



Finalists in the 2025 Chesapeake AP Broadcasters Association Contest:

ALL DIVISIONS:

Best Podcast-Audio: Jason Michael Perry, Sam Bermas-Dawes and Shanya Mapson, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Thoughts on Tech and Things: How Are Public Schools Preparing for AI?"; Scott Wykoff, WBAL-AM, Baltimore, "Navy Insider Podcast."

Best Digital-First Storytelling: Social Video: Matthew Cappucci, MyRadar, "Spotted Lantern Flies Invade D.C."; Matt Kaufax, WTOP-FM, Washington, "Matt About Town."

Best Multi-Platform Storytelling: Jimmy Alexander, WTOP-FM, Washington, "Wellington The Pig!"; Torie Seagraves and Zoe Stayman, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Deadly Dagsboro House Explosion."

COLLEGE RADIO:

Outstanding General News: Sydney Rutledge-Smith and Bryan Russo, DPM's Student Productions on WSDL, "Maryland Governor Says HBCU's 'More Important Than Ever Before'"; Sydney Rutledge-Smith and Bryan Russo, DPM's Student Productions on WSDL, "UMES Could Feel the Shock of Trump's DEI Orders."

Outstanding Feature: Colin Bright and Bryan Russo, DPM's Student Productions on WSDL, "Worcester County Family Gets the Home of Their Dreams"; Lauren Imhof and Bryan Russo, DPM's Student Productions on WSDL, "Conservation Conversations: Do Dandelions Have Healing Powers?"

Outstanding College Newscast: Tyler Hale, Jada Skye Brown and Keema Jones, DPM's Student Productions on WSDL, "The Five Minute Fly-By."

COLLEGE TV:

Outstanding General News: Eddy Calkins, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "FBI HQ Lawsuit"; Eddy Calkins, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "Key Bridge Findings."

Outstanding Feature: Eddy Calkins, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "Local Jeopardy! Winner"; Ben Wolf, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "Thermopact Mouthguard."





CHESAPEAKE ASSOCIATED PRESS BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

Outstanding Sports Reporting: Andrew McBride, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "Backfield Brothers"; Zion Williams, Capital News Service, College Park, Md., "Open Goal Project."

Outstanding College Newscast: Capital News Service, College Park, Md.

TV I/LARGE MARKET:

Outstanding Spot News Reporting: Christian Flores, Noel Chavez-Gallegos and Raul Candia, WJLA-TV, Washington, "National Guard Shooting Near the White House"; Tara Lynch, WJZ-TV, Baltimore, "West Baltimore Warehouse Devastated by Seven-Alarm Blaze."

Outstanding Coverage of a Continuing Story: Kane Farabaugh, Voice of America-TV, Washington, "The Life and Legacy of Jimmy Carter"; WRC-TV, Washington, "Midair Crash."

Outstanding News Series: Mike Hellgren and Judy Ryan, WJZ-TV, Baltimore, "Immigration in Maryland: Melissa's Story"; WJLA-TV, Washington, "How to Survive a Flash Flood When Swept Off Your Feet."

Best Television Photography: Kristi Harper, WMAR-TV, Baltimore, "Hungry for Rain"; Tom Kopania, WUSA 9, Washington.

Best Producer: Kane Farabaugh, Voice of America-TV, Washington, "The Life and Legacy of Jimmy Carter."

Outstanding Public Affairs: WRC-TV, Washington, "4 More Context"; WUSA 9, Washington, "The First: Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson."

Best Specialty Reporting: Lorenzo Hall, Ruth Morton, Nicholas Rhule, WUSA 9, Washington, "The Other Washington"; Yao Yu, Yuyang Ren, Monica Xu and Elizabeth Lee, Voice of America-TV, Washington, "Chinese Migration Through the U.S. Backdoor."

Best Investigative Reporting: Scott Taylor, Kimi Fleming and Jacob Fisher, WJLA-TV, Washington, "DC Mayor's Secret \$105K Middle East Trip"; WRC-TV, Washington, "Battling for Benefits."

Outstanding Documentary/In-Depth Reporting: Teneille Gibson and Dominique Moody, WRC-TV, Washington, "Lakeland"; Simone De Alba, Stephanie Wilson, Ruth Morton, WUSA 9, Washington, "DMV: The Bradford Bishop Murders."





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Best Enterprise Reporting: Tara Lynch and Cory Sellgren, WJZ-TV, Baltimore, "The Economic Engine Beneath the Bay"; Mallory Sofastaii and Chris Verri, WMAR-TV, Baltimore, "When Disaster Dollars Miss the Mark."

Outstanding Sports Feature: Sean Martinelli and Tom Kopania, WUSA 9, Washington, "The Heart of It: Washington Hockey Club."

