

DO NOT CONTACT JUDGES														
Competition	Category Name	Judge	1st Contestant	1st Entry	1st Comment	1st Credits	2nd Organization	2nd Entry	2nd Comment	2nd Credits	3rd Organization	3rd Entry	3rd Comment	3rd Credits
All Media	Best Video Journalism	Joan Cartan-Hansen	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Heather Hintze - Best Video Journalism	Nice visual storytelling. Good job following action. Well done!	Heather Hintze	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Eric Sowl: Videojournalist	Excellent job. Good use of sequencing.	Eric Sowl	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Beth Verge: Video Journalist	Good use of motion	Beth Verge, Photojournalist
Television	Best Arts Reporting	Jenelle Shriner	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Don't want this story to end! Loved seeing this teen's story, the emotion from her mom, beautifully shot and written and the narration was perfect.	Earrings that can better the world	Charlie Sokalis	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Frontiers - Hilland Lullaby Project: Dads in Yellow	Great topic, very well written. Great characters. Interested from start to finish!	Rhonda McBride, Nick Swann, Will Mader	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Rhonda Scott and her whimsical windows	Nicely shot, great writing, loved the nat sound - this package was so well done I wanted more.	Charlie Sokalis
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Sports Feature	Paul Keane	Anchorage Daily News	Given a second chance at life, Nome woman runs her way to health and happiness	Great story. You could have glossed over her suicide attempt, but you tackled it head on, much like your subject has done with her life. Good job.	Beth Bragg, Marc Lester	Peninsula Clarion	"Inspired to run"	Very inspirational story. This should motivate all of us to do more with our lives.	Jeff Helminiak	Anchorage Daily News	Jason Campeau's journey to Nome	Great detail in this story. Nice job of pulling all of the main characters into the story.	Marc Lester
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Suzan Nightingale Award for Best Columnist	Steve Reed	Anchorage Daily News	Seth Kantner columns	Seth Kantner excels at creating word pictures to preserve and animate the traditions that are the essence of Alaskan Native life.	Seth Kantner	Anchorage Daily News	April 25, 2019 / A better way to think about the dividend - June 7, 2019 / The boy who cried 'socialism' - July 22, 2019	Larry Persily consistently appeals to Alaskans to behave like honest, responsible adults who respect one another despite different values and political leanings. Good advice.	Larry Persily	Alaska Magazine	On the Edge (column name)	Nick Jans brings Alaska to life.	Nick Jans
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Magazine Feature	Paula Span	Alaska Magazine	One Year Later: Stories from the November 2018 earthquake	Richard Emanuel adroitly combines personal narratives, geologists' insights, scientific explanation and officials' perspective to look back at a 7.1 magnitude quake and its impact.	Richard Emanuel		John Collette: From DEA bust at gunpoint to legal grower.	A lively visit and interview with a 72-year-old who emerged from federal prison after a DEA bust to become a legal grower.	Dorothy Chomicz	Alaska Business Monthly	Alaska and Renewable Energy: A Missed Opportunity?	Many sources in this overview of renewable energy prospects and potential.	Isaac Stone Simonelli
All Media	Leslie Ann Murray Award for Best Editorial or Commentary	Steve Reed	Alaska Journal of Commerce	The messianic arrogance of isolation	Of 18 entries in this category, no one did a better job of pointing out the political absurdities of the budget crisis and pointing the way toward solutions than Andrew Jensen. Among salient points and pithy witicisms, Jensen was at his best in characterizing the leadership of Gov. Dunleavy in a "The Godfather" context: "... he has not governed like the cool-headed and savvy Michael Corleone but as a combination of Sonny and Fredo mixing vindictiveness with incompetence."	Andrew Jensen	Cordova Times	Cordova Chronicles: -- I have seen the enemy, and he is us	Dick Shelhorn makes a persuasive, localized appeal for "brave legislators, backed by the will of the people" to lead Alaskans out of the state's budget-crisis wilderness.	Dick Shelhorn	Anchorage Daily News	Big dividend checks at the expense of Alaska's future are irresponsible.	Larry Persily	
Print/Online (Large)	Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Betsy Russell	Anchorage Daily News	Alaska groups scramble to rehire and restart programs after funding was vetoed, then restored	Excellent job documenting on-the-ground fallout from state political decisions	Tegan Harlow	Anchorage Daily News	Anchorage payroll error settlements cost the city an estimated \$16 million	Strong reporting in the face of legal roadblocks	Aubrey Weber	Peninsula Clarion	Salanic Temple invocation prompts protest, walkouts at assembly meeting	Well-written	Victoria Petersen
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Weekly Newspaper	Christina Myer	Cordova Times	The Cordova Times	Beautiful layout and design, with plenty of good reporting and local news.	Annette Potter, Vivian Kennedy, Zachary Snowdon Smith, Margaret Bauman, Emily Mesner, Jane Spencer, Dick Shelhorn	Petersburg Pilot	Best Weekly Newspaper Mar., July & Sept.	Local sports and opinion pieces/letters to the editor are essential for a community newspaper.	Pilot Staff	Wrangell Sentinel	Best Weekly Newspaper Mar., Sept. & Nov.	Wrangell Staff	
All Media	Best Sports Photo (Small)	Barrett Stinson	Daily Sitka Sentinel	olympic kick	Best peak action shot of category. Would be a stronger image as a vertical cropping in mostly from the left and just outside his fingers on the right.	James Poulson	The Northern Light	Hooper-turned-trainer Jhayde Zamora adapts his love for the game	Next best action shot would be better if cropped in from left just beyond the beam, from top to just above his head and from the bottom to just below his left foot.	Josey Carreon	Petersburg Pilot	Vikings lose home games to Juneau-Douglas	Nice dive. Could have score better if could see the ball and image was cropped tighter. Technically not as strong as first and second-place winners.	Brian Varela
All Media	Best Sports Photo (Large)	Barrett Stinson	Anchorage Daily News	State cross country running	This one stood out as the best example of seeing the photo before it was taken. Nicely framed and good use of layering. It's a beauty.	Loren Holmes	Anchorage Daily News	UAA volleyball team takes down Central Washington	Best reaction shot for sure. Perhaps cropping in just a bit on the sides and the top would make for cleaner image, really taking the eye into the center of the frame for the yelling girl and the two jumping teammates in the background.	Loren Holmes	Anchorage Daily News	Anchorage Christian caps perfect season by capturing a third straight Class 3A girls basketball championship	Nice action shot. Couldn't decide if it would be better cropped in from left just past knee and above the elbow on top, or not.	Loren Holmes
All Media	Best Scenic Photo (Large)	Barrett Stinson	Alaska Magazine	Alaska Exposed: Spectacular Sawyer	Nice composition and sense of scale provided by the people in the raft. Not to mention the tension/drama of the falling ice. Nice moment! Beautifully dangerous.	Emily Mount	Anchorage Daily News	Arctic Tern gets a meal	A beautiful moment well captured with clean tight framing. Only beat the third-place photo because of the peak moment. Both are beautiful.	Loren Holmes	Anchorage Daily News	Wildfire smoke obscures mountains	Love the minimalist nature of this photo. Stark and clean with the airplane providing scale. Nice seeing!	Loren Holmes
All Media	Best News Photo	Barrett Stinson	Anchorage Daily News	Family stands to lose supportive housing under state budget proposal	A sweet moment captured in the middle of a story-telling context of chaos. Well done!	Loren Holmes	Anchorage Daily News	Judge expresses frustration in "hoverboard dentist" trial	Nice catch! A tight clean moment of frustration that matches the headline.	Loren Holmes	Ketchikan Daily News	Alaska Shakeout	Tells the story of concern with the boy's expression. Brings back memories.	Dustin Safranek
Print/Online (Small)	Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Betsy Russell	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Sell the SJ Museum? State Plan Stirs Furor	Broad reporting on the local impacts of a legislative decision	Shannon Haugland	The Midnight Sun	Nearly two-thirds of all legislators claimed at least some retroactive per diem. Four claimed the max.	Strong, factual, record-based reporting	Matt Buxton	Homer News	Fish and Game proposes repeal of ban on personal watercraft in areas of Kachemak Bay	Well-framed and comprehensive look at this issue	Megan Pacer
