

Category Name	Competition	Judge	Organization	Award	Entry Title	Credits	Judge's Comments
Best Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Alaska Public Media	First Place	Matt Faubion Alaska Press Club Best Video Journalism Entry 2023	Matt Faubion	Excellent story telling skills, using the video to bring us along. Good job!
Best Portrait	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Paul Keane	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Waiting for salmon	Emily Mesner	Love this one. She's just sitting there waiting for her cooler to be filled, apparently by the people behind her wading in the water.
Best Sports Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paul Keane	Chilkat Valley News	First Place	Wrestlers brave snowy highways, eight foot seas for historic state performance	Lex Treinen	Great job on a story that simply could have been about the tournament. Instead, it delves into the challenges this team faced just to get there. Nicely done.
Best Solo Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	First Place	ERIC SOWL COMPOSITE	ERIC SOWL	Three very Alaska stories. The fishing village especially showed cultural understanding and good access. Good quality shooting and voice track throughout.
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	People are dying out here: Inside 'Tent City,' Anchorage's downtown homeless encampment	Emily Goodykoontz	
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Small	Jacob Resneck	Cordova Times	First Place	After dumping issue, city working with Anchor Auto/Marine to address battery disposal	Elin Johnson	
Best Public Safety Reporting	Audio	Bob Collins	KTOO Public Media	First Place	'We could still hear the hillside cracking': How neighbors helped each other to safety after Wrangell's deadly landslide	Anna Canny, Colette Czarniecki, Caroleine James	What a fantastic piece of work. The writing -- short declarative sentences with terrific imagery -- is outstanding. The inclusion of the "smell" of a mudslide was unexpected and made the piece. I listened to the piece first, then I went to look at the website, and, wow! Just wow. This is great radio and great web work.
Best Natural Sound Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Maryann Lazarski	Alaska Public Media	First Place	Making Technicolor Glass Art From Upcycled Junk INDIE ALASKA	Adam Nicely, Valerie Lake, Amy Vail	from the start, the not drew me in. Loved the mix of her telling her story and the not pops throughout. The montage around 3:50 in was great could have used more of that! Nice work.
Best News Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Stephanie Mullen	Ketchikan Daily News	First Place	Fire investigation rules arson; suspect charged	Christopher Mullen	great classic middle of night news chasing. Well composed lead image.
Best Weekly Newspaper	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Chilkat Valley News	First Place	The Chilkat Valley News	Kyle Clayton, Lex Treinen	Good skeptical reporting on business venture seeking public asset in Skagway, death threats against fair board over drag shows and Klukwan school challenges. Far and away the best entry.
Best Breaking News Story	Video	Devon Sayers	Alaska's News Source	First Place	3 found dead, 1 alive after Wrangell landslide	Melissa Frey, Chief Meteorologist, Beth Verge, Multimedia Journalist	
Best Same-Day Feature	Video	Devon Sayers	Alaska's News Source	First Place	Last Day at Peggy's	Lauren Maxwell, Kim Daehnke	
Best News Reporting	Video	Karen Larsen	Alaska's News Source	First Place	It's a battle every day: Twin sister, cousin speak on holding out hope of finding missing loved one	Beth Verge, Multimedia Journalist, Aaron Weaver, Photojournalist	This story is well-written, shot and edited to tell a compelling story of one family's anguish over the disappearance of a loved one.
Best Newscast	Audio	Corey Flintoff	Alaska News Nightly	First Place	Alaska News Nightly	Casey Grove, Tim Rockey, Chris Hyde, Wesley Early, Kavitha George, Francisco Martinezcuello, Emily Schwing, Christina McDermott, Yvonne Krumrey, Phillip Manning	Well-produced, well-written and well-hosted. The story order in this program was especially well done, beginning with the news of Buzzy Petola's plane crash, followed by community reaction from Bethel, followed by a short item on Alaska air crashes. A good example of putting news in context.
Best Headline Writing	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	First Place	Sitka student builds a telecaster, shredding our old ideas about high school shop class	Robert Woolsey	"Sitka student builds a telecaster, shredding our old ideas about high school shop class"
Best Picture Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Allen Morris	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Dipnetting the Kenai	Emily Mesner	This and other heds use inventive verbs that are illustrative and don't rest on cheap puns.
Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Tom Daykin	Alaska Beacon	First Place	Liberty, an ambitious offshore oil project that once sparked excitement, is now in limbo	Yereth Rosen	An in-depth look at an ambitious North Slope oil exploration project that hasn't proceeded--with parallels to the well-known and controversial Willow oil project.
Best Investigative Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Cheryl Thompson	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Dysfunction in Alaska's guardianship services	Iris Samuels	No one likes when a system takes advantage of on the vulnerable, and Iris showed, through meticulous reporting, that that's what was happening. Terrific accountability story with impact. Bravo!
Best Education Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Tom Daykin	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Alaska to launch \$5 million state-run reading academy amid skepticism	Iris Samuels	A questionable proposal by the Alaska governor to provide enhanced reading instruction gets a through look in this well-reported article.
Best Specialty News Program	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	First Place	A New Mission: Life After Military Service	Tracy Sinclair, Rebecca Palsha, Rachel McPherron, Carly Schreck, Tracy Sabo	Ambitious project. A series of solid story packages between studio chats with experts. Packages were shot well, covered some important topics. Overall, the special provided a good range of information valuable to veterans and families.
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Audio	Tom Banse	KTOO Public Media	First Place	Telephone Hill residents plan next move after Juneau acquires property from state	Katie Anastas	Good tape and crisp writing. Also, nice use of a surprisingly relevant bit of music in the story opening. All perspectives on the topic that I would expect were present and accounted for.
Best Narrative Audio Program	Audio	Corey Flintoff	Rosebay Audio	First Place	The Alaska Myth	Kaitlin Armstrong, Erisa Apantaku, Allison Behringer, Alice Qannik Glenn, Patrick Cashman, Miacel Spotted Elk	A very well-produced and presented examination of some of the ideas that undergird Alaskans' mentality of rugged individualism and sense of settler supremacy. A necessary challenge in the ongoing debate over Alaska's identity.
Best Sports Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	John Carpenter	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	The reintroduction of Jason Mackey	Marc Lester	Great story about a great subject! Writer took us on this journey with Mackey! That's rare, and that's a treat!
Best Arts & Culture Criticism	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Peninsula Clarion	First Place	Off the Shelf: Small town girl weaves tales of home	Ashlyn O'Hara	
Best Same-Day Feature	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	CoastAlaska	First Place	Teen burn survivors from Indiana adventure in Alaska	Angela Denning	Good actualities, with emotion showing through. Nice flow and delivery. Good timing with actualities. Good explanation of why burn victims need this, and the pain they went through.
Best Arts Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Chilkat Valley News	First Place	Pioneer Bar celebrates 70 years with party	Nakeshia Diop	
Best Legal Affairs Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Lois Norder	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Alaska public defenders will begin refusing cases in Nome and Bethel, citing staff shortage	Iris Samuels	This quick-turn story, pegged to a letter sent by the public defender chief to presiding judges, concerns essential legal issues. It is well reported, covering causes, potential consequences and possible make-do solutions.

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Best Culture Reporting	Video	Karen Larsen	Alaska's News Source	First Place	BOARDING SCHOOL HEALING TOTEM POLE	ERIC SOWL	Excellent video technique combined with use of natural sound and well-paced writing; all help set the stage for this vital art project to commemorate an important cultural issue.