Outstanding Serious Feature: Project Baltimore, WBFF-TV, Baltimore, "The Legacy"; Sean Martinelli, Tom Kopania and Ruth Morton, WUSA 9, Washington, "The Heart of It: The Legacy of Calvin Steve."

Best Meteorologist or Weathercaster: WUSA 9, Washington, "Boom or Bust? How Much Snow to Expect in the DMV."

Best Multimedia Journalist: Kane Farabaugh, Voice of America-TV, Washington; Jay Korff, WJLA-TV, Washington, "Old-Man, One-Man Band Back in the Saddle."

Outstanding Light Feature: Jay Korff and Kimi Fleming, WJLA-TV, Washington, "Not All Poets Can Speak"; Sean Martinelli and Ruth Morton, WUSA 9, Washington, "The Heart of It: Forgetful Friends."

Best Reporter: Kane Farabaugh, Voice of America-TV, Washington; Sean Martinelli, WUSA 9, Washington.

Outstanding Website: WRC-TV, Washington; WJLA-TV, Washington.

Outstanding Morning Newscast: WUSA 9, Washington; WJLA-TV, Washington.

Outstanding Late Newscast: WUSA 9, Washington; WJLA-TV, Washington.

Outstanding Weekend Newscast: WRC-TV, Washington; WJLA-TV, Washington, "Alex Ovechkin Breaks NHL Scoring Record."

Outstanding Election Night Coverage: Princess Harrell, WJLA-TV, Washington, "Beyond the Podium: Election 2025"; WRC-TV, Washington, "Election Night."

Outstanding Political Coverage: Carolyn Presutti, Voice of America-TV, Washington, "The Trump White House"; WRC-TV, WRC-TV, Washington, "Who's Behind Those Ads?"

Best TV News Anchor: Lorenzo Hall, WUSA 9, Washington; Scott Thuman, WJLA-TV, Washington.





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Best TV Sports Anchor: John Doran, WUSA 9, Washington; Alex Glaze, WJZ-TV, Baltimore.

Outstanding News Operation: Jon Brady, WJLA-TV, Washington; WBAL-TV Staff, WBAL-TV, Baltimore.

TV II/SMALL MARKET:

Outstanding Spot News Reporting: Kristina DeRobertis, Olivia Armstrong and Madeleine Overturf, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Perdue Hazmat"; Maegan Summers, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Search for Missing Princess Anne Waterman Continues."

Outstanding Coverage of a Continuing Story: Emma Aken and Matthew Hipsman, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Lewes Fire Department Scandal"; Ron Krisulevicz, Hunter Landon and Kyle Orens, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Offshore Wind."

Outstanding News Series: Jake Grant and Kolby Redden, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Discover Delmarva"; Tierra Williams and Jordie Clark, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Black History Month 2025."

Best Television Photography: Maegan Summers, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Duck Decoy Carving"; Jack Kyritsis, Ben Membrino and Tre Beckett, Delmarva Sports Network, Salisbury, Md..

Best Producer: Olivia Armstrong, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; Colby Moore, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md..

Best Specialty Reporting: Hunter Landon, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Political Reporting"; Ana Sofia Roman, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Immigration."

Best Investigative Reporting: Leila Weah and Mike Lawrence, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Trail to the Truth Series."

Outstanding Documentary/In-Depth Reporting: Bill Mich, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Unbridled Tradition: The 100th Chincoteague Pony Penning"; Tierra Williams, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "2020 Recap: Black Lives Matter vs. Blue Lives Matter."

Best Enterprise Reporting: Brian Roche, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Cambridge Mother Speaks out on Assault by Students"; Ana Sofia Roman and Ted Corriero, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Perdue Hazmat Worker Speaks Out."





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Outstanding Sports Feature: Chris Brunk, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "After the Whistle: Del Tech's Philip LoMedico"; Jack Kyritsis and Tim Nolan, Delmarva Sports Network, Salisbury, Md., "The Right Glove: Bobbie Smith's Game-Changing Adjustment."

Outstanding Serious Feature: Han Cechini and Mike Lawrence, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "103-Year-Old WWII Veteran Recounts, Reflects on 80th Anniversary of Atomic Bombs"; Matt Pencek and Ted Corriero, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "50 Years Since Vietnam."

Best Meteorologist or Weathercaster: Mike Lichniak, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md.; Rich Wirdzek, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md.

Best Multimedia Journalist: Emma Aken, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; Brandon Ferguson, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.

Outstanding Light Feature: Kristina DeRobertis and Ted Corriero, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Senator Tom Carper Bids Farewell"; Madeleine Overturf, Ted Corriero and Brandon Ferguson, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Chincoteague Pony Swim."