Television	Best Breaking News Story	Devon Sayers	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	A daughter's disappearance, a father's worst fears		Jill Burke, Leah Schwartz	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Brian Smith now indicted in the murders of 2 Alaska Native women		Daniela Rivera, Rachel McPherron	No Winner			
Television	Best Education Reporting	Devon Sayers	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Loss of UAA accreditation impacts all district schools		Rebecca Palsha, Shawn Wilson	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Hatchery 101		Grant Robinson	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	How safe are Anchorage schools should another large earthquake hit?		Scott Gross
All Media	Best Alaska Outdoors Reporting	Christina Myer	KTUU.com	Spearfishing halibut world record smashed by Florida man in Homer	Wonderfully written to draw the reader into the play-by-play.	Lex Treinen	Alaska Magazine	Bob's Country: A journey through one of the nation's last wildernesses	Certainly makes one want to visit Bob's Country.	Michael Engelhard	KTOO Public Media	Is there gold in them thar beaches?	Fun bait and switch with the true focus of the story.	Jeremy Hsieh

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All Media	Best Investigative Reporting	Cheryl Thompson	Anchorage Daily News	Lawless	This series had all the elements of a classic, well-told investigation into a two-tiered public safety/justice system affecting Alaska Natives that holds public officials accountable: good characters, solid records, fascinating interviews and reaction and action from government officials, including the U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Attorney's Office, the Alaska governor and other lawmakers. This was an amazing piece of journalism and a smart collaboration.	Kyle Hopkins	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	An overburdened staff and Alaska's most vulnerable children	The statistics are starting. Wonderful job of telling viewers about the troubled child protective system.	Bill Burke, Leah Schwartz, Eric Sowl	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Justice Delayed: Alleged serial rapist known to authorities roamed Anchorage freely for months	Solid reporting of an important story.	Daniela Rivera, Matt Faution, Rachel McPherson, Cody Sowl, Shayne Nuesca	There were really good entries in this category: scofflaws, child abuse and hate crimes. Good reporting, including terrific records and interviews. One, though, stood out and that was "Lawless." This series had all the elements of a classic, well-told investigation into a two-tiered public safety/justice system affecting Alaska natives.
All Media	Best Series	Lois Norder	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Financing Alaska	This entry stood out for its enterprise and its public service. Each segment details the impact of budget cuts, but the station also looked at alternatives, such as taxes and fees, to address the revenue issue.	Rebecca Palsha, Leah Schwartz, Taylor Perez, Matt Leseman, Beth Verge	Anchorage Daily News	"Shaky Ground: A year after the 7.1 earthquake"	While anniversary stories can be pro forma, the Anchorage Daily thoughtfully examined not just the impact of the earthquake but also what Alaska can do to better prepare for the next tremors.	Aubrey Wieber, Morgan Krakow, Alex Demarban, Matt Tunseth	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	One Year Later: The Quake, the Aftermath, the Recovery	*Good overall writing and storytelling, especially the segment about the early years. *A lot of nuggets in there that even long time residents never knew about this team. *Good editing and use of archival footage *Poor choice for the black backdrop for the sit down interviews. *I feel the final segment was rushed. The rise and fall were in the same block. The team was winning and having all this success, and all of sudden, they were extinct. Dividing those two would have given the piece better pace. Some added insight into the financial stress of having a franchise in Alaska would have given some context to the decline. *Overall, this entry receives some extra credit for degree of difficulty.	Tracy Sabo, Kristen Durand, Rebecca Palsha, Kim Daehnik, Hank Davis, Joshua Maxwell, Mike Ross, Beth Verge	
All Media	Best Solo Journalism	Lois Norder	KYUK	Not Enough Kids in Red Devil	Kyuk's Katie Basile entry was a clear standout. She not only provides a feel for the tiny community of Red Devil and its residents, she also illuminated the complex issues about its survival.	Katie Basile/KYUK	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Newtok: A sprint against Climate Change	From the opening voice through the final scene, Blake Essig has crafted a well-paced and compelling story. It also provides powerful imagery.	Blake Essig	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Solo Journalist: Sammie Solina	Resilience is the theme in all three of Sammie Solina's stories here. Her stories reflect communities and allow people to tell their own stories.	Sammie Solina	
Radio	Best Reporting on Health	Tom Barse	KYUK	What Happens When A Community Gets Running Water? People Get Healthier	Judicious sprinkling of health stats made this profile of one rural Alaska village relevant to all. Superb job.	Anna Rose MacArthur	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Petersburg veterinarian roasts his clinic to Southeast communities	Technically proficient recording and audio mixing combined with an unusual profile subject made this feature memorable.	Ari Snider	KTOO Public Media	How hospital ERs in Alaska are helping patients with opioid use disorder	Hearing directly from a person in recovery made this story stand out.	Elizabeth Jenkins	Good to see reporters traveling in some cases to remote places to get on-scene interviews. Audio production values across the board were better on average than in prior years in this category.
Television	Best Specialty News Program	Jenelle Shriner	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Climate Changed	Where Bears and Humans Converge: Protecting both is a full-time job	Tracy Sabo, Tracy Sinciare, Grant Robinson, Jeff Dowd, Colin Lamar, Blake Essig, Rebecca Palsha, Eric Sowl, Sean Maguire, Beth Verge	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	7.1: Lessons Learned	A road trip through Alaska's treasured tiny towns	Melissa Frey, John Thain, Nick Swann, Aaron Morrison, Jeremy Lago, Matt Faution, Gina Romero, Kevin Fowler, Will Sandidge	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Road Trippin' in the Land of the Midnight Sun: "Eat, Play, Sleep, Repeat"	Rebecca Palsha, Tracy Sinciare, Tracy Sabo, Hank Davis, AJ Lucero		
All Media	Best Travel Reporting	Jenelle Shriner	Alaska Magazine	Where Bears and Humans Converge: Protecting both is a full-time job	beautifully captures Alaska life in a stunning setting	Michelle Theall	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	A road trip through Alaska's treasured tiny towns	sea lion harvest	Liz Raines, Will Sandidge	Alaska Magazine	A Capital Idea: Visit Juneau for a prime time	Susan Sommer		
All Media	Best Feature Photo (Small)	Stephanie Mullen	Cordova Times	Bike ride on a glacier	Super sweet moment.	Emily Mesner	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Dead whale comes apart piece by piece	The writer asked fun and funny questions that were insightful and helped us get to know the subject, Jason Hodges, in a creative way.	James Poulson	Cordova Times	Survival suit races	Emily Mesner		
All Media	Best Feature Photo (Large)	Stephanie Mullen	Ketchikan Daily News	Children's Christmas bells	The writer asked fun and funny questions that were insightful and helped us get to know the subject, Jason Hodges, in a creative way.	Dustin Safranek	Anchorage Daily News	Dead whale comes apart piece by piece	Tasha Anderson	No Winner	No Winner	Pigeon Whisperer	Dustin Safranek		
Print-Large	Best Arts Reporting	Kerry Clawson	Alaska Business Monthly	Off the Cuff - Jason Hodges	Important story well told. Excellent photography, strong editing, emotional interviews. Compelling piece.	Lauren Adams, Hanna Craig, Laura Kraegel, Chrissy Ross, Zoe Sobel, Larissa Sylverson, Moses Dirks, Ray Hudson, Rachel Mason, Shayla Shaishnikoff, Lauren Snyder	No Winner	Crude Conversations EP 049 with David Reamer	Draws out a lot of deep and nuanced information about the social history of Alaska. In short, does what interviews are supposed to do.	Cody Liska	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Frontiers - Dick Proenneke: At Home in the Wilderness	Will Mader, Rhonda McBride	Also liked "A strong Foundation." If I can send an honorable mention.	