Best Sports Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Making a splash	Emily Mesner	
Best Sound-Rich Feature	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	KSTK	First Place	Sharing cultures as H?k?le'a voyagers arrive in Wrangell	Sage Smiley	This sound-rich feature is a wonderful mix of spoken word, songs and other celebratory sounds from the meeting of two very different cultures. The narration and actualities convey the information needed without getting lost in too many details. I'm happy to award this report first place.
Best Humor	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Betsy Russell	KNBA Radio	First Place	Laughter from Toksook Bay: Noah Loves Christy	Jill Fratis	A well-reported story both of and about humor
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Small	Scott Levin	Petersburg Pilot	First Place	'This fire can consume our building, but not our hearts' Community reels from devastating fire at Catholic Church	Chris Basinger	Outstanding narrative rich with facts and interesting details. Every single photo delivered an emotional impact.
Best Profile	Print-Small	Brian McCrone	Capital City Weekly	First Place	Planet Alaska: A float house named Sea Pig	Vivian Faith Prescott	Unique, upbeat, but could have used more voices. Who are these "naysayers" mentioned at least a couple times throughout the story. Are there any downsides to living on Sea Pig?
Best Sports Reporting	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska Public Media	First Place	An accident turned this skier into a force for good INDIE ALASKA	Valerie Lake, Matthew Faubion, Linda Wei	Nice storytelling about a paralyzed skier. Well-done reveal early in the story. Great action footage throughout. Cleary stands out in this category.
Best Fisheries Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	Northern Journal	First Place	A lawsuit targets a Southeast Alaska salmon fishery to save 73 orcas. Critics say the Washington-based plaintiffs should look closer to home.	Max Graham	The writer does a fine job of framing a complex legal conflict that feels like desperation on all sides – an old fleet looking to preserve its way of life, and activists aiming to save the last of a cherished population of killer whales. It's a classic resource conflict, told fairly and with skill.
Best Newscast	Video	Jason Goodwin	Alaska's News Source	First Place	Alaska's News Source News at 6: Record-breaking snow in Southcentral	Elinor Baty, Mike Ross, Maria Downey, Melissa Frey, Daniel Kirby, Kevin Fowler, Josh Griner	
Best Short Feature	Print-Large	Christina Myer	Hakai Magazine	First Place	Finding a whale in a watery haystack	J. Best	A tough category - lots of good writing. But this one stood out. Fascinating with just a touch of humor.
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Small	Christina Myer	Arctic Sounder	First Place	'You can never give up': A longtime Point Hope whaling captain lands his first bowhead	Alena Naiden	What a wonderful immersion into a family's and community's experience.
Best Reporting on Health	Print-Large	Brian McCrone	Alaska Beacon	First Place	Alaska health officials and providers work on strategies for responding to tuberculosis surge	Yereth Rosen	Combines an important health issue for all Alaskans with a well-reported family story woven in.
Best Solo Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KSTK	First Place	Sage Smiley	Sage Smiley	This is a strong and diverse collection of stories. We examine the appalling and long-tolerated practice of sewage dumping along coastal Alaska. We take a voyage through Southeast's fascinating geology. And we experience a cultural celebration when a Polynesian voyaging canoe visits Wrangell. The geology story includes a spectacular photo of the Chief Shakes Glacier, and the canoe story features striking photos of paddling and dancing plus captivating sound in the radio report. All in all, a terrific multimedia trio. My only criticism is that all three might benefit from some tightening and shortening.
Best Culture Reporting	Audio	Cara Hetland	Alaska Public Media	First Place	A traditional Unangax boat sails for the first time in over 200 years	Theo Greenly, Matt Faubion	Love the nat sound with this video and the experience you gave me!
Best Multimedia Presentation	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KNBA Radio	First Place	Celebrating Solstice: Finding the Light Within	Rhonda McBride, Matt Faubion	Here is a lovely exploration of the winter solstice, filled with bright sound and imagery – school kids and their thoughtful teachers, harp music, beeswax candles, and a spiral of spruce. Rhonda McBride combines fine writing with excellent photography using her iPhone. This is the work of a real pro.
Best Page Layout & Design	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jim Flynn	Alaska Business Monthly	First Place	Carbon Credits	Monica Sterchi-Lowman	Great photo illustration. Grabs the eye and makes me want to read the story. Simple use of type; the less the better.
Best Blog	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Bob Collins	heatherlende.com	First Place	What We Remember	Heather Lende	
Best Social Media Presence	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Scott Levin	Alaska's News Source	First Place	Alaska's News Source	Alaska's News Source Staff	By far the most-expansive social media network in the contest, with the largest online audience connected to its main news page. Smart use of niche sub-pages like the Morning Edition (hitting readers first thing in the day) and the Weather Source (a leading topic across all social media). Well managed, deserving of first place.
Best Food Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Gretchen McKay	Campbell (C.C.) Clark	First Place	Sun and Soil: Feeding the Last Frontier	C.C. Clark, Noah Spickelmier	What a terrific series! Exceptional reporting with a really interesting and important cast of characters. C.C. and Noah are wonderful (and fun) storytellers. They made this really important work easy to listen to. Bravo!
Best Arts Reporting	Audio	Amy Robinson	KNBA Radio	First Place	VIDEO: For Our Sisters: Red Dress Collection Tours the World	Antonia Gonzales, Frank Blanquet	This was a very strong piece, with multiple voice and good writing. The video was also effective and a nice element, although the piece would have been placed first even without the video
Best Profile	Audio	Amy Robinson	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	First Place	Not with cars, but with cubes, Sitka teen satisfies the need for speed	Katherine Rose	This piece has is all, great writing and delivery, interesting soundbites and ambi sound. Very well done!
Best Magazine Cover	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Campbell	Alaska Magazine	First Place	Alaska magazine October 2023 cover	Jennifer Smith, Steven Merritt	
Best Feature	Video	Jason Goodwin	Alaska Public Media	First Place	Talk to the Tundra: How a Yup'ik Village Heals Together INDIE ALASKA	Valerie Lake, Matthew Faubion, Linda Wei	
Best Short Feature	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Daily Sitka Sentinel	First Place	Family Dog Stella Comes in from the Cold	Garland Kennedy, James Poulson	Nice, heartwarming piece about a very lucky dog and the family who loves her.
Best Education Reporting	Audio	Julie Siple	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	First Place	Alaska schools struggling to keep up with the cost of food	Thomas Copeland	A sweet open, strong scene-setting, and great writing throughout ... tiny, creative turns of phrase make this story, bringing levity and clarity to an important and complex issue. The reporter keeps the listener engaged, even though an explanation of complicated school lunch funding (!). Nicely voiced too, natural and engaging. A terrific piece of audio.

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Best Reporting on Health Suzan Nightingale Award for Best Columnist	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Arctic Sounder	First Place	To keep health aides safe, Northwest Alaska's Manillaq Association is hiring security guards	Alena Naiden	Important work on an urgent need: workplace safety for health aides. Well researched piece detailing the dangerous situations health aides are confronted with, the scope and complexity of the problem, and the hope that investing in security guards for a handful of clinics will make a measurable impact.
	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	First Place	Entry for Best Columnist	Hank Nuwer, Henry Nuwer	Hank Nuwer uses humor and clear, descriptive writing to make charming points about life. Great all-around writing.
