pollard
Tulsa People
“The High Note”

Page Design

First Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle
“Farewell Flower Man”

Second Place

Steven Walker, Louise McCune, Alana Ruiz de la Pena
ArtDesk Magazine
“Light On: Bending Space and Time with James Turrell”

Third Place

Steven Walker, Louise McCune, Alana Ruiz de la Pena
ArtDesk Magazine
“Lone Star”

Magazine

Illustration/Graphic

First Place

Maisie Cross
Curbside Chronicle
“Songs We Love”

Second Place

Neka Schultz
Curbside Chronicle
“Musical Blur of Time”

Best Cover

First Place

Louisa McCune & Steven Walker
ArtDesk Magazine
Issue No. 25

Second Place

Neka Schultz
Curbside Chronicle
“Books That Matter”

Third Place

Georgia Brooks & Michelle Pollard
Tulsa People
“August 2021 cover”

Magazine

Best Magazine

First Place

Oklahoma Today

Second Place

Curbside Chronicle

Third Place

Tulsa People

Newspaper B

In-depth Enterprise & Investigative Reporting

First Place

Blake Douglas

OU Daily

“OU open records access anything but 'prompt, reasonable' due to systemic flaws, vagaries of state law”

Second Place

Derrick James

McAlester News-Capital

“Records: Quinton settles with former police chief”

Government Reporting

First Place

Jillian Taylor

OU Daily

“How a seldom enforced capacity limit left residents locked out of contentious Norman City Council budget meeting”

Second Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Tim Gatz paid more than every elected state official”

Third Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Unemployment fraud perhaps \$500M”

Newspaper B

Election Reporting

First Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Election board chief rejects pleas for audit of 2020 general election”

Second Place

Eric Swanson

Southwest Ledger

“Lahmeyer fails to answer claims his campaign broke rules”

Spot News

First Place

Randy Mitchell

Southwest Ledger

“Former Tillman County deputy arrested, charged”

Second Place

Sharon Bishop-Baldwin

Sand Springs Leader

“4 found dead inside Sand Springs residence in apparent triple murder-suicide”

Third Place

Curtis Awbrey

The Chronicle

“Multiple crews battle blaze; one injured”

Newspaper B

Feature Writing

First Place

Jillian Taylor
OU Daily

“Does God hate? 2SLGBTQ+ individuals seek affirmation, face religious condemnation”

Second Place

Tim Farley
The Chronicle

“A hotdog stand with movies on the side’: Carnegie’s Liberty Theater has been thrilling moviegoers since 1915”

Third Place

James Beaty
McAlester News-Capital

“Remembering the life, legacy of McAlester’s Brown”

Personal Column

First Place

Cheyenne Belew
The Chronicle

“Raising Arrows: Parenting Through Pain”

Second Place

James Finick
Southwest Ledger
“2020: A Year of Years”

Third Place

Debi DeSilver
The Chronicle

“Oklahoma Trails and Tales: Whales in Oklahoma — well, sort of”

Newspaper B

Editorial/Commentary

First Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Legislators Should Take the Civics Test, Too”

Second Place

Editorial Board

Southwest Ledger

“Hotel tax funds should be in the hands of the people, not a potentate”

Third Place

Caroline Sparks

OU Daily

“An open letter to Gaylord College: Recruitment work must be paid work”

General News Reporting

First Place

Tim Farley

Southwest Ledger

“Rural ambulance services struggle to meet demand”

Second Place

Adrian O’Hanlon III

McAlester News-Capital

“Man vomited in execution”

Third Place

Eric Swanson

The Chronicle

“Fletcher boy who lost father while quarantined now has lasting bond with area first responders”

Newspaper B

Criminal Justice Reporting

First Place

Derrick James
McAlester News-Capital
“McGirt Implications”

Second Place

Mike Ray
Southwest Ledger
“Indigent Defense to set up office in Lawton”

Third Place

Sharon Bishop-Baldwin
Sand Springs Leader
“No mercy’: Sand Springs store owner recovering after assault, robbery”

Diversity Reporting

First Place

Tim Farley
Southwest Ledger
“Lawton’s first Black firefighter looks back on his hiring”

Second Place

Sharon Bishop-Baldwin
Sand Springs Leader
“Pre-K teacher imparts 'the ways of our ancestors' for Native American Heritage Month”

Third Place

Blake Douglas
OU Daily
“BERT sit-in one year later: What has changed at OU?”