All Media	Best Alaska History Reporting	Tom Condon	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Tanadgusim Adan Chilliuk: A Journey Home	This piece uses sound very effectively to discuss an important topic: where tax money goes. Good sound recording and good editing continuity with breezy dialogue.	Jeremy Hsieh	KYUK	Bethel Gives Hero's Welcome To Iditarod Champion Pete Kaiser	This piece uses sound effectively to capture a moment of community triumph, the return of a champion. Good interplay of voices with ambience, cheers, chants and fire trucks.	Anna Rose MacArthur	KYUK	How Searchers Are Working To Recover Napaskiak Man Who Drowned in Kuskokwim	Greg Kim	It's heartening to hear such effective use of sound to enrich very different kinds of stories. These reporters clearly appreciate the value of sound to place us on the scene. This caliber of work requires that the reporter have acute sound awareness along with the technical skill to record and edit good audio. Fine work!	

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All Media	Best Humor	Linda Levin	Peninsula Clarion	Unhinged Alaska: You think this is cold?	How cold does it get in Alaska? You'll be shivering in your shoes as you read this funny, well-researched piece.	Nick Varney	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Meet Joe: The Mount Marathon Gummy	Good camera work made this a clever piece about a runner who becomes Gummy during the Mount Marathon. Good footage of the race and funny interview with "Gummy."	John Thain	Cordova Times	Cordova Chronicles: Just who has the biggest moose of all?	A really funny piece about Norway and Canada's biggest moose statues. Made this judge chuckle.	Dick Shellhorn	A lot of excellent (and funny) entries this year made this contest both easy and difficult to judge and come up with three winners.
Radio	Best Single Story Reporting	Bob Collins	KYUK	After 20 Year Wait, Newtok Residents Leave Home To Pioneer Mertarvik	Really great use of sound in this story of people who "feel happy and sad at the same time." Your description of Albertina Charles was heartbreaking. I'll be honest with you. Originally, I had this entry down for second place but I didn't finalize the results. Over the next two weeks, I kept thinking about Ms. Charles and specifically the last cut which you left us with. I kept thinking about the people of Newtok. I listened to both pieces again and again – both were really good – but this one wouldn't let go of me.	Greg Kim	The Neighbors: Midnight Oil	The writing and delivery here is just fantastic. The history that provides the history of the village is well told. Audio moves seamlessly.	Elizabeth Harball, Annie Field, Jennifer Pemberton	KMXT Radio, Kodiak	Kodiak family plans to close game ranch after their elk were allegedly let out and shot	It wasn't until you mentioned that people on Facebook that people thanked her for the meat that I started to wonder if there was another angle that I'm missing – that people are so hungry they're breaking out the elk, as opposed to just engaging in sport. Maybe. Maybe not. But I did leave me with an unanswered question. Great piece.	Kavitha George		
Radio	Best Education Reporting	Bob Collins	KTOO Public Media	In Sitka, a teacher wants her classroom to know who's responsible for climate change	Loved the description of the kids blowing into the water followed by a great cut in which the teacher says science is not what we believe in but what we can prove (paraphrasing). The writing is tight and conversational. The piece moves nicely and logically along, including to the incredible acknowledgement that because of Alaska's oil and gas interests, the teacher has to "walk a fine line." Ugh. Wonderful piece.	Elizabeth Jenkins	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Starved of funding, Mt. Edgecumbe Aquatic Center to be shuttered in December	I think the scene setting in the beginning went a little long before you got to the lead of the story, which came 1:21 into the piece. Having done it, though, you did a really nice job of explaining why this is such a tragedy for people, and the value the pool has to the community. Your use of the last audio cut is a great example of the old Mary Block (broadcast writer for CBS back in the day) advice that the last piece of audio is the takeaway you want people to have. In this case, "it's just brutal."	Katherine Rose	Alaska Public Media	Students remain frustrated while UAA works to resolve education accreditation debate	What an awful situation for these students. I felt you left a little bit on the table with your paragraph on why the accreditation was not renewed, owing it to the lack of data that the students were well prepared. Were they? There is no voice to address that. How on earth are these students going to have a teaching career, even with Anchorage waiving some requirements. I really think you needed Dybdahl's voice in the piece somewhere if only to confirm that the fears and the frustration of the students are well-founded and lack any real solution.	Wesley Early	
All Media	Best Blog	Bob Collins	The Spenardian	The Spenardian	What a delightful blog to read. It oozes humanity and the life of the neighborhood, which is a focus that I know takes great dedication and an amazing effort to seek out people with a story to tell. I would want to read this constantly if I lived in this neighborhood. It reinforces the fact that people are just an incredibly interesting species. I will admit, as someone who kept comments on his blog for 12 years, that I felt as if there still could be a home for discussion and give and take within the community, even though I should probably know better by now. Great design, by the way.	Samantha Davenport, Victoria Petersen, Levi Brown, Young Kim, Yoshina Okamoto	The Midnight Sun	The Midnight Sun Political Blog	Very comprehensive site. I enjoyed the general conversational and informal style and the ability to prick holes in the news (I actually would push you to be even more so).	Matt Buxton, Pat Race, Amanda Frank, TJ Presey	No Winner				
Television Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Same-Day Feature	Karen Larsen	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	If only the rain fell sooner...	This is an excellent example of MMJ work. This MMJ carefully sequenced the shots, collected supportive natural sound - wrote to the video... and left the viewer with a bittersweet ending and a glimpse at this veteran's true resilience in the face of adversity. Very well done!	Samie Solina	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Faces of Iditarod	When this story begins, you think it's kind of the usual focus piece on one character involved in the Iditarod. The story twists - the photographer's new interest - was delightfully unexpected. It was wonderfully shot with great rats and a terrific ending.	Dave Goldman, John Thain	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Free as the wind	This story was nicely shot with terrific use of natural sound. Loved the ending going from the happy camper's suit to the group photo. Nice visual punctuation mark to wrap the story.	Beth Vergé, Multimedia Journalist	This was a difficult competition to judge as there were many well-qualified entries. Great job, MMJ's and reporter/photographer teams.