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Beacon	First Place	Alaskans again wait months for food stamps, workers union blames policy choices	Claire Stremple	A complex issue written in a clear and informative way helps readers make informed judgments about the policies and policymakers that affect them. Much-deserved award.
Best Long Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Grist	First Place	Salmon are vanishing from the Yukon River — and so is a way of life	Max Graham	An important story told beautifully and heartbreakingly. Well done.
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Beacon	First Place	Angoon students name, launch first dugout canoe since 1882 Bombardment	Claire Stremple	Expertly written piece on an important moment for the subjects of the story. Great reporting.
Best Breaking News Story	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	Juneau Empire	First Place	Record flooding from Suicide Basin destroys one home, swamps others and cuts off access	Claire Larson, Mark Sabbatini	
Best Profile	Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	Carrying on: At age 80, an Anchorage mail carrier has served the same neighborhood for nearly a half-century	Marc Lester	
Best Reporting on Health	Audio	Gabriel Spitzer	KDLL Kenai	First Place	Small exodus of doctors leaves central peninsula with recruitment rush, strains on care	Riley Board	Engaging host, solid writing. Very important trend to document ... good, thorough reporting, pretty snappy tape .. appreciate the context about med schools ... An econ segment but highlights the health angle nicely. Thanks for covering!
Best Sports or Outdoors Column	Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Skagway News	First Place	Fish This	Andrew Cremata	Good fish stories and good advice—just what a fishing column should be.
Best Alaska Outdoors Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Alaska Magazine	First Place	Surviving Christmas Eve: A kayaker fights for his life in an ice-cold sea	Matthew Keiper	An amazing adventure story, impossible to put down. Well sourced with a strong narrative structure. I shivered reading it.
Best Travel Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Alaska Magazine	First Place	Know Before You Go: Photo tours explained	Michelle Theall	Great information and a good tone for the topic. Good illustration. Helpful and readable.
Best Environmental Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Erik Anderson	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	A struggle to dodge salmon in pursuit of a massive pollock bounty	Loren Holmes, Hal Bernton	What a stunning bit of storytelling. The visual writing and accompanying photos and video brought the story to life. I appreciate how the fishing trawler served as the vehicle for a larger story about community and change. Great characters. Great writing. Great visuals.
Best Comprehensive Coverage	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Les Zaitz	Alaska Public Media	First Place	Yukon River salmon collapse coverage	Kavitha George	Kavitha George shows that climate change stories don't have to be bogged down in data and science. Her reporting does an excellent job of translating numbers into impact, and showing in very clear and readable stories how lives are affected.
Leslie Ann Murray Award for Best Editorial or Commentary	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Chris Conway	Chiklat Valley News	First Place	'Really really really wanna Zigzag ah!'	Kyle Clayton	Kyle Clayton's piece about a drag show in Haines makes a succinct argument about the absurdity of the debate over the show, weaving history and local reporting to make his case that, with all the other issues facing Haines, it was a waste of time to focus on the show. "If drag's not your thing," he writes, "don't go."
Best Series	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	KTOO Public Media	First Place	Mga Kuwento	Tasha Elizarde, Katie Anastas, Adelyn Baxter, Yvonne Krumrey, Anna Canny, Dave Waldron, Shayne Nuesca	Thoughtful and thought-provoking, colorful and moving, this series gave voice to a people that many people haven't even thought about. Powerful.
Best Interview or Call-in Audio Program	Audio	Justin Hinkley	KTOO Public Media	First Place	Culture Rich Conversatons	Natasha Booser, Christina Michelle Patterson	
Best Scenic Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Ted Warren	Daily Sitka Sentinel	First Place	Northern Light Show	James Poulson	Really remarkable Northern Lights display, and so nice to have the water and boats for reference and scale. A good reminder of how most of the world finds this type of scene awe-inspiring, even if it is a more common sight in Alaska. Nicely done.
Best Feature Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Ted Warren	Anchorage Daily News	First Place	A walk in the woods	Emily Mesner	Very nicely conceived drone photo, with just the right human element to it. Gives readers a perspective they wouldn't have otherwise, and the crop and framing both seem intentional to fill the frame and point the eye toward the people with strong natural graphical elements.
Best Reporting on Science	Audio	Gabriel Spitzer	KSTK	First Place	3,000-year-old bone draws new link between Lingit people and their ancestors	Sage Smiley	What an interesting piece -- clear and well written, with good explanation of the science content, as well as the stakes of the discovery. I appreciate the deep dive into the problematic history of science/archaeology and tribes -- it's nice to hear an example of this going smoothly. Good tape, seems like you talked to the right folks. Overall an enlightening story about science why it matters in human terms.
Best Natural Sound Audio Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Rachel Waldholz	KYUK	First Place	LISTEN: Kimberly Fitka O'Domin ceremony and family reflection	Francisco Martínezcuello	This is a really remarkable piece, heartbreaking and beautifully put together. The interviews with grieving family and community members paint a moving portrait of the young woman who passed away, and the sounds of the memorial service transport us into the scene.
Best Reporting on Science	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Alaska Beacon	First Place	Antibiotic-resistant microbes lurk in poop of Anchorage moose, UAA research finds	Yereth Rosen	Excellent piece! Engaging, conversational writing that gives the reader a clear understanding of what's at stake in a changing world. You're piece stood out for the quality of the writing, the research, the immediacy of this looming health risk to vulnerable populations, and the creative ways student researchers are collecting samples. Nice job.
Best Sports Reporting	Audio	Deborah Horne	KUCB	First Place	At this year's Ballyhoo Mountain Run, local athletes show a reporter who's boss	Andy Lusk	I loved the use of natural sound in this piece. The reporter's perspective made me feel like I was there. Bravo.
Best Arts Reporting	Video	Deborah Horne	Alaska Public Media	First Place	Making Technicolor Glass Art From Upcycled Junk INDIE ALASKA	Adam Nicely, Valerie Lake, Amy Vail	Beautifully done in every way

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Best Magazine Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Alaska Magazine	First Place	Art Wolfe, Painter of Light: A photographer's journey from student to master	Emily Mount, Art Wolfe	Excellent profile on an important artist. I especially liked your detail when describing the wildlife encounters and the influence being a painter has had on Wolfe's work. You struck a just-right balance between how he first got started, his passion, his body of work, and where he's headed next. Nice job.
Best Alaska History Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Brian McCrone	Gastineau Heritage News	First Place	Once Thriving Douglas Native Community Dispossessed by Fires and Bureaucracy	Laury Scandling, Richard Mattson, Paula Johnson, Robert Paulo, Jackie Schoppert, Lillian Petershoare	Sprawling, gut-wrenching, epic account of a village burned not once but twice, for entirely different reasons, makes this story essential reading for anyone who is interested in the history of Juneau and the history of Alaska. The writing could have been smoother, but the reporting and how the story spans more than a century of history puts this entry at the top of the category. Was left wanting to know even more about the Douglas Village, William Paul, the Schopperts and other characters involved.
Best Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Rachel McPherron Best of Video Journalism 2023	Rachel McPherron, Mike Mason, Lauren Maxwell, David Bernknopf	Difficult conditions and well shot. tough choice
Best Portrait	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Paul Keane	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	At the club	Emily Mesner	Great photo that is very nearly a little risque. Tough to shoot photos like this because of the lighting issues that surround an event like this. Well done.