Newspaper B

Education Reporting

First Place

Ashlynd Huffman

Stillwater NewsPress

“Homeless youth defies odds”

Second Place

Ari Fife

OU Daily

“Where Title IX ends and gray begins: OU case illustrates how federal guidelines limit screening, handling of previously accused employees”

Third Place

Shannon Shaw Duty

Osage News

“Herman ‘Mogri’ Lookout to receive honorary doctorate degree from Kansas State University”

Science, Tech, Health & Environmental Reporting

First Place

Andrew Griffin

Southwest Ledger

“Drones help Doles monitor inventory”

Second Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Hundreds of impermissible discharges from WWTP result in DEQ sanctions”

Third Place

Tim Farley

Southwest Ledger

“Measure for equal pay for telehealth to reach Stitt’s desk”

Newspaper B

Business Reporting

First Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Cannabis tops alcohol in Oklahoma in 2020”

Second Place

Mike Ray

Southwest Ledger

“Requiring worker vaccinations could cost employers \$1M”

Third Place

Curtis Awbrey

The Chronicle

“Elgin’s Pizza Corral celebrates three years of fun, food and community”

Entertainment, Arts & Leisure Reporting

First Place

James Beaty

McAlester News-Capital

“Parker Millsap: Dancing Rabbit’s going to be a blast”

Second Place

Tim Farley

Southwest Ledger

“Staying Golden: A visit to The Outsiders House Museum”

Third Place

Tim Farley

Southwest Ledger

“Good old-fashioned food coming to another state park”

Newspaper B

Sports Reporting

First Place

Derek Hatridge

McAlester News-Capital

“Caity Clark kicks her way to McAlester history”

Second Place

Derek Hatridge

McAlester News-Capital

“Children’s game becomes a winning tradition at Eastern”

Third Place

Mason Young & Austin Curtright

OU Daily

“OU Football: Caleb Williams takes majority of snaps with first team, Spencer Rattler still committed to team, father says”

Newspaper B

Sports Feature

First Place

Austin Curtright

OU Daily

“We never get football players in accounting’: As senior day nears, Pat Fields has aced every test, from captain of Sooners to advanced degrees”

Second Place

Debi DeSilver

The Chronicle

“Conducting her own story: Symphony Veloz excels on the wrestling mat”

Third Place

Mason Young

OU Daily

“Football, futures and finding one’s self: How Oklahoma shaped Mykel Jones beyond the hurricane-moved Tulane game he’ll miss”

General Photography

First Place

Derrick James

McAlester News-Capital

“Family members of Julius Jones embrace outside Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester following Gov. Kevin Stitt’s commutation of his death sentence”

Second Place

Adrian O’Hanlon III

McAlester News-Capital

“Media Members gather to report on Oklahoma’s first execution since 2015. Witnesses say John Marion Grant convulsed and vomited on himself during his death by lethal injection Thursday at Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester”

Newspaper B

Sports Photography

First Place

Brian Blansett
Lincoln County News
“A Thriller”

Second Place

Rick Endicott
The Chronicle

“DOWN and DIRTY: Elgin’s Kolby Henry slides in safely against Fort Cobb”

Story/photo essay

First Place

Brian Blansett & Mario Holland
Lincoln County News
“Football scrimmages”

Second Place

Rick Endicott
The Chronicle
“28th Annual Devil Dog Run”

Third Place

Brian Blansett & Rick Hester
Lincoln County News
“The Week in Photos”

Newspaper B

Spot News Photography

First Place

JJ Francais

The Chronicle

“Large grass fire draws multi-agency response”

Second Place

Joshua Small

Johnston County Sentinel

“It’s Cold!!!”

Page 1 Layout & Design

First Place

Dawnyal Hill

McAlester News-Capital

“Greenwood: A Century Later”

Second Place

Dawnyal Hill

McAlester News-Capital

“COMMUTED: Stitt commutes Jones’ sentence”

Third Place

Sherry Stinson

Osage News

“Thank you Wahzhazhe Health Center”

Newspaper B

Feature Page Layout & Design

First Place

Dawnyal Hill

McAlester News-Capital

“2021: STATE RUNNERS UP”

Second Place

Bryan Richter

The Chronicle

“Raising Arrows: The constant of change”

Third Place

Southwest Ledger

“Lawmakers OK tentative redistricting maps”

Use of Graphic Illustration

First Place

Beth Wallis, Megan Foisy, Rachel Lobaugh

OU Daily

“100 Years”

Second Place

Bryan Richter

The Chronicle

“Spooky Halloween Nameplate”

Third Place

Mike Ray & Bryan Richter

Southwest Ledger

“Brady, Belichick ‘greatest of all time’”

Newspaper B

Best Newspaper

First Place

Osage News
Pawhuska, Okla.