	Best Long Feature	Michael Roehman	Cordova Times	Cordova steals itself for seven months of isolation		Zachary Snowdon Smith	Alaska Magazine	Behind the Lens: Iditarod photographer makes memories for a lifetime		Jeff Schultz	KTUU.com	Linguist's death leaves dream of a lost language revived	Lex Treinen		

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Print/Online (Large)	Best Culture Reporting	Kerry Clawson	Alaska Magazine	Coffee & Quark: Inupiaq woman's podcast explores contemporary Native life	This is a great read that introduces us to a podcaster who gets real with talk about contemporary urban Native life in Alaska. Alice Oannik Glenn is a refreshing person who does not shy away from respectful debate about difficult topics -- someone we'd all like to get to know.	Kaylene Johnson-Sullivan	Anchorage Daily News	Remembering Clarence Wood, a hunter in the truest sense of the word	This is a fascinating, folksy memory piece about a larger-than-life, visiting hunter who was a ubiquitous presence during the author's upbringing in a sod igloo on the Kobuk River.	Seth Kantner	Alaska Business Monthly	Sacred Objects	This story explains how important and exciting it is that society is better understanding that it's the right thing to do to return artifacts that belonged to Alaska Natives to the communities where they came from. The quotes from museum officials are passionate and informative.	Vanessa Orr	
All Media	Best Social Media Presence	Jenelle Shriner	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Social Media Presence: Channel 2 News		KTUU Staff	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	KTVA Social Media		Jes Stugelmeier, Angela Krenzien, Shayne Nuesca, Daniela Rivera, Melissa Frey, Jeremy LaSoo, Aaron Morrison, Elizabeth Roman	Alaska Business Monthly	Facebook		Arie Henry	
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Magazine Cover	Mike Campbell	Alaska Business Monthly	Best of Alaska Business	Fantastic illustration. Great execution of the concept. The cover has many little details that engages the reader for a long time.	Jontue Hollingsworth	Alaska Business Monthly	Happy Healthcare	Very clever concept and excellent illustration.	Monica Sterchi-Lowman	The Spenardian	The Spenardian Issue 6	Absolutely eye-catching cover with that vibrant color and the glow of the illustration is something else.	Levi Brown	
Print/Online (Small)	Best Arts Reporting	Kerry Clawson	First Alaskans Magazine	Molly Comes Home	This wonderful first-person feature brings to life the excitement of an Alaska Native who is a writer for the TV show Molly in Denali and makes clear why creating an animated show about an authentic Alaska Native girl is so important.	Vera Starbard	Chilkat Valley News	Afterthoughts: Laid to rest in marbles	The writer strikes a nice balance in this description of an artist honoring the dead while at the same time bringing a whimsical touch to creating cremation marbles and beads.	Jenna Kunze	Alaska Journal of Commerce	Joe Nichols, Cody Kinz kick off 2019 Backyard Country BBQ music series	Interesting preview on the genesis of the Backyard Country BBQ.	Andrew Jensen	
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Page Layout & Design	Heather Henline	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Override	This compelling front page wields the full power of the press. It's strength is in its simplicity. The page designer made excellent choices to showcase the message and the words! Love this!!!	Caitlin Miller	Cordova Times	Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: -30 years of healing	This is wonderful treatment of a very core, sensitive topic for the state. The designer gave this the respect it deserved and created a compelling, historic front page and section.	Annette Potter	Alaska Business Monthly	Oil & Gas: The Private Collection	The designer used restraint in permitting a stunning photo to dominate this page's design. It's a well put together package and works!	Monica Sterchi-Lowman	What a great crop of entries this year. The top three were a close competition!
Print/Online (Small)	Best Reporting on Health or Science	Bob Ortega	Chilkat Valley News	Pollen Apocalypse made worse by rising global temperatures	This story benefitted by the reporter's efforts to reach out to a wide array of sources and provide deeper context than other entries.	Jenna Kunze	KTUU Online (Anchorage)	The sun set at 1:49 p.m. on November 18 in Utqavik, Or did it?		Lex Treinen	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	A crack in The Door: Youth shelter struggling after budget cuts		Erin McGoarty	
Print/Online (Large)	Best Reporting on Health or Science	Bob Ortega	Alaska Business Monthly	Serving Alaska's Smallest Patients		Isaac Stone Simonelli	Alaska Magazine			Emily Mount	No Winner				The unusual challenged that pediatric specialists face in Alaska are explained clearly and usefully in the winning entry.
All Media	Best Headline Writing	Heather Henline	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Flicked Bics help hunters in a fix	These headlines drew me into the stories. They transcended having to be a local to be interested, and that's the hallmark of being a compelling headline.	Robert Woolsey	KTQO Public Media	Why some locals...over new bathroom signs	Really enjoyed the progressive approach to headlines. It was a refreshing twist on a news staple.	Jeremy Hsieh	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	One family's pirate home is Sitka's hidden treasure	Solid work!	Katherine Rose	
All Media	Best Media Website	Heather Henline	Alaska Business Monthly	ab2mag.com	Vibrant, bright and engaging.	Tasha Anderson, Arie Henry	The Northern Light	http://www.thenc@thebright.org/	This site is easy to navigate and well organized.	TNL Staff	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	KTVA.com	Great use of lots of photos to draw a user in.	Jes Stugelmeier, Angela Krenzien, Elizabeth Roman, Shayne Nuesca	
All Media	Best Portrait (Small)	Michael Taylor	Cordova Times	Dockside delivery	Excellent use of composition and color to create a portrait that supports spread and story.	Emily Mesner	The Northern Light	Saving the environment, one pop-up book at a time	Usually a centered horizontal spread is a poor choice, since it reduces the subject size and does not draw the eye in a specific direction, but the lines of the building and folding book draw the viewer in and make it work.	John Novotny	The Northern Light	Education students seek community -- and answers	Face is nicely lit, and the darkened hallway behind her draws interest in the subject, but her hands are too bright and slightly out of focus.	Chase Burnett	More entries would have been great, but those received show solid professional work, with good lighting and thoughtful arrangement of background elements. Part of what made the winner stand out was that this portrait seemed like anything but - it looked like a natural captured moment at a busy dockside.
All Media	Best Portrait Large	Michael Taylor	Alaska Business Monthly	Off the Cuff - Patrick Lamp	A stunning captured moment, full of emotion and personality.	Kerry Tasker	Anchorage Daily News	Fairbanks band The Avery Wolves brings psychobilly rock, harrowing musical stunts to Anchorage	This is a great example of carefully arranged studio photography that is anything but static, capturing the energy and exuberance of the subject.	O'Hara Shippe	Ketchikan Daily News	Veterans Day	The focused subject amid the surrounding, soft-focus crowd communicates a quiet determination wholly appropriate to the piece.	Dustin Safranek	Some amazing work was submitted in this category--I wish I could give honorable mentions. All of the winners exhibit strong composition elements, capture personality, and tell a story--just what good portraits are supposed to do.
Print/Online (Large)	Best Profile	Michael Taylor	Alaska Magazine	Farewell Putyuk: The passing of an Upper Kobuk legend	"Farewell Putyuk" is a beautiful, moving story, well told with narrative, description and a touch of humor. The ending is sheer perfection, a poetic tribute worthy of its subject. In over a decade of judging, I think this may be the first time I ever gave a profile the full 10 points.	Nick Jans	Alaska Business Monthly	Patrick Lampi	Normally a piece that is mostly Q&A does not finish high in a profile contest, where the object is to reveal the true personality of the subject in a way that is meaningful to the audience. But the Q&A form does that here, aided by terrific photography.	Kathryn Mackenzie	Anchorage Daily News	As Alaska's budget upturn rolls on, a top Dunleavy adviser has seen it before	A good news-based profile of a newsmaker. Very well reported, but it needs more description and/or narrative structure to become a great profile. This is written in the vein of "Frank Sinatra's Got a Cold," with the subject refusing an interview, but more narrative could have come from those who were interviewed. Still, the strong reporting is worth a place with the winners.	Michelle Theriault Boots	The winners were very different: a highly personal tribute to a lost friend, an informal Q&A with man holding an unusual job, and a news-driven portrait of a controversial public figure. This just shows that there is no "right" way to create a memorable profile. These writers let circumstance dictate form, and showed their skill within the form they chose.