Best Reporter: Emma Aken, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; Brandon Ferguson, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.

Outstanding Year-Round Local Sports: Chris Brunk, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "After the Whistle"; Kayla Santiago and Bill Vernon, Delmarva Sports Network, Salisbury, Md.

Outstanding Website: Sean Curtis, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md.; Torie Seagraves and Zoe Stayman, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.

Outstanding Morning Newscast: Alyssa Baker, Matt Pencek and Grace Eckerle, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; Bees Beesley, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md.

Outstanding Late Newscast: Madeleine Overturf, Charlie Sokaitis and Paul Williams, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; Jana Ruark and Ron Krisulevich, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md.

Outstanding Weekend Newscast: Stella Guzik, WBOC-TV, Salisbury, Md.; Madeleine Overturf, Owen Lipka and Brandon Ferguson, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.

Outstanding Political Coverage: Andrea Duran, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md., "Soybean Farmers Hold Hope China Will Buy"; Madeleine Overturf, Ted Corriero and Torie Seagraves, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del., "Where is Stell Parker Selby?"





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Best TV News Anchor: Madeleine Overturf, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.; John Trout, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md.

Best TV Sports Anchor: Kayla Santiago, Delmarva Sports Network, Salisbury, Md.; Darron Wallace, Delmarva Sports Network, Salisbury, Md.

Outstanding News Operation: Joe Carmean and Stephanie Willey, WMDT-TV, Salisbury, Md.; John Dearing Dearing, Madeleine Overturf and Torie Seagraves, WRDE-TV, Milton, Del.

RADIO I/METRO:

Outstanding Spot News Reporting: Robert Lang, Phil Yacuboski and Mary Anne Perry, WBAL-AM, Baltimore, "5-Alarm Fire in Remington"; WTOP Staff, WTOP-FM, Washington, "Potomac Plane Crash."

Outstanding Coverage of a Continuing Story: Scott Maucione, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Mass Overdoses in Baltimore as the City Strives for Change"; WAMU News Staff, WAMU-FM, Washington, "The Aftermath of the Midair Plane and Helicopter Collision in D.C.."

Outstanding News Series: JJ Green, WTOP-FM, Washington, "National Insecurity"; Justin Milliner, Bloomberg 99.1, Washington, "Today in Black History."

Outstanding Use of Sound: Wambui Kamau, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Kenyan Cookout in Baltimore County Draws Crowd Amid U.S. Immigration Fears"; Scott Maucione, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Maryland School's Haunted Collection Contains Spooky Sounds and Interviews."

Outstanding Talk Show: Tom Hall, Sam Bermas-Dawes and Rob Sivak, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Maryland Is Seeing a Spike in Scams Online and Over the Phone. What Can You Do About It?"; Clarence Mitchell IV, Bryan Nehman and Zach Tinney, WBAL-AM, Baltimore.

Outstanding Editorial or Commentary: Del Walters, WTOP-FM, Washington, "Here We Go... Again"; Karsonya Wise Whitehead, Justina Pollard and Andre Melton, WEAA-FM, Baltimore, "Democracy Is Fragile: Understanding How 'We the People' Is Becoming 'They the People'."

Outstanding Public Affairs: Tom Hall, Sam Bermas-Dawes and Teria Rogers, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "What's the Future for Local Journalism?"; Ashley Sterner and Melissa Gerr, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Amtrak's Frederick Douglass Tunnel Impacts in West Baltimore."





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Best Specialty Reporting: Blair Dyer, WEAA-FM, Baltimore, "Breaking the Cycle: Race, Stroke and the Power of Healing"; Scott Maucione, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Baltimore Has a Huge Opportunity With Opioid Care in 2026, the Test Has Begun."

Outstanding Documentary/In-Depth Reporting: WBAL-AM, Baltimore, "State of Addiction."

Best Enterprise Reporting: Wambui Kamau, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "A School Trains Women in Baltimore to Rebuild the Blocks — and the System."

Outstanding Sports Feature: Ben Raby, WTOP-FM, Washington, "The Great 8!"; Jai Shields, WEAA-FM, Baltimore, "Sleepy John."

Outstanding Serious Feature: John Lee, WYPR-FM, Baltimore, "Anne Arundel's Historic Belvoir Manor, Rooted in Enslaved Lives, at Risk of Being Lost"; Justin O'Neill and Ingalisa Schrobsdorff, WAMU-FM, Washington, "How D.C.'s History Leaves Home Rule Vulnerable to Federal Interference."

Outstanding Light Feature: Esther Ciammachilli, Tyrone Turner and Ingalisa Schrobsdorff, WAMU-FM, Washington, "How a Neon-Clad Exercise Group Became a Community of Support and Empowerment"; Jackson Sinnenberg and Justin O'Neill, WAMU-FM, Washington, "Adams Morgan's Smash Records Celebrates 40 Years of Being a Communal Hub for D.C.."