Best Sports Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paul Keane	Peninsula Clarion	Second Place	Soldotna defeats Lathrop for Division II state football championship	Jeff Helminiak	Nice job on portraying the pressure that must have been on these seniors to keep the tradition and make sure they won a state title. Very detailed and interesting.
Best Solo Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	GEORGINA FERNANDEZ COMPILATION	GEORGINA FERNANDEZ	Bees was the most interesting, well-told story. Skiing package was a little choppy but good effort sending out a camera on the slopes. Dog drug attacks was a solid daily news package.
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Alaska Beacon	Second Place	State troopers, misled by false court order, detained school principal for mental health check	James Brooks	
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Small	Jacob Resneck	Cordova Times	Second Place	USPS visit leaves community with more questions than answers	Kinsey Brown	
Best Public Safety Reporting	Audio	Bob Collins	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Second Place	Alaska's volunteer firefighting force halved over the last decade	Thomas Copeland	This was really good. Tightly written. Didn't care for the noise of the tone at the beginning but the way you described the drop in numbers was brilliant. And right around the time I'm screaming, "why?", you told me why. Extra points for "You can't fight a big fire in front of your laptop."
Best Natural Sound Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Maryann Lazarski	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	Life Aboard a Factory Trawler in the Bering Sea	Loren Holmes	
Best News Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Stephanie Mullen	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	Landslide	Loren Holmes	shocking destruction showing how long the clean up takes after a disaster of this size.
Best Weekly Newspaper Best Same-Day Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Nome Nugget	Second Place	Best Weekly	Nome Nugget staff reporters	Good "hometown" coverage of Iditarod race finish. Employee housing controversy was comprehensive.
Best News Reporting	Video	Devon Sayers	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Food Truck Offers Homeless Meals	Lauren Maxwell, Kim Daehnke	
Best Newscast	Video	Karen Larsen	Alaska Public Media	Second Place	Walking through the Port of Alaska's modernization plans	Madiyn Rose, Lori Townsend, Matt Faubion, Annie Fiedt	Excellent video and natural sound help support the unveiling of the issues and concerns at the heart of the story.
Best Headline Writing	Audio	Corey Flintoff	KDLG	Second Place	Bristol Bay Fisheries Report	Corinne Smith, Jessie Sheldon, Jack Darrell	A brisk, well-produced news program that serves the fishing industry with hard numbers, but also provides features of interest to the general community.
Best Picture Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Alaska Business Monthly	Second Place	Alaska Business Headlines 2023 Vol. 2	Scott Rhode	"Let's Get Geophysical" stands out
Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Allen Morris	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	A Struggle to Dodge Salmon in Pursuit of a Massive Pollock Bounty	Loren Holmes	
Best Investigative Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Tom Daykin	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	A symbol of Hope: The iconic Seaview Cafe and Bar, closed this summer, is for sale	Marc Lester	A well-written feature about a small Alaska town and the future of its longtime restaurant and community hub.
Best Education Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Cheryl Thompson	KYUK	Second Place	Lost in translation: FEMA sent 'unintelligible' disaster relief application information to Alaska Natives impacted by Typhoon Merbok	Emily Schwing	There's so much to like about this story (though it could have been structured better). The idea that the federal government--FEMA--spent nearly \$28,000 on translations that were wrong is inexcusable. Good public service.
Best Specialty News Program	Print-Small,Print-Large	Tom Daykin	The Northern Light	Second Place	UAA's dance program is returning to the spotlight	Taylor Heckart	The inside story of how a university dance program destined for the chopping block is revived.
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	7.1: Five Years Later	Melissa Frey, Rachel McPherron, Elinor Baty	Solid reporting on an important topic. Good reporting and information on many aspects of quake preparedness (e.g., what to do in the moment, getting your emergency kit together, what is the latest with building upgrades, what is the latest with tsunami preparedness). Short, well-told stories reflecting on peoples' experience in the moment of the 7.1 earthquake. Held my interest throughout the special.
Best Narrative Audio Program	Audio	Tom Banse	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Second Place	Survey shows Petersburg needs 300 houses in the next decade	Thomas Copeland	The wonderful energy in the voicing of the narration lifted this story above the pack. Kudos as well for having all in-person tape and a personal story to draw us in.
Best Sports Feature	Audio	Corey Flintoff	Alaska Beacon	Second Place	Private Right, episodes 4 and 5	Lisa Phu	This well-made series examines the struggle over abortion rights from political and personal perspectives. It frames the debate in clear and concise terms.
Best Arts & Culture Criticism	Print-Small,Print-Large	John Carpenter	Alaska Sports Report	Second Place	An outlier from the outset, Anchorage's Nate Thompson retires after an unlikely and remarkable NHL career	Doyle Woody	Great writing! Writer has a way of turning a phrase that gives the reader a 3D feel for what's happening!
Best Same-Day Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Peninsula Clarion	Second Place	Off the Shelf: A powerful record of Alaska Native advocacy	Ashlyn O'Hara	
Best Arts Reporting	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	KTOO Public Media	Second Place	Lost and found: After the flood, Juneau residents return lost treasures to families	Adelyn Baxter	Excellent, human impact follow-up to probably Juneau's biggest story of the year. Provides a good look at a surprising aspect of this disaster. Doesn't try to do too much, which would have been tempting.
	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Alaska Business Monthly	Second Place	Theater Upheaval	Scott Rhode	

Category Name	Competition	Judge	Organization	Award	Entry Title	Credits	Judge's Comments
Best Legal Affairs Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Lois Norder	KTOO Public Media	Second Place	Family says untreated pain, solitary confinement led to man's suicide at Lemon Creek	Yvonne Krumrey	This story must have sparked outrage. The reporter held the Department of Corrections accountable when it tried to deny that the man who died was in solitary confinement.
Best Culture Reporting	Video	Karen Larsen	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Alaska Natives conflict with Interior Department on proposed changes to Indian Arts & Crafts Act	Joe Cadotte	Well-written and balanced coverage of potential changes to the rules governing vital regulation of Native art.
Best Sports Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Ketchikan Daily News	Second Place	One Last Time in the Dirt	Christopher Mullen	
Best Sound-Rich Feature	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	KDLG	Second Place	Newhalen celebrates the Great Blessing of Water at Theophany	Izzy Ross	The reporter puts us in the middle of the Great Blessing of Water ceremony, through sound and conversation. The sound is more present during the ceremony, but the ambiance in the following meal-and-conversation section also works well, taking us inside the priest's home without being too intrusive.
Best Humor	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Betsy Russell	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Second Place	The Raven Whisperer	Hank Nuwer, Henry Nuwer	Clever and funny
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Small	Scott Levin	UAS Whalesong	Second Place	Exploring Mendenhall's Worst Flood Yet	AJ Schultz, Rosemarie Alexander	Nice, well-rounded story about a typically regular occurrence that turned into a natural disaster.
Best Profile	Print-Small	Brian McCrone	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Second Place	Skipper Recalls Life On Fishing Grounds	Garland Kennedy	Well-rounded, well-written look at a fisherman and his career as he embarks on a final journey. But like the other entrants in this category, the profile lacked voices other than the main character which would have helped round out and deepen the narrative.
Best Sports Reporting	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Veteran musher Jason Mackey reflects on life, brother's legacy in return to Iditarod	Beth Verge, Multimedia Journalist, Tracy Sabo, Photojournalist	Touching little story about Iditarod racer mourning the loss of two loved ones. The active interview approach was effective. the activity of caring for the dogs supported the story and made for a more vulnerable interview.