All Media	Best Illustration or Graphic	Mike Campbell	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Gray whales are dying on their way to Alaska	Nicely executed. Great illustrations, and breaking the story into visual chunks really helped to keep the reader engaged.	Shayne Nuesca	Wrangell Sentinel	The Greatest Bite of All Time!	Nice work. I can see the illustrator had fun with this concept and it's refreshing to see hand drawn illustrations in these days.	TAWNEY FLORES	The Northern Light	Spring Commencement 2019	Clever concept for a serious topic that successfully ties in a pop culture reference.	Levi Brown	
All Media	Best Food Reporting	Gretchen McKay	Alaska Magazine	Farmers on the Half-shell: The ebb and flow of oyster cultivation in Kachemak Bay and beyond	Very thorough reporting and such engaging writing. I felt like I was there.	Eric M. Beeman		Juneau Afternoon: Foodie Friday	This is the best radio reporting --the listener is completely drawn in, and the guests are so informative and fun. The host, filled with personality, knows how to steer a conversation.	Scott Burton, Shell DeLaney, Cheryl Snyder, Andy Kline	Edible Alaska	"Our Way of Life," Keex' Kwaan Culture Camp	Lovely, lovely story. Excellent reporting.	Bethany Sosnini Goodrich	

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Competition	Category Name	Judge	1st Contestant	1st Entry	1st Comment	1st Credits	2nd Organization	2nd Entry	2nd Comment	2nd Credits	3rd Organization	3rd Entry	3rd Comment	3rd Credits	
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Magazine Design	Jim Flynn	The Spenardian	The Spenardian Issue 5		Samantha Davenport, Victoria Petersen, Levi Brown, Young Kim, Yoshina Okamoto		Alaska Cannabist magazine		Julie Stricker	Cordova Times	Prince William Sound Visitor Guide		Annette Potter	
Print/Online (Small)	Best Short Feature	Justin Hinkley	No Award	No Award	No Award	No Award	Cordova Times	Decades-old errors put property owners at odds with road project	This is bread-and-butter journalism, a solidly reported and well-written piece on a topic readers care about.	Zachary Snowdon Smith	Chilkat Valley News	Town beaver's lair discovered	The perfect balance of humor and straightforward reporting to blend a cute feature story with an important public works story.	Jenna Kunze	
All Media	Best Legal Affairs Reporting	Justin Hinkley	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	The Mentally Ill, Alaska Psychiatric Institute and D.O.C.		Jill Burke Sean Maguire	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Death in Detox: Kellie Green's Story	Fantastic reporting from start to finish, and told in a beautiful, sensitive, but tough way.	Daniela Rivera, Gina Romero, John Thain, Rachel McPherson, Cody Sowl	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	A system failure: A sex predator re-offends while being monitored	Riveting storytelling of unbelievable facts obtained through hard-nosed reporting.	Jill Burke	Judging this contest felt like a near-impossible task. Almost all of the entries could have earned first-place recognition. It's comforting to know the residents of Alaska have such capable watchdogs holding the criminal justice system accountable.
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Sports Reporting (Print)	Elizabeth Walters	Chilkat Valley News	ALCAN 200 celebrates 50 years of speed		Jenna Kunze	Ketchikan Daily News	Ketchikan wins Bill Weiss Tournament		Spencer Gleason	Ketchikan Daily News	Lady Kings crowned Region V champs		Spencer Gleason	
Print/Online (Small)	Best Culture Reporting	Kerry Clawson	Capital City Weekly	Planet Alaska: Encounters with the giant Pacific octopus in a manner that creates vivid imagery and captures our imagination.		Vivian Faith Prescott, Vivian Mork Yélik	Chilkat Valley News	Is an ancient species of Fremont squash growing in a Haines garden?	Past meets present in this interesting feature about squash plants growing in Alaska that are believed by some to be descended from seeds preserved for centuries in an ancient Fremont pot, unearthed by a farmer in Utah. The writer does a clear job of explaining the history and its impact today.	Kyle Clayton	Cordova Times	Taking home a piece of the CoHo	The author illustrates how personal the memories of the beloved landmark the Cordova Hotel and Bar, or the CoHo, are to numerous people. Her details about the cafe's signature scones, pancakes and how many want to own a piece of CoHo history are vivid.	Jane Spencer	
Radio	Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Corey Flintoff	KTOO Public Media	What's up with the Mat-Su, and why is it steering Alaska's politics?		Jeremy Hsieh	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Proposed land trade may turn the tide for Sitka's maritime industry	Robert Woolsey shows Sitka officials and citizens grappling with a complicated economic choice. It's a good, clear exposition of the issue.	Robert Woolsey	KMXT Radio, Kodiak	Kodiak villages brace for reduced ferry service this fall and winter	Kawitha George examines the impact that cuts in ferry service will have for two Kodiak villages. She rightly focuses on the impact of policy on individual people.	Kawitha George	Reporting on government and politics is difficult, because it requires clear exposition of the issues and stakes, while maintaining strict fairness for all sides. All the entries in this year's category met those very high standards.
Television	Best Culture Reporting	Deborah Horne	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Frontiers - Unangam Tunur: More Than Just Words		Will Mader, Rhonda McBride	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	WEIO: Changing lives and preserving culture		Patrick Enslow	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Rare Yupik masks reunited in Alaska after 100 years		Eric Sowl	
Television	Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Deborah Horne	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Forty More Years		Dave Goldman	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Ransoming the Dead		Jill Burke, Eric Sowl	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Alaska Railroad trains teens on people skills		Liz Raines, Matt Faubion	
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Education Reporting	Margaret Littman	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Frozen scholarship funds leave UAF students in limbo		Kylie Long	KTVA.com	Title IX investigation reveals decades of sexual misconduct by former UAA professor	An important story to tell, with lots of detail. Would have liked to see UAA's lack of response earlier in the piece.	Daniela River, Janis Harper, Jes Stugelmeier, Cody Sowl	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Sharing the Journey	Nice energy and genuine emotion captured in the subjects.	Shawn Wilson	This was a diverse set of articles, with every different approaches. Together they demonstrate how diverse education reporting can be.
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Arts & Culture Criticism	Margaret Littman	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Control' mixes 'X-Files' and 'Men in Black' into an incredible achievement in video games		Matt Buxton	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Theater review: 'Evil Dead: The Musical' is a kick-Ass gory good time	Captures the energy of the event well. I feel like I was there.	Gary Black	No Winner				
Television	Best General News Story	Deborah Horne	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Such a terrific story. Very nice writing. Moving sound. Beautifully told.		Jill Burke	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	A shifting wind	Loved this story from beginning to end. The writing blew me away. The sound helped tell it beautifully. Very nice job.	Samie Solina	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Heartrending story. Beautifully told. Nicely shot.	John Thain, Lauren Maxwell	This was a very difficult category. Any of the stories could have won. They were all so well done. But I had to choose and so I did. It was a pleasure to watch such terrific work.	