Second Place

OU Daily
Norman, Okla.

Newspaper A

In-depth Enterprise & Investigative Reporting

First Place

Trevor Brown

Oklahoma Watch

“As Some Oklahoma Churches Push Vaccines, Others Sow Misinformation, Doubt”

Second Place

Whitney Bryen

Oklahoma Watch

“‘God, Please Keep Us Safe’: Amid COVID, an Oklahoma Nursing Home Faces Impossible Decisions”

Third Place

Cheryl Bacon

Christian Chronicle

“After struggling for years, OVU forced to close”

Government Reporting

First Place

Trevor Brown

Oklahoma Watch

“No Comment: In Oklahoma’s Legislature, Public Rarely Given Chance to Weigh In”

Second Place

Kenneth Pybus & Bobby Ross Jr.

Christian Chronicle

“Could the U.S. Supreme Court soon overturn Roe v. Wade?”

Third Place

Paul Monies

Oklahoma Watch

“Oklahoma Driver’s License System in Disarray, Still”

Newspaper A

Election Reporting

First Place

Bobby Ross Jr, Hamil Harris, Cheryl Mann Bacon
Christian Chronicle
“Flags, Faith and Fury”

Second Place

Chad Hunter
Cherokee Phoenix
“Election Commission tosses, fines Slover for election contribution”

Third Place

Bennett Brinkman & Libbey Dean
Gaylord News
“Oklahoma represented on Inauguration stage”

Spot News Reporting

First Place

Bobby Ross Jr.
Christian Chronicle
“Christians offer physical, spiritual help after historic flooding”

Second Place

Dale Denwalt
The Oklahoman
“Oklahoma County jail inmate shot, killed after hostage situation”

Third Place

Molly Young
The Oklahoman
“Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt's forum on McGirt ruling turns contentious in Tulsa”

Newspaper A

Feature Writing

First Place

Stacie Boston

Cherokee Phoenix

“Foreman father, son made names for themselves”

Second Place

Ed Godfrey

The Oklahoman

“OKC burn victim forgives man who killed her mother 26 years ago”

Third Place

Cheryl Bacon

Christian Chronicle

“Racial barriers broken as Christians mourn three family members killed in Alabama tornado”

Personal Column

First Place

Adam Cohen

The Oklahoman

“The end of one man’s journey on his own terms”

Second Place

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Tulsa World

“Tribal flags at Tulsa Public Schools huge in the grand scheme of things”

Third Place

Cheryl Bacon

Christian Chronicle

“A Sunday morning miracle: Cinderella ACU earns glass slipper just after midnight”

Newspaper A

Editorial/Commentary

First Place

Shannon Shaw Duty

Indian Country Today

“We are part of the culture. We will not be erased”

Second Place

Shannon Shaw Duty

Tulsa World

“Osage Nation citizens seeking peace, respect for ancestors going into next year”

Third Place

Shannon Shaw Duty

Washington Post

“My Osage tribe is swimming in vaccines — but the people won’t take them”

General News Reporting

First Place

Carmen Forman

The Oklahoman

“Does the Oklahoma Legislature consider the constitutionality of legislation?”

Second Place

Nuria Martinez-Keel & Josh Dulaney

The Oklahoman

“Ninnekah Schools Abuse Scandal”

Third Place

Sheila Stogsdill

Tulsa World

“An Oklahoma love story: Afghanistan refugee reuniting with her Army veteran husband in Grand Lake”

Newspaper A

Criminal Justice Reporting

First Place

Keaton Ross

Oklahoma Watch

“They Don’t Vote, But They Do Count: How the Incarcerated Skew Political Representation in Oklahoma”

Second Place

Jana Hayes & Jessie Smith

The Oklahoman

“An ancestral fight: Tribal members condemn death penalty following Jones' clemency”

Third Place

Chad Hunter

Cherokee Phoenix

“The most important case ‘in generations’”

Diversity Reporting

First Place

Randy Krehbiel

Tulsa World

“Through a century of hard work and heartbreak, the spirit of Greenwood labors on”

Second Place

Paige Willett

Hownikan

“Physical copy of foundational document kept from Citizen Potawatomi Nation”