Best Fisheries Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KYUK	Second Place	Despite years of poor salmon fishing, four generations of Nulato women keep the fire in their family smokehouse burning	Emily Schwing	This poignant little radio story, reported directly from the remote village of Nulato, introduces us to the vulnerable faces of Western Alaska's salmon depression. It's fascinating, and very sad, to enter what is today a rare smokehouse filled not with salmon but other sorts of fish – and a great sense of loss. We need much more reporting like this.
Best Newscast	Video	Jason Goodwin	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	The Alaska's News Source Late Edition	Beth Verge, Anchor/Producer, Arielle Ingram-David, Associate Producer, Joe Cadotte, Reporter, Phil Walczak, Photojournalist, Austin Sjong, Sports Reporter, Kevin Fowler, Director	
Best Short Feature	Print-Large	Christina Myer	ICT (formerly Indian Country Today)	Second Place	Hearing on boarding schools wraps up with healing totem pole raising	Joaqin Estus	
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Small	Christina Myer	Petersburg Pilot	Second Place	T'akdeintaan clan hosts Koo.éex'	Olivia Rose	
Best Reporting on Health	Print-Large	Brian McCrone	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	A State of Waiting: Patrick Holland awaits heart transplant in Seattle	Marc Lester	Great profile piece that's easily readable and provides a window into the complicated issue of
Best Solo Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KYUK	Second Place	Going to Pieces: Tracking the progress of America's first climate change relocation	Emily , Schwing	Here are three pieces, reported directly from the village of Newtok, showing how residents live shockingly close to the edge as melting permafrost forces a gradual relocation of the village. Basics such as running water are a challenge here. Twice a day, the "bathroom bus" – an aluminum trailer towed by a four-wheeler – carries school kids home just so they can use honey buckets. The reporter gives us fine radio sound and photos. To see people living in such a vulnerable situation likely will stun readers and listeners. A commendable and important series.
Best Culture Reporting	Audio	Cara Hetland	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Second Place	Alaska Orthodox Bishop makes first visits to Aleutians and Pribilofs	Theo Greenly	Really nice audio and well written story.
Best Multimedia Presentation	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Second Place	Building Husitux*: short film highlights Unangax* watercraft resurgence	Kanesia McGlashan-Price, Ryan Farmer, Mike Ferguson, David Sopjes, Rene Azzara, Monica Southworth	This is a short film about the building of a traditional Aleutians skin boat. But the story runs much deeper as the film tells the history of a forced relocation of Unangax? families. The film combines spectacular aerial imagery, craftsmen at work, and well-chosen music. An eight-minute odyssey worth repeated views.
Best Page Layout & Design	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jim Flynn	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Second Place	Front page - Sept. 19, 2023	Missy Ballinghoff	Centerpiece makes this page. Great use of old photos, postcards and correspondence. to help tell an important story in the state's history.
Best Social Media Presence	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Scott Levin	Capital City Weekly	Second Place	Planet Alaska	Vivian Faith Prescott , Vivian Yeilk' Mork	A very strong following considering it's a page dedicated to content from one regular column. Perfect Alaska content not only for insiders who love the unique features of the state, but outsiders who have a fantasy image of the Last Great Frontier.
Best Food Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Gretchen McKay	Alaska Business Monthly	Second Place	Tasting Alaska	Scott Rhode	Great reporting!
Best Arts Reporting	Audio	Amy Robinson	Crude Conversations	Second Place	EP 121 A fear of money and the pursuit of success with Nick Carpenter	Cody Liska	The podcaster does a great job of creating a narrative to introduce his guest. He also is engaged in the conversation, which helps draw the listener in and he asks very good questions. All in all a nice piece of work
Best Profile	Audio	Amy Robinson	KNBA Radio	Second Place	Joy in the Chaos	Rhonda McBride	This story rated numerically the same as the third place entry, however, I just really loved the overall sound of this piece. The writing, soundbites and ambi were woven together expertly.
Best Magazine Cover	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Campbell	Alaska Magazine	Second Place	Alaska magazine December 2023 cover	Sergius Hannan, Steven Merritt	
Best Feature	Video	Jason Goodwin	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Spartan Brigade paratroopers journey up Alaska's Gold Star Peak in honor of nation's fallen	Beth Verge, Multimedia Journalist	
Best Short Feature	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Alaska Contractor	Second Place	Globe-Trotting Gondola	Kevin Klott	Clean piece about a logistical feat to import a used Gondola from Austria to Juneau.

Category Name	Competition	Judge	Organization	Award	Entry Title	Credits	Judge's Comments
Best Education Reporting	Audio	Julie Siple	KMXT Radio, Kodiak	Second Place	Karluk will have a school for the first time since 2018	Brian Venua	Wow, what a story – I've been telling people about it since the moment I heard it. Lovely storytelling, strong voices, solid writing – and details that stick with you. Really takes the listener inside an unexpected solution to an educational challenge. Very memorable. Great voicing too.
Best Reporting on Health	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Nome Nugget	Second Place	Rural kids' dental care is suffering under new Medicaid policies, dentists say	Megan Gannon	Good piece showing how a recent change to Medicaid policy / procedure in Alaska is impeding access to dental care for children and delaying payments to providers. I appreciated that providers from multiple clinics were interviewed, and that the reporter also detailed the impact to children and families traveling for care from rural communities.
Suzan Nightingale Award for Best Columnist	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Capital City Weekly	Second Place	Planet Alaska	Vivian Faith Prescott	Vivian Prescott paints beautiful pictures of life in Alaska with her words.
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Beacon	Second Place	Alaska governor's staff deleted state agency's analysis of teacher pay	James Brooks	An important watchdog story written in a way that helps readers understand the issue. Well done.
Best Long Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Peninsula Clarion	Second Place	Stopping the press	Ashlyn O'Hara, Jake Dye	A sad story told well.
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Beacon	Second Place	New Anchorage signpost explaining Dena'ina place name is part of broader movement	Yereth Rosen	Important and well-written story.
Best Breaking News Story	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	Alaska Beacon	Second Place	After China balloon scare, Air Force shoots down object flying above Alaska's North Slope	James Brooks	
Best Profile	Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	Peninsula Clarion	Second Place	'Everything is a treasure to me'	Ashlyn O'Hara	
Best Reporting on Health	Audio	Gabriel Spitzer	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Second Place	King Cove celebrates new ambulance	Theo Greenly	Nice lede, sets stage effectively for why the ambulance is big deal ... really nice portrait of emergency response in very remote community, ... could have used some data on response times in King Cove and other communities in region. ... Overall, this tells me a whole lot about this community and its challenges within a short run time. Nice job!
Best Sports or Outdoors Column	Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Peninsula Clarion	Second Place	Out of the Office: When is the best time of the year to leave?: Out of the Office: The Circle Game; Out of the Office: Mind game	Jeff Helminiak	Some thoughtful and amusing columns, although a little more narrative would be appreciated.
Best Alaska Outdoors Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Second Place	Lessons Learned: Close Encounter of the Bear Kind	Garland Kennedy	A thoughtful and unusual entry: What happens when a big media project affect traditional hunters?
Best Travel Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Michael Taylor	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Road Trippin' 2023: Checking out Talkeetna on an e-bike	Dave Allgood, Mike Nederbrock	This was both humorous and informative.