Television	Best Newscast	Paul Keane	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Channel 2 NewsHour: From Wildfires to the State Fair		Rebecca Palsha, Mike Ross, Jackie Purcell, Elinor Batty, Holly Pitlum, Hank Davis, Grant Robinson, Derek Meemeyer, Kyle Burke, Phil Walczak, Paul Reyes, Leah Schwartz, AJ Lucero, Kristen Durand, Patrick Enslow, Joshua Maxwell, Jill Burke, Eric Sowl, Kim Daehrike	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	KTVA News at 10	Nice, light package of stories that keep folks interested. Even with it being so close to Christmas, felt there could have been some type of sports segment.	Makeyla Clark, Megan Mazurek, Aaron Morrison, Noah Dean	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	KTVA 11's Daybreak	Nice morning show without too much "fluff" Lots of good information and stories, especially with it being the Friday before Christmas when news can sometimes be scarce and morning shows turn into cheesy holiday specials.	Jennifer Summers, Liz Raines, John Thompson, Jeremy Lago	
Radio	Best Culture Reporting	Christina Myer	KNOM	A Day at Camp in Solomon		JoJo Phillips	KTOO Public Media	Alaska Native men gather to explore culture, identity, domestic violence and building healthy communities		Jeremy Hsieh	KYUK	Yup'ik Elders Revive Traditional Baby Parks		Krysti Shallenberger	
Radio	Best Reporting on Science	Cara Hetland	KHNS	Experimental tilapia skin burn treatment heals Haines dog		Claire Stremple	KSTK	With 12 gray whale deaths in Alaska waters, biologists race to find the cause	Great images, explanations and not sounds	June Lefler	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Second summer sawfly outbreak browns hemlock trees around Southeast	educational, good audio	Joe Viechnicki	I learned so much and loved each story. All told well and creatively.
Radio	Best Profile	Cara Hetland	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	I love everything about this story - great sound - great profile - great pictures		Katherine Rose	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Petersburg middle school student puts daredevil skills to work	Fun story	Ari Snider	KYUK	Kipnuk Celebrates The Life Of Keoni Aiarata At Graduation	Emotional - love the unity in this story	Greg Kim	The people profiled here are all winners - I learned so much
Radio	Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Ashley Gross	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	New generation of fishermen continues Petersburg presence in Bristol Bay		Ari Snider	KYUK	At The Moment, Donlin Gold Isn't Building A Mine. But It Is Building A Church	Really interesting story about the PR moves of a major mining company and how it's going to try to win the hearts and minds of people in the Y-K Delta.	Krysti Shallenberger	Alaska's Energy Desk	As BP exits Alaska, 1,600 employees are waiting to find out what's next	Elizabeth Harball		
All Media	Best Multimedia Presentation	Matt Miller	KYUK	Watch: Can Bethel Afford The Costs Of Climate Change?		Krysti Shallenberger, Katie Basile, Joey Mendolla	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Interactive timeline: The murder of Cynthia Hoffman	A smart way of wrapping up the developments of a pretty shocking case. Nicely realized.	Angela Krezien, Shayne Nuesca, Elizabeth Roman	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Timeline: Gov. Dunleavy's first year in office	Another good wrap up of a pretty substantial body of coverage. Lots to take in, but nicely summarized and augmented with photo and video.	Shayne Nuesca, Steve Quinn	

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Radio	Best Same-Day Feature	Amy Robinson	KYUK	Bethel Gives Hero's Welcome To Iditarod Champion Pete Kaiser		Anna Rose MacArthur	KTOO Public Media	Juneau police report shooting and killing a man on Cinema Drive		Rashan McCheaney	KYUK	New George Atfils Documentary Brings Together Community And Sled Dog Racing		Kryell Shallenberger
					Great nature photography, and work that shows the various aspects of polar bear life. This was well done, and had the best visual narrative line of the entries. I would have liked to have seen a photo of the village included in the mix, as well (if possible) something showing a tour boat, visitors with binoculars, etc. as those elements were a big part of the text. In all, the clear winner of this category.	Michelle Theall, Steven Merritt	Anchorage Press	In concert at the Alaska State Fair	A nice set of photos, with the black and white presentation chosen well. I'm glad both fans and band were shown. Missing from the set is a wide stage show showing the members of the band together, even if standing far apart (becomes important over the years if a member leaves and is replaced, and also is just a key element of a concert set of photos). This would have been stronger with more of a visual story arc, a beginning, middle, and end. Even if you're just doing three songs, with some shots before and after the show, perhaps more of a story could have been told. Most definitely liked the variety of faces in the crowd.	O'Hara Shippe	The Northern Light	Anchorage's 42nd PrideFest in 42 Pictures	A nice gallery of photos here, but lost was the chance to really tell a story about this event - either the full story-path of the entire day, or perhaps the preparation, parade, and then after-party story of just one entry. Another idea would be to take one theme - signs, make-up, fancy dress, and build an essay/story around that. As it is, this is a great gallery, but I think there are real visual stories to be found here next year.	Christina Swayney
All Media	Best Picture Story	Ted Warren	Alaska Magazine	In the Village of Polar Bears: Katsviki's life on the edge		Michelle Theall, Steven Merritt	Anchorage Press	In concert at the Alaska State Fair		O'Hara Shippe	The Northern Light	Anchorage's 42nd PrideFest in 42 Pictures		Christina Swayney
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Sports or Outdoors Column	Cheryl Thompson	Homer News	Out of the Office	Terrific writing style: I felt like I was along on the trip to Greening Glacier, with her in the garden... I think readers love coming along with the writer. And she dotted her columns with humor. Brava.	Megan Pacer	Peninsula Clarion	Out of the Office: "Tower of the Culture of the North": "Taking our time on the Tulka Backdoor Trail", "Best place on the peninsula"		Jeff Helminiak	Homer News	Reeling 'Em In: "Learn the difference between kings and silvers," "Finicky silvers have specific bait requirements, doncha know," "Alas, poor Trasher — it's time for Nick's reversed fishing rod to retire"		Nick Varney
Television	Best Reporting on Health or Science	Brian McCrone	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Surviving Sepsis	Good personal story, with great access. But could have incorporated more science.	Dave Goldman	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Stranded whale head goes for a ride	Good video, visually interesting. But didn't reach a deeper level of reporting.	Lauren Maxwell, Kevin Kelleher	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Keeping them wild	Context of the report wasn't fully explained.	Grant Robinson
All Media	Best Online Video Journalism	Brian McCrone	KYUK	Video: A Record Breaking Finish in the 40th K200	Clear by the delivery that the video was edited for the web. Quick-paced and on-the-ground. Narrator kept it exciting and competitive, like a sports announcer.	Kate Basile, Kathy Engler, Rosie Evin, Angela Denning, Zachariah Hughes, Kaylee King, Anna Rose MacArthur, Ben Matheson, Joey Mendolia, Gabby Salgado, Dean Swope	The Alaska Landmine	This is Anchorage	Incorporated online platforms into the story. A story sparked by social media. Not a groundbreaking subject and lacked background reporting. Could have been told in a shorter video.	Jeff Landfield, Scott Jensen, Carolyn Hall	Anchorage Daily News	Life in Russian Mission, Alaska in 360 VR	Awarded for good use of online/digital technology. Well-reported and felt candid, as if the camera wasn't there.	Loren Holmes