Best Reporter: John Lee, WYPR-FM, Baltimore; Matt Kaufax, WTOP-FM, Washington.

Outstanding Website: John Laur, Will Carter and Robert Sobus, WBAL-AM, Baltimore; WTOP.com Staff, WTOP-FM, Washington.

Outstanding Newscast: Nathan Hager, Lisa Mateo and Michael Barr, Bloomberg 99.1, Washington; WTOP Staff, WTOP-FM, Washington.

Outstanding Political Coverage: Alex Koma and Ingalisa Schrobsdorff, WAMU-FM, Washington, "D.C. Grapples With Trump Administration Takeover"; Justina Pollard, Karsonya Wise Whitehead and Andre Melton, WEAA-FM, Baltimore, "A Moment of Political Cognitive Dissonance with Anti-Race Author and Activist Tim Wise."

Best Radio News Anchor: John Domen, WTOP-FM, Washington; Robert Lang, WBAL-AM, Baltimore.

Outstanding News Operation: WBAL-AM, Baltimore; WTOP Staff, WTOP-FM, Washington.





RADIO II/NON-METRO:

Outstanding Spot News Reporting: Kevin Diaz, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Reconnecting Communities' Grants Fall to Trump Budget Cuts"; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "State Trooper Gunned Down."

Outstanding Coverage of a Continuing Story: Kevin Diaz, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Deportation on Delmarva"; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "State Trooper Gunned Down."

Outstanding News Series: Don Rush, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Trump Immigration Raids Spark Fear in the Undocumented Community"; Jim Brady, Radio Chesapeake, Cambridge, Md., "Cambridge Harbor Controversy."

Outstanding Use of Sound: Kevin Diaz, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Mixing Food and Politics: Behind the Scenes at the Annual Tawes Crab Clame Bake"; Martin Matheny, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "Wilmington Children's Chorus Joins German Youth Orchestra for Saturday Concert."

Outstanding Talk Show: Tom Byrne, Paige Murray-Bessler and Shirley Min, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "Ask Gov. Meyer"; Rick Jensen, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding Editorial or Commentary: Dr. Kerry Forrestal, Radio Chesapeake, Cambridge, Md., "ASD - What is True, What is Bunk, About Autism"; Rick Jensen, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "Fraud Scandal."

Outstanding Public Affairs: Sarah Petrowich, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "Delaware's High Hopes - Marijuana Legalization in the First State"; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "Feed a Friend."

Best Specialty Reporting: Stephen Philip Harvey, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Off the Record"; Martin Matheny, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "The Arts."

Best Investigative Reporting: Jim Brady, Radio Chesapeake, Cambridge, Md., "Cambridge Harbor Planning Raises Doubts"; Kevin Diaz and Don Rush, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Former Salisbury Council President on Why He Quit."

Outstanding Documentary/In-Depth Reporting: Sarah Petrowich, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "Federal SNAP Changes are Imminent. Here's What That Means for Food Access and Delaware's Budget Crunch"; Bryan Russo, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Hospitality Bites: Exploring the Dramatic Rise in Mental Health Issues in the Hospitality Industry."





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Best Enterprise Reporting: Jim Brady, Radio Chesapeake, Cambridge, Md. "CWDI Falsified Frank Narr Appointment Status"; Kevin Diaz, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "ICE Sparks Fear and Uncertainty in Delmarva's Immigrant Community."

Outstanding Sports Feature: Jenny O'Connor, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Salisbury University Brings Back the Marching Band to Amp up Fan's Experience."

Outstanding Serious Feature: Kevin Diaz, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Delmarva's Food Pantries Overwhelmed as Thanksgiving Approaches"; Mark Fowser, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "New Beginnings."

Outstanding Light Feature: Sean Greene, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del., "Rock On - A Different High School Band"; Brian Shane and Bryan Russo, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md., "Snow Hill Celebrates 25 Years of 'Blessings'."

Best Reporter: Mark Fowser, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.; Mike Phillips, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding Year-Round Local Sports: Sean Greene, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding Website: Tom Byrne, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del.; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding Newscast: Joe Irizarry, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del.; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding Weekend Newscast: Tom Byrne, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del.

Outstanding Political Coverage: Sarah Petrowich, Delaware Public Media, Dover, Del., "Port of Wilmington Board Controversy."

Best Radio News Anchor: Chris Carl, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.; Peter MacArthur, WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

Outstanding News Operation: Don Rush and Bryan Russo, Delmarva Public Media, Salisbury, Md.; WDEL-FM/AM, Wilmington, Del.