Best Environmental Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Erik Anderson	Alaska Public Media	Second Place	A young leader fights for Yukon River salmon, her community – and herself	Kavitha George	I was captivated by the author's ability to bring the story to life with in-the-field audio and interesting people. The central character was the perfect vehicle to understand how climate change is changing culture. A deftly told story.
Best Comprehensive Coverage	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Les Zaitz	KTOO Public Media	Second Place	Juneau's August 2023 glacial outburst flood	Anna Canny	Reporting on a natural disaster can be rote, but this entry showed reporters sought ways to report on the damage to people as well as their property.
Leslie Ann Murray Award for Best Editorial or Commentary	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Chris Conway	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	Ranked-choice opponents appear to be playing fast and loose with Alaska's election laws	Larry Persily	Larry Persily makes a compelling case that opponents of ranked choice voting are hiding behind a self-proclaimed religious organization so they can raise money from donors who would remain anonymous while receiving tax deductions for their contributions. He urges state lawmakers to plug loopholes that allow front groups to raise money without disclosing their donors. Or, as he puts it: "I pray the Alaska Legislature gets religion about strengthening campaign finance laws."
Best Series	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	KNBA Radio	Second Place	The Future of Arctic Shipping: A 4-Part Series.	Emily Schwing	This series grabbed your attention from the beginning of part one to the end of the series. Excellently reported and beautifully told.
Best Interview or Call-in Audio Program	Audio	Justin Hinkley	Crude Magazine	Second Place	Crude Conversations	Cody Liska	
Best Scenic Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Ted Warren	Anchorage Daily News	Second Place	Moose at sunrise	Loren Holmes	Great execution here of what looks to be a drone shot, and kudos also to the layout that allowed this photo space to be displayed large. The layers of this photo give it depth and scale, and the stark image of a single moose against the vast white background of snow is compelling.
Best Feature Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Ted Warren	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Second Place	Goosing Swan	James Poulson	A true feature that benefits from the right headline and caption. You managed to find something besides wildlife looking pretty, and the funny wordplay adds to the appeal. Even though this is subtle visually, it rewards those who read and look closely, and likely provides a chuckle and a "hey look at this" offered to others nearby.
Best Reporting on Science	Audio	Gabriel Spitzer	KYUK	Second Place	100 million years ago, dinosaurs left clues about how they lived in Interior Alaska. This summer, a research team went looking for them	Emily , Schwing , Rashah , McChesney	The really lovely writing paints an evocative picture, and the mix/production with the scene material is well-crafted. It's so cool to capture these moments of discovery on tape. Good linking the science to the stakes.
Best Natural Sound Audio Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Rachel Waldholz	KSTK	Second Place	Maybe now it's time... 'Annie' opens at the Nolan Center this week	Sage Smiley	This is such a fun and joyful community portrait! The excitement of all the kids and community members comes across in the interviews, great use of music and scenes from the play to pull us into the scene. And I love the funny asides from the reporter/actor herself!
Best Reporting on Science	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Alaska Magazine	Second Place	The search for ancient antlers	J. Bestl	Really nice job scene setting and explaining why the research matters. Your piece stood out from the 3rd place winner for its ecological and environmental importance to the Porcupine Caribou Herd, and the significance of preserving their lands. The climate record was a nice touch - offering hope that the herd is resilient and may withstand our warming trends. I enjoyed that you included some interesting detail on how carbon dating is achieved. Nice work.
Best Sports Reporting	Audio	Deborah Horne	KYUK	Second Place	Both Warrior teams win regional tournament and head to state wrestling competition	Francisco Martínezcuello	Very good use of audio.
Best Arts Reporting	Video	Deborah Horne	Alaska's News Source	Second Place	Last Dance - Jill Flanders Crosby Retires	Dave Allgood	The writing was as eclectic as the dancer. Nice job.

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Best Magazine Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Alaska Magazine	Second Place	On Assignment: Behind the scenes with National Geographic photographer Michael Melford	Emily Mount, Michael Melford	Very nice piece profiling an accomplished photographer, and the choices, risks and commitments he made to find success. The opening paragraphs set the tone perfectly. Excellent job bringing us into the small scenes of his life and work, and his adventures in Alaska. Nice pairing of images.
Best Alaska History Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Brian McCrone	KDLG	Second Place	Qayassiq's walrus hunt, once banned, now carries traditions of sharing and management to the next generation	Izzy Ross	This story is set apart from the competition by three things: its writing and its reporting connects the story seamlessly through past generations to the current walrus hunters, and its fascinating topic.
Best Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	COMPOSITE - ERIC SOWL	ERIC SOWL	Nicely paced
Best Portrait	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Paul Keane	KMXT Radio, Kodiak	Third Place	A Brewer and His Dog Play with Spirits	Brian Venua	A man, his dog and all the tools he needs to partake in his hobby/business. Nicely framed.
Best Sports Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paul Keane	Alaska Sports Report	Third Place	Iditarod Trail Invitational features tough conditions for human-powered racers	Matias Saari	Another good job detailing the struggles and pain that is involved in an event like this. Nice job of putting in there what happened to folks who had to drop out.
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Third Place	Delta Junction mother, daughter arrested in connection with fatal hit-and-run	Haley Lehman	
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Small	Jacob Resneck	Homer News	Third Place	Homer Library Advisory Board upholds decision to retain LGBTQ+ books	Delcenia Cosman	
Best Public Safety Reporting	Audio	Bob Collins	KNBA Radio	Third Place	Beyond the Bear: Collective Healing and Safety in Wales	Rhonda McBride	First of all, your delivery is utterly delightful. You're a very good writer. This piece was 7 minutes long, which is a lot to hold a radio audience's attention. On the other hand, there wasn't a point at which I said, "when is this piece going to end?", which is a point I usually get to in 7-minute pieces. You got a lot of information in and the piece did a good job of continually moving forward. I wanted to hear more about the struggle students have to move on, right around the part where it was pointed out, "the students are struggling hard." You mentioned the counselor but not an assessment from him/her on the range of problems as a result of the attack. But where you went after that was fascinating and informative. Still, that one missing small element, prevented the listener from having a deeper emotional connection with the story, and a higher ranking in the judging.
Best Natural Sound Video Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Maryann Lazarski	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	2023 Alyeska Slush Cup natpkg	Jeremy Kashatok	
Best News Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Stephanie Mullen	Daily Sitka Sentinel	Third Place	High wind victim	James Poulson	
Best Weekly Newspaper	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Petersburg Pilot	Orin Pierson, Ola Richards, Olivia Rose, Chris Basinger, Lizzie Thompson, Jake Clemens, Indigo Hanahan, Dasha Contag, Alec McMurren, Liam Demko, Joelle Reyes, Chris Reyes	Exceptional A1 photo of tragic Catholic church fire.
Best News Reporting	Video	Karen Larsen	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	Man who shot into Anchorage party bus, killing teen, to serve 35 years in prison	Aaron Weaver, Photojournalist, Beth Verge, Reporter, Lex Yelverton, Multimedia Journalist	Allowing the families to tell the story of their heartache and loss makes this a story that captures the viewer's attention.
Best Newscast	Audio	Corey Flintoff	KNBA Radio	Third Place	KNBA Morning News	Rhonda McBride	A good example of the traditional top-of-the-hour newscast that keeps listeners up-to-date. Well-produced and hosted, with clear and concise stories in a short format.