Television	Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Kathy Mykleby	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Frontiers - Dunleavy Recall Campaign: Voter's Remorse?		Will Mader, Rhonda McBride	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Toothless in Alaska, after elimination of Medicaid dental coverage		Rebecca Palsha, Leah Schwartz	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Alaska's senior Senator "disturbed" by McConnell's vow of "total coordination" with White House for impeachment trial		Sean Maguire
Television	Best Public Safety Reporting	Kathy Mykleby	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Frontiers - Violence: Alaska's Invisible Epidemic		Will Mader, Rhonda McBride	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Justice Delayed		Daniella Rivera, Matt Faubion, Rachel McPherron, Cody Sowl	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	We want answers	Daniella Rivera, Rachel McPherron	
Television	Best Feature	Kathy Mykleby	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	A choir like no other	Encores! Beautifully written, produced, narrated and photographed.	Samie Solina	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Faith is grown in a garden	In the words of one of my most highly regarded mentors, this piece sings. Great use of natural sound.	Samie Solina	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	A brief visit	Loved the playful element of suspense. The photography was exquisite.	Eric Sowl
Radio	Best Arts Reporting	Julie Siple	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)		Sweet (those kids), compelling, and well-told - and an important issue to boot. I loved the variety of tape in the piece. It added energy and context and facts, creating an altogether solid story. Nice work.	Angela Denning	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Fluffy-tailed Sittan hops into 'Tonight Show' spotlight	The storytelling here is incredible. A perfect little tale (ha), clever and surprising throughout. Such great writing! I'll remember this one.	Katherine Rose	KNBA Radio	Baby Yoda captures the hearts of Alaska Native artists	This is a terrific piece. The multitude of voices and thoughts on why Baby Yoda has captured the hearts of Alaska Native artists was the key. Memorable and well-done!	Tripp Crouse
Radio	Best Audio Program or Podcast	Julie Siple	KTOO Public Media	Cruise Town	Terrific storytelling. It's beautifully written and produced - each episode is compelling and I learned so much. The host is great, so too the reporters throughout. They're informative but also casual - people you want to accompany on a learning journey. Good music, good structure, well-reported, and a great idea for a limited-run podcast. Congratulations!	Jennifer Pemberton, Elizabeth Jenkins, Rashan McCheaney, Ryan Cunningham, David Purdy, Aedyn Baxter, Jeremy Hsieh, Zoe Grueskin, Matt Miller	Crude Magazine	Crude Conversations	What wonderful interviews! The host is great, letting the guests tell their true stories. The simple structure allows listeners to really get to know both those guests and their work - and by extension, life in Alaska. Congratulations!	Cody Lisak	Alaska Public Media	Alaska News Nightly	This show is such a great public service. The variety of stories, reporters, perspectives, and issues is really impressive. Together, those stories give listeners the latest on all sorts of issues affecting Alaska. And it's good listening, too. Congratulations!	Casey Grove, Mayowa Aina, Wesley Early
Radio	Best Sports Reporting (Radio)	Tom Goldman	KYUK	How Bethel Created Four-Time K200 Sled Dog Race Champ Pete Kaiser	see private note	Kryell Shallenberger	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Esports is growing in Alaska's high schools		Angela Denning	No Winner		WOW - what an amazing collection of shows and podcasts. I listened to hours and hours of audio, happily immersed in Alaskan life and conversation and journalism. I agonized over which three to choose. So many more deserve an award. Thank you to everyone who submitted. I so enjoyed listening.	

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					<p>"Very good job introducing us to the story subject despite the lack of video to work with. Good use of utilizing photos, bib numbers, standings sheets to give the viewer some context as to who this guy was"</p> <p>"Good interview with the racer's wife. The viewer gets a sense that the race meant a lot to Phil."</p> <p>"I think it should have been explained why the wife chose Brad George to carry his ashes. There's a generation gap there, so it's unclear as to how they know each other."</p> <p>"It would have also been nice to have Brad George on camera earlier. We don't see his face at all, including the race video, until midway through his third byte."</p> <p>"Sports stories are all about capturing moments, so it's nice to see Brad actually spread the ashes as well."</p>	Beth Verge, MMJ, Patrick Enslow, MMJ, AJ Lucero, Photographer, Josh Maxwell, Photographer			<p>"Good overall writing and storytelling, especially the segment about the early years."</p> <p>"A lot of nuggets in there that even long time residents never knew about this team."</p> <p>"Good editing and use of archival footage"</p> <p>"Poor choice for the black backdrop for the sit down interviews."</p> <p>"I feel the final segment was rushed. The rise and fall were in the same block. The team was winning and having all this success, and all of sudden, they were extinct. Dividing those two would have given the piece better pace. Some added insight into the financial stress of having a franchise in Alaska would have given some context to the decline."</p> <p>"Overall, this entry receives some extra credit for degree of difficulty."</p>	Patrick Enslow		<p>"I'm glad this story was contained to training. Schultz has gotten a lot of coverage since his injury so focusing on something specific makes the story work in the context of the amount of air time you have for this kind of story."</p> <p>"Good variety of shots and pacing of editing. Training stories aren't always fun to put together, but this one moves."</p> <p>"I do think some Mount Marathon file would have worked better though when he starts talking about '4 percent chance.' It's unclear until the next voice track that he's talking about the race lottery. People in Ben's position are often told of the odds of survival / walking / etc., so I wasn't sure what he was referring to at first."</p> <p>"Try to edit out the interviewer asking a question off-camera. I feel you can write into that byte and still get the spontaneity from the trainer in his answer."</p> <p>"I think the ideal finishing line is 'longshot is his middle name.'" The final byte and the nat pop from the group huddle are unnecessary."</p> <p>"A lot of story award submissions leave out the anchor intro and tag, but in this case they add substance. Good inclusion about Ben wearing the helmet."</p> <p>"Overall, solid product. The reporter's performance and delivery in the intro and tag add something to it as well."</p>	MK Burgess	
Television	Best Sports Reporting	Kevin Wells	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	One last run: Phil Karl completes Iron Dog 36			KTUU TV (Anchorage)	The Alaska Aces: From history to heartbeat			KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Ben Schultz: Beating the odds...		