Third Place

Lionel Ramos & Trevor Brown

Oklahoma Watch

“Redistricting: Weighing the Impact of Splitting Oklahoma’s Largest Hispanic Community”

Newspaper A

Education Reporting

First Place

Whitney Bryen

Oklahoma Watch

“How Rural School Counselors Confront Life in a ‘Mental Health’ Desert”

Second Place

Nuria Martinez-Keel

The Oklahoman

“A Conspiracy of Silence: The Tulsa Race Massacre”

Third Place

Jennifer Palmer

Oklahoma Watch

“How Schools’ Efforts to Collect Community Input on Spending Federal Dollars Fall Short”

Science, Tech, Health & Environmental Reporting

First Place

Audrey Johnson & Erik Tryggestad

Christian Chronicle

“How faith plays a role in Honduras’ fight against COVID-19”

Second Place

Whitney Bryen

Oklahoma Watch

“‘God, Please Keep Us Safe’: Amid COVID, an Oklahoma Nursing Home Faces Impossible Decisions”

Third Place

Trevor Brown

Oklahoma Watch

“Oklahoma Doctors, Tired But Not Deterred, Push to Get Patients Vaccinated”

Newspaper A

Business Reporting

First Place

Kaitlyn Deggs

Gaylord News

“Tribes’ economic impact increases as COVID relief anticipated”

Second Place

Molly Young

The Oklahoman

“More Oklahoma tribes are looking beyond state borders to expand gaming footprint”

Third Place

Richard Mize

The Oklahoman

“Out-of-state investors are gobbling up Oklahoma housing supply, driving up prices locally”

Entertainment, Arts & Leisure Reporting

First Place

Jana Hayes

The Oklahoman

“They’re our friends and our relatives: Objects from Oklahoma tribes return in exhibit”

Second Place

Lindsey Bark

Cherokee Phoenix

“Standingcloud is Inkjunkys newest tattoo artist”

Third Place

Brandy McDonnell

The Oklahoman

“Oklahoma film industry scores big gains despite COVID pandemic”

Newspaper A

Sports Reporting

First Place

Robert Viamontes

Gaylord News

“Former OU gymnast testifies: USA gymnastics and the FBI betrayed me”

Second Place

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton

Tulsa World

“TPS Indian Education Parent Committee parents petition for school mascot changes”

Sports Feature

First Place

Bobby Ross Jr.

Christian Chronicle

“All in the family: baseball and Jesus”

Newspaper A

General Photography

First Place

Bryan Terry
The Oklahoman
“Julius Jones Clemency”

Second Place

Bryan Terry
The Oklahoman
“Cruisin”

Sports Photography

First Place

Bryan Terry
The Oklahoman
“Perfect”

Second Place

Bryan Terry
The Oklahoman
“Ouch”

Newspaper A

Spot News Photography

Second Place

Garret Fisbeck

Hownikan

“Barrett’s Tenth Term”

Third Place

Garret Fisbeck

Hownikan

“Shawnee Aligned”

Feature Page Layout & Design

First Place

Trey DeLonais

Hownikan

“2021 marks 43 years since the passage of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act”

Headlines

First Place

Felicia Murray

The Oklahoman

Newspaper A

Use of Graphic Illustration

First Place

Todd Pendleton & Mason Callejas

The Oklahoman

“Dodging bullets’ and coming home to nothing left: An illustrated history of the Tulsa Race Massacre”

Second Place

Trey DeLonais

Hownikan

“Traditional star knowledge provides connections to Potawatomi heritage and culture”

Best Newspaper

First Place

Cherokee Phoenix

Tahlequah, Okla.

Second Place

Hownikan

Shawnee, Okla.

Best of the Best

Best Photographer

First Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle

Second Place

Bryan Terry
The Oklahoman

Third Place

Cody Hammer
Osage News

Best Reporter

First Place

Clifton Adcock
The Frontier

Second Place

Bobby Ross Jr.
Christian Chronicle

Third Place

Nathan Poppe
Curbside Chronicle

Best Broadcast Reporter

First Place

Robby Korth
StateImpact Oklahoma

Second Place

Burt Mummolo
KTUL

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The Oklahoma SPJ Board of Directors would like to thank Hilliary Communications, the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and Apache Casino Hotel not only for their generous sponsorships in support of Oklahoma journalism, but also their patience throughout the pandemic and continued willingness to work with us to bring this event to Comanche County.