Best Headline Writing	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Jacob Resneck	Alaska Public Media	Third Place	Various (see attached file and URLs)	Chris Klint	"Give birthing moose a wide berth, biologist says" was a superior adaptation to the original submitted hed
Best Picture Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Allen Morris	Alaska Business Monthly	Third Place	Stan's Barbershop	Katie Basile	
Vern McCorkle Award for Best Business Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Tom Daykin	KDLG	Third Place	With no commercial interest in Togiak herring, Alaska looks to the Atlantic for inspiration	Izzy Ross	An interesting explainer piece about a troubled Alaskan industry that offers some possible solutions.
Best Education Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Tom Daykin	Peninsula Clarion	Third Place	School board rejects Nikolaevsk charter school application	Ashlyn O'Hara	An interesting look at a charter school battle in a remote Alaska community.
Best Specialty News Program	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	Alaska Weather 2022: A Year of Extremes	Melissa Frey, Tracy Sinclair	A bit of storytelling mixed with lots of archival footage and traditional weather reporting. Viewers value this type of content, of course.
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Audio	Tom Banse	KSTK	Third Place	Coastal communities like Wrangell face costly sewage treatment upgrades in coming years	Sage Smiley	Tough topic to make interesting, but Sage did it well.
Best Narrative Audio Program	Audio	Corey Flintoff	KMXT Radio, Kodiak	Third Place	Alaska Fisheries Report	Terry Haines	This series examines many of the challenges facing one of the state's most important industries, including the collapse of fisheries, by-catch, fair allocations, food security and culture. It's informative for both industry professionals and concerned citizens.
Best Sports Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	John Carpenter	Alaska Sports Report	Third Place	It's homecoming week for Utah's Alissa Pili, the star of this year's Great Alaska Shootout	Beth Bragg	Great story telling!
Best Arts & Culture Criticism	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Peninsula Clarion	Third Place	On the Screen: 'Across the Spider-Verse' is somehow again groundbreaking	Jake Dye	
Best Same-Day Feature	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	KYUK	Third Place	Dozens testify in Bethel during federal hearing on salmon: 'We bear the brunt of the conservation'	Evan Erickson	Despite what could have been a boring setting, this report does an excellent job of explaining the human impacts of a regulatory decision deeply affecting people's lives.
Best Arts Reporting	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Dunham	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Thirty-seven years in the making, Hoopie Davidson's chess set is complete	Lizzie Thompson	
Best Legal Affairs Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Lois Norder	Alaska Beacon	Third Place	From abortion to zoning: Short summaries of every bill in the 33rd Alaska State Legislature	James Brooks	What a great public service. Alaskans should not have to plow through the legal language of proposed legislation to see what lawmakers want to do. Impressive effort.
Best Sports Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small,Print-Large	Joan Cartan-Hansen	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Open-water swim across Frederick Sound	Orin Pierson	

Category Name	Competition	Judge	Organization	Award	Entry Title	Credits	Judge's Comments
Best Sound-Rich Feature	Audio	Ed Schoenfeld	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Third Place	KFSK's Thomas Copeland documents his first Fourth of July Celebration in Petersburg	Thomas Copeland	I didn't think I'd like this story when I saw the headline, because it had the potential to be too predictable. But it stands out in this contest because it uses so much sound and short, meaningful quotes from participants. The reporter was thoughtful in his first-person presence and used it to make the story fun and keep the listeners engaged.
Best Humor	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Betsy Russell	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Third Place	Tune to your local radio station for details': Life as an Alaska radio reporter	Theo Greenly	Entertaining and nicely reported (but - language!)
Best Public Safety Reporting	Print-Small	Scott Levin	Nome Nugget	Third Place	Community seeks solutions to musk ox management problem	Diana Haecker	Sharp, clear voice to the writing. This story benefitted by the emotional quotes pulled from letters written to officials.
Best Profile	Print-Small	Brian McCrone	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	A greenhouse is a lovely place to grow	Olivia Rose, Orin Pierson	Very informative and detailed about the art of gardening. Often, a profile piece can be written in a way that turns the main character into a conduit for a topic. This story feels that way about the joys of gardening.
Best Sports Reporting	Video	Wes Pope	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	World Eskimo Indian Olympics leave no part of the body untested	Jordan Rodenberger	Engaging reporter-participant approach. Reporter is charismatic and makes it work. Story becomes a bit more about the journalist and less about the subjects... but I'm sure viewers are entertained.
Best Fisheries Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	Alaska Beacon	Third Place	As the once-lucrative Bering Sea crab harvest resumes, Alaska's fishers face challenges	Yereth Rosen	This is a comprehensive look at the state of the troubled Bering Sea commercial crab fisheries. Some hard work poured into this piece.
Best Newscast	Video	Jason Goodwin	KYUR KTBY	Third Place	KYUR/KTBY A Block for May 17, 2023	Trill Gates, Ian Stewart, La'shawn Donelson, Erin Farrell, Emily Gerchman	
Best Short Feature	Print-Large	Christina Myer	Fairbanks Daily News-Miner	Third Place	The Door youth shelter facing serious budget deficit	Carter DeJong	
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Small	Christina Myer	Capital City Weekly	Third Place	Planet Alaska: Postcards from the rainforest	Vivian Yeilk' Mork , Vivian Faith Prescott	
Best Reporting on Health	Print-Large	Brian McCrone	Juneau Empire	Third Place	Doctor: 'Inhumane treatment' of behavioral health care patients at Bartlett Regional Hospital	Mark Sabbatini	Good example of essential community journalism.
Best Solo Journalism	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KTOO Public Media	Third Place	Three stories from Katie Anastas: Telephone Hill, Shelter & Reparations	Katie Anastas	These are polished stories, often packed with emotion, on important topics in Juneau. The Telephone Hill neighborhood faces a transformation, a church wrestles with whether to host Juneau's emergency cold weather shelter, and a Presbyterian church closure in 1962 is recognized as an injustice to the Alaska Native congregation.
Best Culture Reporting	Audio	Cara Hetland	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Third Place	Petersburg prepares to welcome Polynesian voyaging canoe	Hannah Flor	Loved the line "Be who we are"
Best Multimedia Presentation	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Wesley Loy	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Third Place	Portrait of a fishery: Sitka trollers gear up for an unexpected season	Berett Wilber, Robert Woolsey	This collection of portrait photography, shot on the Sitka docks, tells the story of commercial trollers whose fishing livelihood is under threat. The collection suffers a bit from the lack of any visible king salmon. But a well-composed effort overall, with many weathered and expressive faces.
Best Page Layout & Design	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jim Flynn	Alaska Business Monthly	Third Place	Map of Utqiagvik	Patricia Morales	Simple and useful infographic. Design doesn't overwhelm the reader and provided the information in a great alternative story format.
Best Social Media Presence	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Scott Levin	Crude Magazine	Third Place	Crude Magazine Social Media	Cody Liska	Nice effort to produce and publish unique content about Alaska and its diverse residents.
Best Food Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Gretchen McKay	KDLG	Third Place	Eggs are scarce, but Bristol Bay baker rises to the challenge for Valentine's Day	Izzy Ross	Such an engaging story --
Best Arts Reporting	Audio	Amy Robinson	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Third Place	Alaska-raised musician makes melodies from the sounds of nature	Meredith Redick	This story demonstrated good use of music to enhance the script. An interesting story!
Best Profile	Audio	Amy Robinson	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Third Place	Attu's last survivor remembered for his leadership and forgiveness	Theo Greenly, Rhonda Rhonda	This was a well told story about one man's place in American history. Kudos to the work that went in to recovering Golodoff's voice and finding others to complement it, along with solid writing and delivery.