Print/Online (Large & Small)	Best Education Reporting	Michelle Maxwell	Peninsula Clarion and Education Week	A Perennial Challenge in Rural Alaska: Getting and Keeping Teachers	Very revealing and well-organized with sourcing that emphasized the problem. Videos hearing from the teachers added depth to the report.	Victoria Petersen	Anchorage Daily News	Meet an Alaska Graduating Class of One	The reporter did a fine job of using this single grad senior class to represent 34 other schools with just an senior. The photo gallery slideshow added to richness and detail to the story.	Marc Lester	Anchorage Daily News	Documents leading up to accreditation loss for U/A teacher programs show significant concerns were raised early on in the process	Watchdog reporting and use of documents reveal an amazing lack of communication that had harsh consequences.	Tegan Hanlon
Print/Online (Large)	Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Michelle Maxwell	Arctic Today	As sea ice melts, momentum grows for Nome's Arctic port plan	Well-organized structurally and reporting was solid, exploring the many angles of the issue.	Yereth Rosen	Alaska Cannabist	Buttender Do's and Don'ts	Illuminating look at how to be good at a type of job that's relatively new.	Julie Stricker	Anchorage Daily News	Bar wars: Proposal to limit activities in Alaska breweries and distilleries stirs tension inside state's alcohol industry	Good explainer of an evolving issue, good sourcing.	James Brooks, Annie Zak
Print/Online (Large)	Best Public Safety Reporting	Cynthia Sewell	Anchorage Daily News	She leapt from a van on the Kenai Peninsula to escape her rapist. Then she waited 18 years for an arrest.	A fine mix of human interest and crime reporting, this story ultimately shines an important light on the missteps and foot-dragging of a community's public safety institutions. Powerful and compelling journalism makes this story particularly strong.	Kyle Hopkins	Anchorage Daily News	"This town is just exhausted" Cooper Landing wrestles with aftermath of a summer lost to wildfire	A series of well-written vignettes brings the story of this town's experience with a huge wildfire roaring back to life. Punchy writing at its best.	Tegan Hanlon, Anne Raup	First Alaskans Magazine	Taking Matters into Our Own Hands	A well researched piece about a national crisis, providing important information, background, and context with Alaska, Canada, and the Pacific Northwest at its epicenter.	Mary Kathryn Nagle
Print/Online (Small)	Best Profile	Cynthia Sewell	Chiklit Valley News	Rocket-fuel-making student wins state tech award	A delightful profile it captures the boundless curiosity, eccentricities, and passions of its subject. And it does what all great profiles do: makes the subject come alive for the reader.	Kyle Clayton	Alaska Journal of Commerce	A Bull's Eye on Alaska	This is a complete and thoroughly cogent profile that ties together two generations of Alaska business owners -- father and son -- and the ever-changing field of business technologies.	Andrew Jensen	Petersburg Pilot	Local veteran responded to Cuban Missile Crisis	This profile does a great job revealing the fascinating, almost farcical life of its subject. Great use of quotes and storytelling.	Brian Varela
Print/Online (Small)	Best Public Safety Reporting	Cynthia Sewell	Chiklit Valley News	Local smokejumper details record season	The opening reads like the director's cut of an Alaskan action movie. Great writing, compelling imagery.	Jenna Kunze	Chiklit Valley News	Man killed in wreck had earlier contact with police	This fine piece of detailed reporting offers a step-by-step series of exponentially revealing moments in a tragic escape.	Kyle Clayton	No Winner			

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Competition	Category Name	Judge	1st Contestant	1st Entry	1st Comment	1st Credits	2nd Organization	2nd Entry	2nd Comment	2nd Credits	3rd Organization	3rd Entry	3rd Comment	3rd Credits
Radio	Best Public Safety Reporting	Tom Goldman	Alaska Public Media	Will a new policing strategy make a dent in Anchorage's crime?	Zachariah, in my estimation, won this competition in the first few moments of his piece. The opening scene had riveting tape of the officer knocking on a car window trying to figure out if a young woman inside was dead. The scene was classic "take you there" stuff and Zachariah deftly wrote in and out. The story unfolded from there in an easy to understand way with a nice pace. The sound of the siren and speeding police car was a nice jolt part way through the story. I wanted to hear a second voice other than the officer's - maybe the woman he interests with near the garbage pile. Someone to talk about seeing a familiar police face and what impact that has. Also the story ended a little quickly, but all in all a very good job with a nice amount of tension.	Zachariah Hughes	KTOO Public Media	Jokulhlaup watch: Scientists, Juneau officials waiting for Suicide Basin's glacial dam release	Matt had some great entries - all three - but I thought this was the best combination of sound and writing and scenes, the hot landing in the chopper was very compelling as was the sound of the drone later on, also he did a good job of leaving the glacier and then coming back. An interesting story and he did a good job of giving us science but keeping it interesting, a very strong piece.	Matt Miller	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Four years after deadly landslides, Sitka has a warning system	Robert did a really nice job and this could've been a first place winner but for a few shortcomings. I really liked opening with the Pastor to give the story a humanistic feel before diving into the science. But right after the story seemed to beg for some archival tape from the 2015 landslide - I'm sure it exists somewhere, then he could've made a nice transition up to the slopes. I loved going there with the scientists, but after the first bit of sound on the mountain, Robert took us away from the scene, but then back again. If he'd kept the ambience under that first part and kept us there, I think it would've made things sound more seamless. I thought the story bogged down just slightly with the nobel laureate - he seemed a bit out of place. But then the piece finished strong, going back to the workers on the mountainside. And Robert's writing was really nice too. The brain...is us... is a line that lingers for me. And the ending was strong...always important...reminding us of the tragedy. All in all a very good story and worthy of a top-3 finish.	Robert Woolsey
All Media	Best Comprehensive Coverage	Amy Robinson	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	Iditarod 2019	Stunningly compelling piece with the interviews, imagery and history packed into this package. The look back to 1988 and then to now was particularly compelling. The way the segment opened and then the closing were brilliantly done. This is solid journalistic storytelling at its best.	Daniella Rivera, Elizabeth Roman, Dave Goldman, Scott Gross, John Thain, Angela Krenzien, John Thompson, Lauren Maxwell, Jess Stugelmayr	KTVA TV (Anchorage)	2019 Wildfire Coverage	The winning entry did an outstanding job of both presenting facts and data about the Iditarod and depicting the culture and the people who make the race so unique. Fantastic pictures and video too!	Heather Hintze, John Thain, Shayrie Nuesca, Elizabeth Roman, Daniella Rivera, Jess Stugelmayr, Angela Krenzien	Alaska Journal of Commerce	Elwood Brehmer-Port of Alaska	Second place focused on real time fire information that viewers would need in order to stay safe, and also supplemented with human interest stories highlighting the impacts of the fire. My third place selection had fewer photographs and lacked the production value of the first two, but it demonstrated impressive, consistent, high quality reporting over time. The stories spanned the entire year and the reporter regularly did an excellent job of taking a weighty, math-heavy story and making it understandable and relevant to readers. My apologies for the two entries I was unable to judge. One I was unable to access even copying and pasting the ID and password provided. The other one would not open on my computer (more information is in the judge's notes). I will say, while I'm sorry I was unable to view particularly the second of the two (which was not the entrant's fault, given the rigor of this category, it would have had to be an extremely strong entry to even be in the top five. Since it appeared to be solely PDF files, I would be surprised if it would have risen to that level. All the same, I'm sorry I couldn't view it.	Elwood Brehmer
All Media	Best Environmental Reporting	Heather Henline	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Warming Ocean, Changing Lives	The written portion was so compelling. The author's first-person narrative, while a nice tandem to the article, wasn't needed to breathe life into the piece. This was excellently written and reported.	Tracy Sinclair, Beth Verge	Alaska Public Media	With ANWR drilling on its doorstep, an Alaska Native village is poised to profit	This package captured the human element so well with regard to some and safety. It was well put together with quality reporting.	Nathaniel Herz	KTUU TV (Anchorage)	Newtok: A sprint against Climate Change	I've been a contest judge for more than 15 years and in multiple states. This is the most compelling, robust environmental reporting I have ever seen. The competition this year went above and beyond anything I had hoped to watch, listen to or read as a judge. I must salute all of the journalists who submitted entries in this category. Your work goes beyond Alaska to issues about which all Americans should be informed. Really well done!	Blake Essig
Print/Online (Small)	Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Emily Mieux	Alaska Journal of Commerce	Elwood Brehmer-International issues boost premium for Alaska oil	Loved this story. The only thing that could have made it better were interviews with the general store owners (not for lack of trying) and a photo of Stormy.	Elwood Brehmer	Homer News	Fritz Creek General Store told resident cat violates code	Great job making sense of a ton of numbers and prices.	Megan Pacer	Petersburg Pilot	Crab run outshines salmon harvest in SE	Brian Varela	
Print/Online (Large)	Best Short Feature	Paul Flahive	Anchorage Press	Local musicians to play benefit concert Saturday night at Willow for baby girl stricken with rare Tay-Sachs disease	Meet the rescuers: Together locals help visitor, save dog	O'Hara Shippe	Juneau Empire		Santas cruise in to North Pole for a wedding	Alex McCarthy, Michael Penn	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner		Kyrie Long	