Best Magazine Cover	Print-Small,Print-Large	Mike Campbell	Alaska Business Monthly	Third Place	Best of Alaska Business, July 2023	Lance Lekander	
Best Feature	Video	Jason Goodwin	Anchorage Daily News	Third Place	Aak'w Rock	Emily Mesner	
Best Short Feature	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Nome Nugget	Third Place	Nome's history is in good hands with Cheryl Thompson as new museum director	Anna Lionas	Nice feature on the museum's new director. This was a close call between 3rd and 2nd places.
Best Education Reporting	Audio	Julie Siple	KYUK	Third Place	LKSD's new test to measure Yugtun in a Yup'ik way	Sunni Bean	It is not easy to make a story about tests interesting, and this one does it beautifully... with strong writing, good tape, and a reporter who brings us along for the journey. It's a story that cracks the world open a bit, inviting listeners to consider it anew. And I appreciate how the reporter created real space in the story for sources to speak. Excellent piece.
Best Reporting on Health	Print-Small	Jill Burke	Cordova Times	Third Place	Tribal Family Services offers mental health programs to community	Kinsey Brown	Nice profile on a series of mind-body wellness sessions for the Cordova community, and how Alaska Native wellness practices are incorporated into the programming.
Suzan Nightingale Award for Best Columnist	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Contractor	Third Place	Alicia Amberg Executive Director's Message	Alicia Amberg	
Best Reporting on Government or Politics	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Peninsula Clarion	Third Place	Satanic Temple gets last word as assembly ends open invocation policy	Ashlyn O'Hara	As local as local government gets. Stellar reporting on an important topic.
Best Long Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Keeping the light on at Five Finger Island	Olivia Rose	This story takes you right to the island. Excellent writing.
Best Culture Reporting	Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska Magazine	Third Place	Little Lithuania in Chugiak	J. Besl	Excellent job
Best Breaking News Story	Print-Small,Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	Nome Nugget	Third Place	Degrading permafrost likely caused Diomedea city building's collapse	Diana Haecker	
Best Profile	Print-Large	Paula Dobbyn	ICT (formerly Indian Country Today)	Third Place	Iñupiaq artist Joseph 'Joe' Senungetuk has died	Joaqin Estus	
Best Alaska Outdoors Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Michael Taylor	KFSK Radio (Petersburg)	Third Place	Petersburg Ranger District authorizes wilderness survival show, "Outlast," to film in Little Duncan Bay	Shelby Herbert	How can a dangerous brown bear encounter with a lone hunter not find a place in this category--especially when the reporter recognizes his own culpability.
Best Travel Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Michael Taylor	KUCB Unalaska Community Broadcasting	Third Place	'Hear the nature, hear the wind': Unalaska offers cruise ship visitors pleasant surprise	Andy Lusk, Theo Greenly	Good reporting on an unusual cruise destination.

Category Name	Competition	Judge	Organization	Award	Entry Title	Credits	Judge's Comments
Best Environmental Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Erik Anderson	Alaska Beacon	Third Place	In northernmost Alaska, a battle is on to limit the damages of permafrost thaw	Yereth Rosen	Excellent storytelling for an important subject that affects many Alaska locations. The writer makes the science accessible. Great explainer with real life examples of climate change impact. Wonderful pictures.
Best Comprehensive Coverage	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Les Zaitz	Juneau Empire	Third Place	Summer campground, winter shelter for homeless leave many out in the cold	Mark Sabbatini, Clarise Larson	A strong package showing deep reporting at every step with good sourcing and clear writing.
Leslie Ann Murray Award for Best Editorial or Commentary	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Chris Conway	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Bristol Bay Fishermen pay the price for recent record salmon runs	Jake Clemens	Jake Clemens operates a fishing boat in Bristol Bay and writes about the frustrations of seeing "salmon prices at the grocery store hold relatively strong while fishermen get paid less than half compared to last year." He offers a detail account of the reasons behind this seeming incongruity and potential solutions to enable "fishermen to earn a living wage."
Best Series	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Justin Hinkley	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	The Risk Defined: New Research reveals tsunami threat to Alaska	Melissa Frey, Kim Daehnke	Excellent reporting and storytelling throughout.
Best Interview or Call-in Audio Program	Audio	Justin Hinkley	Anchorage Museum	Third Place	Chatter Marks	Cody Liska	
Best Scenic Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Ted Warren	Petersburg Pilot	Third Place	Underwater ice	Ola Richards	A strong entry for third place and a scene not always available when photographing glaciers - the colors and depths underwater that even at times can eclipse what is seen above the waterline. This is nicely toned without being overly saturated or processed.
Best Feature Photo	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Ted Warren	Skagway News	Third Place	A sunbeam finds a dancing unicorn at the 2023 Pridefest June 3 at Dedman State	Wendy Anderson	Had to hunt this one down to review it, but it was worth the effort! Very nice seeing and anticipating to catch the unicorn in the light like this.
Best Reporting on Science	Audio	Gabriel Spitzer	KTOO Public Media	Third Place	Why this year's record glacial outburst flood likely won't be Juneau's worst	Anna Canny	Really nice descriptive language. I appreciate the ambi and scene material (I could have used even more tape!) It had a good, logical story structure, with great explanation of the variables at play in glacial flooding.
Best Natural Sound Audio Story	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Rachel Waldholz	Alaska Public Media	Third Place	From a scuba trip to household bills, here's how 8 Alaskans are spending this year's PFD	Casey Grove	This is such a great vox pop, full of unexpected and surprising audio. I love the wide variety of answers from Alaskans on how they'll use their PFD, from vacations to sneakers(!!) to savings accounts and court bills. Eye-opening, funny and engaging.
Best Reporting on Science	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Anchorage Daily News	Third Place	'A one-of-a-kind facility': A look inside Fish and Game's moose research center on the Kenai Peninsula	Marc Lester	Nice job profile of the Moose Research Center. Your writing and accompanying images offer a fun and well-informed portrait of a unique program, and the lengths researchers must go to collect their data. Quintessential Alaska!
Best Sports Reporting	Audio	Deborah Horne	KCAW Radio (Sitka)	Third Place	Sitka Rocket Wolves soar to new heights, nabbing first E-Sports title with rocket-powered cars	Katherine Rose	Nice job telling a story that can be hard to visualize even with pictures. Yet she made the story come alive with the use of audio.
Best Arts Reporting	Video	Deborah Horne	Alaska's News Source	Third Place	Wearable Art Fashion Show - Palmer	Dave Allgood	The writing worked very well with the visuals. It made for a very interesting piece.
Best Magazine Feature	Print-Small,Print-Large	Jill Burke	Alaska Business Magazine	Third Place	Content Contest	Tasha Anderson	Nice piece! Very creative way to demonstrate to readers how Chat GPT and DALL-E stack up to real writers and art departments. This is an important conversation, and the article is both interesting and a public service. As journalists and media consumers navigate the temptations and hang ups with AI innovation, pieces like this one give us context and tangible examples that expand our knowledge and will help us make more informed decisions.
Best Alaska History Reporting	Video,Audio,Print-Small, Print-Large	Brian McCrone	ICT	Third Place	Proposed atomic experiment set off Alaska land claims movement	Joaqlin Estus	Mixed original reporting with sourced material from books that combined for an easy read into a complex subject.